

**Spring 2021**

<b>Meeting days:</b> Mondays Online except face to face (F2F) weeks (see below)	<b>Instructor title and name:</b> Professor Mandy Morrell
<b>Meeting times:</b> 6pm Zoom	<b>Phone:</b> (Please email first)
<b>Meeting location:</b> PLNU Mission Valley Rm 314/315	<b>E-mail:</b> mmorrell@pointloma.edu
<b>Final Exam:</b> April 26 <sup>th</sup> 6pm	<b>Office location and hours:</b> By Appt.
<b>Additional info:</b> F2F Meetings on THU: 1/28, 2/18, 3/18, 4/8 6:00p - 8:45p	<b>No Monday Zoom on F2F class weeks</b>

**PLNU Mission**

**To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send**

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

**Fermanian School of Business Mission**

**Character – Professionalism – Excellence – Relationships – Commitment - Innovation**

As members of a vital Christian community, we strive to provide high quality business programs that equip students to make a positive impact in their workplace and community by connecting purpose to practice.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**Catalog Course Description:** This course explores the principles and practices of sustainability in the home, in organizations, in local communities, and as national and world citizens. Topics include current environmental challenges, a critique of current cultural and societal practices as they impact the environment, the biblical foundation for creation care, and, in particular, practical steps that can be taken as individuals and in association with others that improve our care for creation.

**Amplified Course Description:** The purpose of this course is to equip you to be an effective champion for the changes that humankind must make to live sustainably within the biophysical limits of the earth. As part of the wealthiest communities we are leading players in a slow motion, but accelerating collision between the juggernaut of growing human demands for food, water, energy, materials and

waste management and the regenerative capacity of the earth that is our home. Sustainability begins with a different way of thinking. Thus, we will look at the dominant “pre-analytic vision” of humankind’s relationship to the earth, and look at alternatives – which have more promise.

We will critique the assumptions of traditional economic theory and growth Capitalism (for example, that unlimited growth in economic activity is both feasible and good) and look at the alternatives of “ecological economics” and “Natural Capitalism” for example. But, beyond theory and knowledge, our focus on this course is to learn to take action. Most popular discussions of sustainability in the press deal with individual accountability and actions we can take: “Ten easy steps to a greener world”. Similarly, in this class, we will look at how our individual lifestyles, consumption patterns, especially as those who live in wealth, impact the biosphere and other, poorer human communities. We will examine the “more-is-better”, throw-away, consumerist assumptions of our culture, measure our personal ecological footprints, and study the lifecycle impacts of the products we buy, use and discard, all with the goal of learning to live more lightly on the earth. As consumers, we also impact the products that manufacturers create. If we demand products that are environmentally friendly, toxin free, and whose creation use and recycling/recovery contributes to social welfare, manufacturers will pay attention.

But we can’t individually consume our way to sustainability. Indeed, for almost 1 billion people on earth who are trying to survive on less than \$2 per day, finding ways to consume more is a matter of survival. Our greatest impact as “sustainability champions” will be found as we collaborate with other change agents as members of communities and organizations – businesses, non-profits, schools, governmental agencies, etc. – to move them towards greater environmental sustainability and social justice. Thus, we will focus some of our time and effort in this class on how organizations can reduce their environmental footprint and eventually become restorative agents that contribute to the health of the biosphere – and on what we personally can do to catalyze pro-environmental organizational change. We will look critically at both sides of some of the major sustainability debates including energy and climate change, food and corporate versus local/organic farming, water privatization, and others. We will seek to use a framework that looks for positive ways to discuss complex and divisive issues. Finally, we will consider the role that local, regional, national and international policy plays in impacting individual and organizational behaviors with respect to the environment.

We will read and discuss articles, videos and other media, conduct analyses, and “learn by doing”. Most critically, we will work on “being the change”, first in our individual lives, then in the communities and organizations where we live and work.

### **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Explain major sustainability concepts, frameworks and perspectives (PLO 1 & E1).
2. Summarize the major environmental threats to the carrying capacity of the earth and explain their connections to social justice issues and challenges (PLO 1 & E1).
3. Describe effective change management techniques for helping a business adopt sustainability as a strategic priority (PLO 1 & E1).

4. Evaluate and employ personal sustainability practices (PLO 4).
5. Collaborate in a team to present analyses of personal and business sustainability practices (PLO 3 & 5).

### COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3 unit class delivered over 14 weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

Assignments and Activities	Course Hours
Readings	18
Discussions in person and on Canvas 13@2 hours	26
Exams	12
Lectures/Presentations Watching	14
Writing	10
Presentations Led (Individual and Team)	20
EcoChallenges	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>112</b>

### REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

There are two required textbooks for this course as well as access to Netflix. You will receive an invite from me to join a team on the Campus Eco Challenge site. There is no cost to use this platform.

- 1: [Sustainable World Sourcebook \(2014\): Critical Issues, Viable Solutions, Resources for Action.](#)
- 2: [Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan ever proposed to reverse Global Warming \(2017\)](#) by Paul Hawken
- 3: [Campus EcoChallenge website](#): Please join when you receive an invitation from me (no charge)
- 4: Access to Netflix

### ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Activity	Point Value	Due Date
<b><u>Writing and Action:</u></b>		
Discussion Board Posts	100 (10/13@10 pts each)	Weekly by Monday at 6pm
Eco Challenge Actions and Posts	100	1) 4 Check-ins a week/100 pts/Week ( 12 weeks/5 pts) = 60 pts

		2) 3 Written Reflections: 30 points 3) Total of at least 1200 points/48 Check-ins: 10 points
Letter to the Editor/ YouTube Influencer	50	3/18/20
Team Netflix Documentary Summary/Presentations	75 (3 @25)	Sign-up throughout semester, presentations on F2F Thursdays
Group Activities	65 points (14@5 points each)	Weekly on Mondays/F2F Thursdays
Brand Analysis Team Project	75	Sign-up throughout semester, presentations on Thursdays
Drawdown Podcast Presentation	75	Sign-up throughout semester, presentations on Mondays
Drawdown Presentation and Climate Myth	100+20	Sign-up throughout semester, presentations on Mondays
Midterm – Audit Target and Checklist	50	3/8/20
Personal Sustainability Plan Paper	100	11/24/20
Company Audit Final Exam	100	Due April 26 <sup>th</sup> at 11:59pm
Class Participation	90	Whole semester – attendance, preparedness and engagement in class sessions/ written discussions
Extra Credit: Compost and Garden	Up to 50	Whole semester with report at the end
	<b>TOTAL: 1000 Points + 50 Extra Credit points available</b>	

<b>Grade Scale:</b>	A=93-100 A-=92-90 B+=87-89 B=83-86 B-=80-82 C+=77-79	C=73-76 C-=70-72 D+=67-69 D=63-66 D-=60-62 F=0-59
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### INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

## **SPIRITUAL CARE**

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Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

At the Mission Valley (MV) campus we have an onsite chaplain, Rev. Gordon Wong, who is available during class break times across the week. If you have questions for, desire to meet or share a prayer request with Rev. Wong you can contact him directly at [mvchaplain@pointloma.edu](mailto:mvchaplain@pointloma.edu) or [gordonwong@pointloma.edu](mailto:gordonwong@pointloma.edu). Rev. Wong's cell number is 808-429-1129 if you need a more immediate response.

In addition, on the MV campus there is a prayer chapel on the third floor which is open for use as a space set apart for quiet reflection and prayer.

## **STATE AUTHORIZATION**

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State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map using the below link to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California. <https://www.pointloma.edu/offices/office-institutional-effectiveness-research/disclosures>

## **PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY**

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Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

## **PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY**

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Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See Academic Policies in the PLNU Catalog for further policy information.

## **PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY**

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While all students are expected to meet the minimum standards for completion of this course as established by the instructor, students with disabilities may require academic adjustments, modifications or auxiliary aids/services. At Point Loma Nazarene University (PLNU), these students are requested to register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC), located in the Bond Academic Center. ([DRC@pointloma.edu](mailto:DRC@pointloma.edu) or 619-849-2486). The DRC's policies and procedures for assisting such students in the development of an appropriate academic adjustment plan (AP) allows PLNU to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Section 504 (a) prohibits discrimination against students with special needs and guarantees all qualified students equal access

to and benefits of PLNU programs and activities. After the student files the required documentation, the DRC, in conjunction with the student, will develop an AP to meet that student's specific learning needs. The DRC will thereafter email the student's AP to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester. The AP must be implemented in all such courses.

If students do not wish to avail themselves of some or all of the elements of their AP in a particular course, it is the responsibility of those students to notify their professor in that course. PLNU highly recommends that DRC students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester about the applicability of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not desire to take advantage of some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

### **PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY**

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Regular and punctual attendance at all **synchronous** class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. ***If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions (virtual or face-to-face), the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation.*** In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered **asynchronously** and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See Academic Policies in the Academic Catalog. If absences exceed these limits but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.

#### **Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition**

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

#### ***Hybrid 3-unit courses only:***

At Point Loma Nazarene University, attendance is required at all scheduled classes. Hybrid format means some class meetings will be face-to-face and some will be online. Attendance in the face-to-face classes is to be for the entire time of the class. Arriving late or leaving early will be considered a partial absence. A day of attendance in an online class is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission that adds value to the course as determined by the instructor.

#### Face-to-face Portion of the Hybrid course

In blended or hybrid courses, if a student misses one face-to-face class then the faculty member will send an email to the student and the Director of Student Success warning of attendance jeopardy.

There are no exceptions to this policy.

If a student misses two face-to-face classes, the faculty member or Vice Provost for Academic Administration (VPAA) will initiate the student's de-enrollment from the course without further advanced notice to the student. If the date of de-enrollment is past the last date to withdraw from a class, the student will be assigned a grade of "F" and there will be no refund of tuition for that course.

#### Online Portion of the Hybrid Course

If a student misses two online classes (fails to contribute to a discussion board) during the course, then the faculty member will send an email to the student and the Director of Student Success warning of attendance jeopardy. There are no exceptions to this policy.

If a student misses three online classes (fails to contribute to a discussion board by the due date) during the course, then the faculty member or Vice Provost for Academic Administration (VPAA) will initiate the student's de-enrollment from the course without further advanced notice to the student. If the date of de-enrollment is past the last date to withdraw from a class, the student will be assigned a grade of "F" and there will be no refund of tuition for that course.

- 1 missed F2F class = warning
- 2 missed F2F classes = de-enrollment
- 2 missed online classes = warning
- 3 missed online classes = de-enrollment

### USE OF TECHNOLOGY

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In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information.

Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers compatible with their computer available to use. If a student is in need of technological resources please contact [student-tech-request@pointloma.edu](mailto:student-tech-request@pointloma.edu).

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

### FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

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Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

### COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

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Each week of the class we will focus on a specific topic within sustainability. See the Canvas course for a specific schedule of which topics we will discuss each week and assignment details. In addition to the two assigned textbooks, there are links to additional online articles/videos you will read/watch each week.

CLASS CONTENT OR ASSIGNMENT	Dates
<b>Discussion Board Posts:</b> Participate in ten of the thirteen weekly discussion boards (lowest three will be dropped). To earn full credit you must post your original response, and then leave meaningful responses to two other students. Grading will be based on evidence of critical thinking and connections drawn to other topics we have discussed in class, not the length of the post. (100 points)	Initial post due each Monday by 6:00pm. Responses due by Tuesday at 11:59pm.
<b>Eco Challenge Actions and Post:</b> Participate in the challenges on the EcoChallenge site on a weekly basis, checking in at least four times each week and earn at least 100 points per week from the challenges you choose to do. Three times during the semester there will be a short reflection assignment based on your experience. (100 points)	1) Weekly 2) Written Reflections: 2/22/21 3/22/21 4/19/21

<p><b>Letter to the Editor/You Tube Influencer:</b> You will write and submit a letter to the editor to a newspaper or publication of your choosing, regarding a current event in sustainability. LTE's are generally under 150 words, so the goal here is to deliver your point succinctly and efficiently -OR- create a 90 second youtube video educating viewers about a current event in sustainability and an easy action for viewers to start and raise at least 100 views by the end of the semester (50 pts)</p>	<p>3/18/21</p>
<p><b>Personal Sustainability Plan Paper:</b> Write a 1200-1500 word paper reflection on what you have learned over the course of the semester, and any changes you plan to make in your own life. How will you make the changes stick, be the change you want to see in the world and perhaps persuade others in your sphere of influence? See Canvas for Details (100 points)</p>	<p>4/20/21</p>
<p><b>Brand Analysis Project:</b> Working as a team, you will analyze the sustainability claims of three brands (one of your choosing, two that I will choose). You will find a common framework and then rate the brand on how credible their claims are, how effective their actions are in creating a more sustainable future, and how effectively they have communicated the sustainability message. (75 points)</p>	<p>Sign Up for due dates</p>
<p><b>Group Activities:</b> (13@5 points each). Engage each week with your group in an on-line activity (65 points)</p>	<p>Due each week on Mondays/F2F Thursdays</p>
<p><b>Team Netflix Sustainability Presentation:</b> As a team, you will watch a documentary from a list provided. Then, you will prepare a 10-12 minute presentation and offer 5 minutes worth of discussion questions. The presentation should include a clip(s) from the movie up to four minutes long. (3@25 = 75 points)</p>	<p>F2F Meetings on THU: 1/28, 2/18, 3/18, 4/8</p>
<p><b>Midterm Audit Framework:</b> Create a sustainability framework, audit checklist and questions for the company you plan to do a sustainability audit for (50 points)</p>	<p>3/8/2021</p>
<p><b>Climate Myth:</b> 3 minutes discussing one of the climate myths from the site Skeptical Science See Canvas for details. (20 points)</p>	<p>Sign Up for due dates</p>
<p><b>Drawdown presentation:</b> Prepare a 12-15 minute presentation and discussion that includes these two elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12-15 minutes detailing one of the solutions in the Drawdown book. You will do additional research beyond the drawdown book and include three of those sources in your presentation.</li> </ul>	<p>Sign Up for due dates</p>



<p>•Then, prepare 3 discussion questions for the class – one of which must be controversial to lead the class in a discussion. You will be timed. See Canvas for details (100 points)</p>	
<p><b>Drawdown podcast presentation:</b> Listen to a Drawdown podcast and then summarize it and present to the class in an 8-10-minute presentation. (75 points)</p>	Sign Up for due dates
<p><b>In class participation:</b> Come to weekly classes (Zoom or in person) on time, prepared and ready to engage. Be present and focused. Participate in discussions on your classmate’s presentations as well as other discussions, ask good questions, take notes. (90 pts total for the semester)</p>	Weekly
<p><b>Final Exam:</b> Working with the manager of a company’s site, complete a sustainability audit and action items to create a more sustainable workplace (100 pts)</p>	4/26/20
<p><b>EXTRA CREDIT: Compost and Garden:</b> Create a compost can/pile at your home. Plant the seed or plant of your choice in a pot that will render an edible harvest before the end of the semester. Care for your compost and plant. Starting week 2, document <b>weekly</b> with a photo of both the compost and the plant and a sentence as to your work done and changes you see in the compost/plant. See Canvas for details. [50 points (or 25 for only one activity)]</p>	Start by Week 2 and work throughout the semester. Final submission due 4/19/21.