

## Research paper

Sustainability embodies "stewardship" and "design with nature." The most popular definition of sustainability can be traced to a 1987 UN conference. It defined sustainable developments as those that "meet present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs."

This is a very broad encompassing statement on the concept of sustainability. To understand the concept and its applicability to our discipline, we must examine it in further detail. The following are suggested guidelines in trying to provide an explanation that will help us understand the concept of sustainability. It is just as important that you provide your own thoughts on the subject as much as those you referenced. In addition, you should provide examples from your own experience to help illustrate the concept of sustainability.

- Discuss the concept of sustainability, its needs, applicability, problems and barriers, attitude, approaches, paradigm shift, interdisciplinarity, "input - output" modeling techniques or indicators, continuity, uniqueness and place-making.
- Your approach to sustainability and examples from your own experience.
- Provide examples that are not sustainable and explain it's resulting impact (referenced).

Discuss and compare your ideals of sustainable as it applies to a specific existing profession, trade or industry. The following are suggested headings pertaining to the chosen subject.

- Description of the profession, trade or industry.
- Historic and current practises.
- Practises in this industry that is not sustainable.
- Emerging trends in this profession, trade or industry towards sustainability.
- Barriers to existing practise towards sustainability.
- Examples of related or allied subjects that demonstrates sustainable practises.
- Strategies for implementing sustainable practises in this industry.
- Barrier to implementing sustainability and means to break down the barriers.
- Discuss whether "we" have adequate understanding of sustainability. Identify areas for further research.

**References.** Use proper referencing format in the text, i.e. (Smith, 1995a).

**Appendix.** Include one or more, key articles that you find helpful in support of this report.

This is an individual paper (worth 40% of the course grade). It should be well written and adhering to a proper research paper format. Charts, illustrations, and photographs are encouraged, even when photocopied from other sources (with proper credit).

Suggested number of pages: 20 without appendix.

Due: February 25, 2004.