

**Course Syllabus – Winter 2025**  
**Sustainable Manitoba - ENVR/ GEOG 3850 – A01)**  
**Department of Environment and Geography**  
**Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources**

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**Instructor:** Dr. Johny Stephen  
254 Wallace Building  
204.272.1543  
johny.stephen@umanitoba.ca (preferred means of contact)

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM  
Thursday: 12:00 – 2:00 PM

**Lecture Slot:** Wed 7-9:45 pm.  
**Classroom:** Wallace, 218  
**Course Dates:** Jan 06, 2025 - Apr 9, 2025

**Final Voluntary  
Withdrawal Date:** March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Recommended Course Material:**

**Reference Textbook**

Robertson, M. (2017). Sustainability principles and practice. Routledge

**Course Description**

The course approaches local sustainability issues from an interdisciplinary perspective. By looking at the ecological, social, and economic aspects across a variety of disciplinary perspectives, a better understanding of sustainability is achieved. The range of perspectives is achieved through participation of guest speakers across a diversity of sectors such as government, business/industry, environmental organizations, universities, and colleges. Field trips outside of the classroom are also integrated into the course

**Course Objectives**

- To introduce students to the ideas and concept of sustainability
- To make students approach sustainability from an ecological, social and economic perspective
- To introduce students to an inter-disciplinary perspective on sustainability.
- To be attended to the local issues on sustainability

## Method of Evaluation

Students are evaluated based on their participation in the class (class assignment), Written assignments and the term paper. Further, students are evaluated based on their oral presentation skills. The following table provides a detailed breakdown of the assessment tool and grade allocation breakdown:

Assessment	Assessment Type	Value of Final Grade	Date
<b>Group Assignments</b>			
In-Class Assignment-1 (group)	Written assignment	10%	Jan 29 <sup>th</sup>
In-Class Assignment-2 (group)	Written assignment	10%	Feb 05 <sup>th</sup>
In- Class Assignment-3 (group)	Oral presentation	10%	Feb 12 <sup>th</sup>
	Submission of Group assignment (group)		Feb 28 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Individual Assignments</b>			
Written Assignment on Field visit (Individual)	Written Assignment	25%	Feb 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
Written Assignment on Sustainability Day (individual) ( TBD) or and Alternative assignment	Written Assignment	15%	March 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2025
Term Paper (Individual)	Written Assignment	30%	April 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2025

**The Grade distribution** for this course is as follows:

**A+:** 90% or above (Exceptional)

**A:** 80 - 89% (Excellent)

**B+:** 75 - 79% (Very Good)

**B:** 70 - 74% (Good)

**C+:** 65 - 69% (Satisfactory)

**C:** 60 - 64% (Adequate)

**D:** 50 - 59% (Marginal)

**F:** ≤ 49% (Failure)

**Note:** The course instructor reserves the right to assign an alternate assignment or redistribute the percentage distribution between remaining assignments for those students who have a valid reason for not writing. In cases where there is a valid medical certificate or compassionate reason, the instructor may prorate the value for the test over the balance of the grades available.

### **Assignments and Presentation Absence Policy**

#### **In Class Group Assignments:**

Attendance is mandatory for the in- class group assignment. Your presence and contribution to the group assignment for each of these days will be graded at 10 % value of the final grade. If you are not present during the class, you will not receive that grade. For example, if a student is absent on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of February, the student will be deducted 20% from the total grade. If a student is absent only on one of these three days, 10% will be deducted.

Details of the groups will be available on UM learn.

## **Individual Assignments:**

### **Field Trip Assignment**

Students are required to participate in a field trips and field assignments. The tentative date of the field trip is Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11:30am to 1:30 pm. The field trip is currently planned to the Brady Landfill.

### **Sustainability Day/ Night Assignment or an Alternative Assignment**

The office of Sustainability, University of Manitoba will be hosts the annual Sustainability Night/ Day Every year. We are waiting for the dates for this year to be announced. Students are required to be present for the presentations during the event and there would be an assignment based on the sustainability day. If the event does not take place this year. we will have an alternate assignment.

### **Term Paper**

Students are required to complete a term paper and submit the same on the 10<sup>th</sup> of April. The details of the term paper would be available on UM learn.

### **Assignments and Presentation Absence Policy**

Students who fail to submit their assignments/ term paper on time, as indicated within this syllabus, will receive a zero. In accordance with the University of Manitoba Policy for Assignments, Reports, Tests, and Presentations: Without permission of the instructor and supporting documentation (e.g. medical certificate) or reasons provided, acquired PRIOR TO THE DUE DATE, will result in a grade of "F".

## **ENVR/ GEOG3850 COURSE APPROACH AND POLICIES**

### **Course Delivery:**

- Course material will be delivered primarily through lectures, videos, in class discussion and corresponding readings.
- The Winter 2025 ENVR 3850- Sustainable Manitoba will be taught in person
- Students have to be present in class during the in- class assignments and presentations.
- All communication will be via U of M email and the UM Learn Announcement Tool and students are required to check these daily.
- Virtual office hours will be held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings via Zoom.
- Your computer or device, and internet connection must meet the University of Manitoba minimum requirements.
- Students are **NOT** permitted to partially or entirely photograph, audio, or video record lecture, unless they have obtained prior permission from the instructor.

### **Communicating with your Instructor:**

- **Effective September 1, 2013**, the U of M will only use your university email account for official communications, including messages from your instructors, department or faculty, academic advisors, and other administrative offices. [http://umanitoba.ca/registrar/email\\_policy/](http://umanitoba.ca/registrar/email_policy/)
- All communications must be professional and courteous.
- **E-mails** must include:
  - The subject heading (**ENVR 3850**, your full name and student number)
  - Come from a University of Manitoba Account (. . . @myumanitoba.ca).
  - Emails that do not conform to the above will not be returned.
  - Emails requesting information that is found in the course syllabus, or information discussed in class, will not be returned.
- Allow at least **48 hours** for response (weekdays only).

### **Policy on Respectful Work and Learning Environment (RWLE):**

- Each individual has the right to participate, learn, and work in an environment that promotes equal opportunities and prohibits discriminatory practices.
- **RWLE [2016], Section 2.2** The University wishes to promote and support a community which embraces diversity and inclusion, provides for equality of opportunity, and recognizes the dignity of all people.
- **RWLE [2016], Section 2.3 Members** of the University Community, including every student and employee, are entitled to a respectful work and learning environment that is:
  - (a) Free from Discrimination and provides for Reasonable Accommodation.
  - (b) Free from Harassment; and
  - (c) Collegial and conducive to early resolution of conflict between members of the University Community.
- **Respectful Work and Learning Environment Policy:** <http://bit.ly/2b63HQO>
- **Student Discipline Bylaw:**<http://bit.ly/2b3RL3p>

### **Inappropriate and Disruptive Student Behaviour:**

- Inappropriate and disruptive behavior that interferes with the learning of other students, or the instructor's ability to teach will not be tolerated. Such behaviours would include but would not be limited to the following:
  - (a) threats to the physical safety of the individuals or others;
  - (b) verbal threats to or abuse of students or University personnel;
  - (c) recurring and willful damage of University property;
  - (d) inappropriate or disruptive behavior as a result of misuse of drugs or alcohol on University property; and
  - (e) actions which habitually interfere with the learning environment or requires the inordinate time and attention of faculty and staff.
- Other disruptive activities include (but are not limited to) the use of cell phones in class, texting in class, wearing headphones, talking during lecture, using technology such as computers, tablets, and mobile devices to view material that is not related to the class.
- **Inappropriate or Disruptive Student Behaviour Policy:**<http://bit.ly/2iRbHKU>
- **Student Discipline Bylaw:**<http://bit.ly/2b3RL3p>

### **Academic Integrity:**

- Students are responsible for ensuring they understand the University of Manitoba's policy on Academic Integrity (plagiarism, cheating, and examination impersonation). These policies are available in the University Catalog 2018-2019, General Academic Regulations <http://bit.ly/2Dz50DX>

- The penalties for plagiarism and cheating are severe and range from receiving a grade of zero on an assignment, to academic suspension. **For more information on Cheating, Plagiarism, and Fraud:** <http://bit.ly/2b63fBP>&<http://bit.ly/2b63ywR>
- ***All work is to be completed independently unless otherwise specified.***
- No notes, books, or electronic devices are permitted in the midterm tests or final exam whether accessed or otherwise.

**Student Accessibility Services:**

- Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact Student Accessibility Services to facilitate the implementation of accommodations.  
Student Accessibility Services  
520 University Centre (Main Office), 155 University Centre (SAS Exam Centre)  
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2 Canada  
Phone: 204-474-7423 Fax: 204-474-7567 TTY: 204-474-9790  
Website: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/saa/accessibility/>  
Email: [student\\_accessibility@umanitoba.ca](mailto:student_accessibility@umanitoba.ca)
- Students are encouraged to make an appointment with the instructor to discuss the accommodations recommended by Student Accessibility Services.
- **The University of Manitoba Accessibly Policy:**<http://bit.ly/2bcrP6i>

**Tentative Lecture Outline**  
(Subject to Change)

Topic	Corresponding Robertson (2014) Textbook Chapter	Dates
Introduction, History and different perspectives on sustainability	Chapter 1 and 2	Jan 8 <sup>th</sup>
The different “spheres” of sustainability Group formation for Assignments and Topics for class Assignments	Chapter 1 and 2	Jan 15 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Field Trip to Brady Landfill</b>	Jan 22 <sup>nd</sup> ( Bus leaves at 11:30 am from Wallace) No class in the evening
<b>Different issues and solutions on sustainability</b>		
Pollution	Chapter 8 <b>Class Assignment</b>	Jan 29 <sup>st</sup>
Climate , Water, Energy	Chapter 5,6, 9 <b>Class Assignment</b>	Feb 5 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Class Assignment Presentation</b>	<b>Class Assignment</b>	Feb 12 <sup>th</sup>
Mr. Curtis Hull- Climate Change Connections, Manitoba.	Additional Reading	Feb 26 <sup>th</sup>
	Additional readings	Mar 5 <sup>th</sup>
Presentation by UM Sustainability office on different initiatives at U of M -	Additional readings	Mar 12 <sup>th</sup>
Prof. John Sinclair: Writing Sustainability Strategies for Institutions (TBC)	Additional readings	Mar 19 <sup>th</sup>
Jill Towes- Efficiency Manitoba	Additional readings	Mar 26 <sup>th</sup>
Energy and Green Building Ratings Guest lecture by Mr. Willam Dowie	Additional readings	Apr 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Sustainability Education and Wrap-up	Additional readings	Apr 9 <sup>th</sup>

## Schedule “A”

Schedule “A” is the new requirement passed by the University of Manitoba Senate in 2016 that requires that a mandated list of supports for services plus contact information is provided to students. *While this information is important and useful, should you require advice and support, the instructor is happy to meet with you and discuss issues and concerns*

### Student Resources

#### **Writing and Study Skills Support**

The Academic Learning Centre (ALC) offers services that may be helpful to you as you fulfill the requirements for this course. Through the ALC, you may meet with a study skills specialist to discuss concerns such as time management, reading and note-taking strategies, and test-taking strategies. You may also meet one-on-one with a writing tutor who can give you feedback at any stage of the writing process, whether you are just beginning to work on a written assignment or already have a draft. Writing tutors can also give you feedback if you submit a draft of your paper online. (Please note that the online tutors require 48 hours, from Monday to Friday, to return your paper with comments.)

All Academic Learning Centre services are free for U of M students. For more information, please visit the Academic Learning Centre website at: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/academiclearning/>

You can also talk to a member of the Academic Learning staff by calling 480-1481 or by dropping in at 201 Tier Building.

#### **University of Manitoba Libraries (UML)**

As the primary contact for all research needs, your liaison librarian can play a vital role when completing academic papers and assignments. Liaisons can answer questions about managing citations, or locating appropriate resources, and will address any other concerns you may have, regarding the research process. Liaisons can be contacted by email or phone, and are also available to meet with you in-person. A complete list of liaison librarians can be found by subject: <http://bit.ly/WcEbA1> or name: <http://bit.ly/1tJ0bB4>. In addition, general library assistance is provided in person at 19 University Libraries, located on both the Fort Garry and Bannatyne campuses, as well as in many Winnipeg hospitals. For a listing of all libraries, please consult the following: <http://bit.ly/1sXe6RA>. When working remotely, students can also receive help online, via the Ask-a-Librarian chat found on the Libraries' homepage: [www.umanitoba.ca/libraries](http://www.umanitoba.ca/libraries).

**The English Language Centre** has workshop and programs in advanced academic and health-sciences English (located at 520, University Centre).

Homepage: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/staffdir/elc.html>

#### **Student Accessibility Services**

Student Accessibility Services (SAS) provides support and advocacy for students with disabilities of all kinds: hearing, learning, injury-related, mental health, medical, physical or visual. Students with temporary disabilities such as sprains and breaks are also eligible to use our services. SAS acts as a liaison between students and the faculty and staff of the University of Manitoba as well as support agencies within the province of Manitoba. Please phone: 474-6213 (voice) or 474-9690 (TTY) for service. For more information, please visit the Student Accessibility website at: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/saa/accessibility/>

#### **Mental Health**

For 24/7 mental health support, contact the Mobile Crisis Service at 204-940-1781.

### **Student Counselling Centre (SCC)**

Contact SCC if you are concerned about any aspect of your mental health, including anxiety, stress, or depression, or for help with relationships or other life concerns. SCC offers crisis services as well as individual, couple, and group counselling. Student Counselling Centre:

<http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/index.html>

474 University Centre or S207 Medical Services (204) 474-8592

### **On-Campus and Community Crisis Services**

A list of on-campus and community crisis services with phone numbers.

<http://umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/crisis-community-resources.html>

### **Student Support Case Management (SSCM)**

Contact the Student Support Case Management team if you are concerned about yourself or another student and don't know where to turn. SSCM helps connect students with on and off campus resources, provides safety planning, and offers other supports, including consultation, educational workshops, and referral to the STATIS threat assessment team. Student Support Intake Assistant

<http://umanitoba.ca/student/case-manager/index.html>

520 University Centre (204) 474-7423

### **University Health Service**

Contact UHS for any medical concerns, including mental health problems. UHS offers a full range of medical services to students, including psychiatric consultation. University Health Service

<http://umanitoba.ca/student/health/>

104 University Centre, Fort Garry Campus (204) 474-8411 (Business hours or after hours/urgent calls)

### **Health and Wellness**

Contact our Health and Wellness Educator if you are interested in information on a broad range of health topics, including physical and mental health concerns, alcohol and substance use harms, and sexual assault.

Health and Wellness Educator <http://umanitoba.ca/student/health-wellness/welcome.html>

Katie.Kutryk@umanitoba.ca

469 University Centre (204) 295-9032

### **Live Well @ UofM**

For comprehensive information about the full range of health and wellness resources available on campus, visit the Live Well @ UofM site: <http://umanitoba.ca/student/livewell/index.html>

### **Copyright**

All students are required to respect copyright as per Canada's Copyright Act. Staff and students play a key role in the University's copyright compliance as we balance user rights for educational purposes with the rights of content creators from around the world. The Copyright Office provides copyright resources and support for all members of the University of Manitoba community.

Visit <http://umanitoba.ca/copyright> for more information.

### **University and Unit Policies, Procedures, and Supplemental Information** (Available On-Line)

### **Your rights and responsibilities**

- As a student of the University of Manitoba you have rights and responsibilities. It is important for you to know what you can expect from the University as a student and to understand what the



University expects from you. Become familiar with the policies and procedures of the University and the regulations that are specific to your faculty, college or school.

### **The Academic Calendar**

- <http://umanitoba.ca/student/records/academiccalendar.html> is one important source of information.
- View the sections University Policies and Procedures and General Academic Regulations. While all of the information contained in these two sections is important, the following information is highlighted.
- If you have questions about your grades, talk to your instructor. There is a process for term work and final grade appeals. Note that you have the right to access your final examination scripts. See the Registrar's Office website for more information including appeal deadline dates and the appeal form <http://umanitoba.ca/registrar/>
- You are expected to view the General Academic Regulation section within the Academic Calendar and specifically read the Academic Integrity regulation. Consult the course syllabus or ask your instructor for additional information about demonstrating academic integrity in your academic work. Visit the Academic Integrity Site for tools and support <http://umanitoba.ca/academicintegrity/> View the Student Academic Misconduct procedure for more information.

### **Sexual Assault**

- If you experience Sexual Assault or know a member of the University community who has, it is important to know there is a policy that provides information about the supports available to those who disclose and outlines a process for reporting.
  - The Sexual Assault policy may be found at:  
[http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing\\_documents/community/230.html](http://umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/governing_documents/community/230.html)
  - More information and resources can be found by reviewing the Sexual Assault site  
<http://umanitoba.ca/student/sexual-assault/>

### **Academic Programs and Regulations**

- For information on regulations that are specific to your academic program, read the section in the Academic Calendar and on the respective faculty/college/school web site  
<http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/>
- Contact an Academic Advisor within our faculty/college or school for questions about your academic program and regulations <http://umanitoba.ca/academic-advisors/>

### **Student Advocacy**

- Contact Student Advocacy if you want to know more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, have questions about policies and procedures, and/or want support in dealing with academic or discipline concerns.  
<http://umanitoba.ca/student/advocacy/>  
520 University Centre 204 474 7423  
student\_advocacy@umanitoba.ca