



UNSW Course Outline

SUSD0001 Sustainable Development and the Urban Environment - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : SUSD0001

Year : 2024

Term : Term 1

Teaching Period : T1

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Built Environment

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

Sustainable Development and the Urban Environment explores innovative approaches to the

planning, design and management of the 'sustainable city', with an emphasis on techniques which seek to maintain and/or improve air quality, water quality and biodiversity. You will learn about principles of urban ecology and sustainable development, the ecological 'footprint' of the metropolis, water cycle management, urban design and transportation issues, urban forestry, parks systems and greenways, use of tools for assessment/evaluation.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CL01 : Appraise sustainability within the context of urban development.
CL02 : Discuss and review urban ecology and its components interacting with built environment systems.
CL03 : Assess how sustainability is implemented in cities' development, growth, and transformation.
CL04 : Analyse the correlation between urban form and function in urban sustainable development.
CL05 : Propose strategic solutions to address sustainability challenges within cities.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CL01 : Appraise sustainability within the context of urban development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital Sustainability Journal • Group Report
CL02 : Discuss and review urban ecology and its components interacting with built environment systems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital Sustainability Journal • Group Report
CL03 : Assess how sustainability is implemented in cities' development, growth, and transformation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Presentation • Digital Sustainability Journal • Group Report
CL04 : Analyse the correlation between urban form and function in urban sustainable development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Presentation • Digital Sustainability Journal • Group Report
CL05 : Propose strategic solutions to address sustainability challenges within cities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Presentation • Group Report

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

This course is delivered through lectures and tutorials. The tutorials will focus on the

assessment tasks and may include specific problems or exercises to be undertaken in class.

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Digital Sustainability Journal Assessment Format: Individual	40%	Due Date: 26/04/2024 11:55 PM
Group Presentation Assessment Format: Group	25%	Due Date: 17/04/2024 05:00 PM
Group Report Assessment Format: Group	35%	Due Date: 22/04/2024 11:55 PM

Assessment Details

Digital Sustainability Journal

Assessment Overview

You will maintain an urban sustainability diary. Grading will be done against assessment criteria accompanied by written feedback.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Appraise sustainability within the context of urban development.
- CL02 : Discuss and review urban ecology and its components interacting with built environment systems.
- CL03 : Assess how sustainability is implemented in cities' development, growth, and transformation.
- CL04 : Analyse the correlation between urban form and function in urban sustainable development.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

Group Presentation

Assessment Overview

In small groups, you will present the findings of your collaborative study. Grading will be done against assessment criteria with groups receiving verbal and written feedback. Individual contributions will be assessed.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL03 : Assess how sustainability is implemented in cities' development, growth, and

transformation.

- CL04 : Analyse the correlation between urban form and function in urban sustainable development.
- CL05 : Propose strategic solutions to address sustainability challenges within cities.

Group Report

Assessment Overview

In small groups, you will produce a report covering the planning and implementation of sustainability in cities together with strategic solutions. Grading will be done against assessment criteria with groups receiving verbal and written feedback. Individual contributions will be assessed.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Appraise sustainability within the context of urban development.
- CL02 : Discuss and review urban ecology and its components interacting with built environment systems.
- CL03 : Assess how sustainability is implemented in cities' development, growth, and transformation.
- CL04 : Analyse the correlation between urban form and function in urban sustainable development.
- CL05 : Propose strategic solutions to address sustainability challenges within cities.

General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 12 February - 18 February	Lecture	Introduction to sustainable development and the urban environment
Week 2 : 19 February - 25 February	Lecture	Systems Thinking in Sustainability
Week 3 : 26 February - 3 March	Lecture	Circular Economy, Cradle to Cradle, and the Role of Managing Waste in Sustainability effort
Week 4 : 4 March - 10 March	Lecture	Heat Island Phenomenon, Green Roofs and Green Infrastructure
Week 5 : 11 March - 17 March	Lecture	Sustainability of Water Supplies
Week 6 : 18 March - 24 March	Lecture	Compact City and Sustainability of Cities
Week 7 : 25 March - 31 March	Lecture	Energy Conundrum and New Directions of Renewable Energy
Week 8 : 1 April - 7 April	Lecture	Embodied Carbon in the Built Environment
Week 9 : 8 April - 14 April	Lecture	Disaster Resilience in Cities and Urban Sustainability
Week 10 : 15 April - 21 April	Presentation	Final Group Presentation in class

Attendance Requirements

You are expected to be regular and punctual in attendance at all classes for the School of Built Environment courses in which you are enrolled. If and where individual courses have specific attendance requirements, these will be stated in the course outline.

If you do not attend, engage, or participate in scheduled class activities, including lectures, tutorials, studios, labs, etc, you run the risk of failing a course.

If illness or unexpected and beyond your control circumstances prevent you from completing a task on time, or substantially disturb your assessment performance, you should apply for [Special Consideration](#), as soon as practicable, accompanied by appropriate documentation.

No special consideration will be provided if you miss out on essential course information and materials, or if you miss assessment tasks and deadlines due to unexplained absences or an unapproved lack of attendance.

You may be advised by the Course Convenor to withdraw from the course if significant learning activities are missed.

Course Resources

Course Evaluation and Development

We encourage and support students to maintain regular contact with the course convenor to provide informal feedback throughout the course. For specific issues or detailed feedback, please arrange a meeting with the course convenor via email.

In this course there is an option for students to provide anonymous feedback via the course's Moodle page, which is directly sent to the convenor. As a final step, students are invited to share their insights and experiences by completing the MyExperience survey. The feedback gathered each year is integral to the continuous enhancement and development of the course.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Sarath Mataraarachchi				Appointment via email only.	No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines> for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;
- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

- Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au

Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin, you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support, you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone, you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here](#).

School Contact Information

beadmin@unsw.edu.au