COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

Academic School / Department: CASS

Programme: BA Development Studies

***FHEQ* Level:**   6

Course Title: Sustainable Development

Course Code: DEV 6200

Course Leader: Dr Michael F. Keating

Student Engagement Hours: 120 (standard 3- credit BA course)
Lectures: 15
Seminar / Tutorials: 20
Case Study Sessions: 10
Independent / Guided Learning: 75

Semester: Fall, Spring, Summer

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits
6 ECTS credits
3 US credits

Course Description:
Examines the theoretical assumptions and practical outcomes of 'sustainable development'. The course explicitly focuses on the political, social and economic complexity of managing environmental issues in developing states. The tension between developmental and environmental issues is often a determining factor in the formation and implementation of policy at both national and international level, and sustainable development has provided a framework for managing these tensions.

Prerequisites:
DEV 5100 or ECN 5105 or ENV 5100 or PLT 6410

Aims and Objectives:
- To extend the understanding of development students with regard to the theoretical and practical implications of sustainable development in the developing world.
- To provide development majors with an in-depth study of a critical area in the discipline.

- To provide a background for eventual careers in fields pertaining to development studies and beyond which require articulate, clear thinking individuals with a grasp of contemporary politics of development and the environment.
- To provide a framework to assist concerned citizens to think critically about issues that will be of increasing importance in the 21st century.
- To promote critical engagement with a wide range of literature, and the development of writing skills, and the ability to present complex arguments orally.
- To engage in an in-depth study of a particular sustainable development project.

Programme Outcomes:
6A(i); 6A(ii); 6A(iv); 6B(i); 6B(ii); 6B(iv); 6C(i); 6C(iii); 6C(iv); 6D(ii); 6D(iii); 6D(iv)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at: http://www.richmond.ac.uk/programme-and-course-specifications/

Learning Outcomes:
By the end of this course, successful students should be able to:
- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of the major thinkers of, and conceptions of, sustainable development
- Demonstrates the ability to develop critical responses to, and a systematic and historical understanding of, sustainable development
- Demonstrates a systematic and interdisciplinary understanding of key texts and debates in sustainable development, and the reflexive relationship between these and empirical studies of sustainable development
- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of sustainable development policy making and the process of implementation of sustainable development in developing states
- Demonstrates a systematic insight into the cultural, economic, environmental, international, political and social dimensions of sustainable development
- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of the major debates regarding, and a sophisticated interdisciplinary analysis of problems and issues with, sustainable development
- Takes responsibility for their own learning, and completes assigned work with a degree of clarity, contextualisation, critical thinking, and reflexive normative understanding appropriate for a 6000-level course

- Demonstrates flexible evaluative, writing and analytical skills in addressing sustainable development that translate directly into the workplace

Indicative Content:
- Sustainable development origins and theory
- Environment and development in developing states
- Sustainable development policy practices
- Evaluation of sustainable development projects
- Key 'green' topics in sustainability in the developing world (ie deforestation, desertification, conservation)
- Key 'blue' topics in sustainability in the developing world (ie water resources, dams)
- Key 'brown' topics in sustainability in the developing world (ie urban pollution, pollution trading, energy production, industrial pollution)
- Micro-level issues of sustainability in the developing world

Assessment:
This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Board (formerly Learning & Teaching Policy Committee) and located at: http://www.richmond.ac.uk/admitted-students/

Teaching Methodology:
This course will be taught through a combination of lectures and seminar-type activities, including group work, sub-group activities, classroom discussion, and the showing of documentaries. The general approach to classes is informal, and discussion is viewed as an essential part of an interactive and participatory learning program. Audio-visual aids, study materials and electronic learning resources will be used as appropriate.

Lectures provide a framework for the course, and are designed to ensure students have an overview of main issues and concerns on a particular topic, receive clarification on the major points of debate understand the broad dimensions of core problems, and are aware of relevant literature in the specific area of concern. It is essential that lectures are supplemented with assigned readings; together, the readings and the lectures are designed to provide guidance for seminar discussion.

Seminar classes are based on the principle of active and student-directed learning, and are designed to be **S**afe, **E**njoyable, **M**anaged, **I**nclusive, **N**ecessary, **A**cademic, **R**espectful & **S**timulating. The seminars provide an opportunity for discussion of contentious issues, addressing questions and exploring academic debates in more depth, group and sub-group discussion. They are encouraged to share their opinions freely, but must also maintain respect for the opinions of others. It is expected that students will participate regularly in discussions in a creative, competent and critical way, as the formulation of their own thoughts and clarification of their assumptions,

often in contradiction to other students' thoughts and assumptions, form a crucial part of the learning process. Students are expected to come to seminar classes <u>prepared</u>.

Bibliography:
- Blewitt, J. (2015). *Understanding Sustainable Development*. 2nd ed., London: Earthscan.
- Sachs, J. (2015). *The Age of Sustainable Development*. New York: Columbia University Press.
- Elliott, J. (2012). *An Introduction to Sustainable Development*. 4th ed. Oxon: Routledge.

See syllabus for complete reading list

Indicative Text(s):
Click here to enter text.

Journals
Click here to enter text.

Web Sites
Click here to enter text.

Change Log for this CSD:

Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or AB)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Add ENV 5100 as an alternative, additional pre-requisite	DSS 05/02/16	21/06/16
Updated Bibliography	DSS 05/02/16	