

# ENR/AEDE 4567 Assessing Sustainability: Project Experience

Autumn 2018

**Class meeting time:** Tues & Thurs 3:55 – 5:15pm in Animal Science Bldg., Room 202

<b>Instructors</b>	<b>Myra Moss</b>	<b>Wuyang Hu</b>
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**Course Description & Goal:** ENR/AEDE 4567 is the capstone course for the Environment, Economy, Development and Sustainability (EEDS) major. The overall goal of the course is to provide the opportunity for students to synthesize and apply core EEDS concepts and methods to real-world sustainability questions faced by communities, businesses, and institutions. This course will allow students to get practical training in designing a project and analyzing data, in order to quantify the impacts of potential sustainability policies and initiatives. This course will help students gain experience and confidence in applying sustainability concepts in the real world. This semester we are going to be working with the City of Columbus, Ohio State University and other clientele providing analysis and recommendations to help guide the City's/University's/client's strategic sustainability goals. A team of City officials and others developed a Request for Proposals (RFP) that outlines a number of potential projects that can be undertaken this semester. Students will select one of these projects based on their interests and will work with other students as a team to develop and carry out an evaluation of potential impacts. At the end of the term, each team will present their findings and recommendations to organizations such as the City of Columbus, OSU staff, EEDS faculty, the Environmental Professionals Network, or other related clientele. The student teams have the potential to meaningfully contribute to the future of sustainability programs and investments.

**Course Format:** Classroom sessions will alternate short lectures with in-class group work on class projects. In addition, a few class periods will be devoted to research presentations.

**Assignments:** Throughout the semester students are expected to submit 2 types of work:

- **Individual assignments: Peer critique and peer review.** The peer critique will require each student to evaluate independently another research group's proposal presentation. Each student will also peer review another group's final research report;
- **Group assignments: Proposal presentation plan, written proposal, final research poster presentation, final written report:** The group proposal presentation plans will help organize and develop the required content (as detailed in the RFP) of the oral and written portions of the student research proposal. The final research presentation will be a poster presentation with Q&A section at the Environmental Professionals Network in December or another similar event. Each group's final written report must be 15-20 pages (not including the title page, table of contents, executive summary, appendices and bibliography). Final research reports that meet quality standards as evaluated by the

Instructors will be uploaded to OSU's Knowledge Bank digital repository for Campus as a Living Laboratory (CALL) sustainability projects, and permanently archived by OSU libraries.

More details on the assignments will be discussed in class.

**Class participation:** Each student is expected to attend class, actively participate in class, and be actively engaged in the assigned group project.

Students should bring laptop computers or tablets to class whenever possible.

**Make-up Work:** Make-ups for assignments are not possible in the case of an unexcused absence. There are three situations that constitute an "excused absence" from class. They are: 1) students who participate in a *documented* University sanctioned event, 2) students who have a *documented* death in the family, and 3) students who have received *documented* medical attention for an illness. Students who will be participating in University sanctioned events must provide the instructors with a copy of the scheduled events and those classes that will be missed. This documentation must be on University letterhead, signed by the coach/supervisor, and given to the instructor within the first two weeks of the quarter.

**Late Assignment Policy:** To receive full credit for writing assignments, work must be turned-in on time and in condition to be evaluated. Papers with excessive errors will be returned for resubmission and will be treated as if they are late. Late assignments will incur a deduction of 50% of the total point value for each 24-hour period (or portion) that they are late (including weekends). In-class assignments missed because of an unexcused absence cannot be made-up or repeated.

**Grading and Timeline:**

Product	Points	Due Date
Research proposal presentation*	5 points	Sep 11
Written research proposal presentation peer critique	5 points	Sep 14
Written project proposal* (in response to the RFP)	10 points	Sep 20
Final poster and presentation*	20 points	Nov 27
Written research report peer review	10 points	Dec 04
Final written research report*	50 points	Dec 08
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 points</b>	

\*Group assignment

Grade Scale (in absolute % terms):

A 93.00 to 100.00	A- 90.00 to 92.99	
B+ 87.00 to 89.99	B 83.00 to 86.99	B- 80.00 to 82.99
C+ 77.00 to 79.99	C 73.00 to 76.99	C- 70.00 to 72.99
D+ 67.00 to 69.99	D 60.00 to 66.99	
F 0.00 to 59.99		

**Course materials:** This class will be hosted on **Carmen** (<http://carmen.osu.edu>).

**Class Readings:** There is no textbook for this course; all assigned readings will be available on the ENR/AEDE 4567 **Carmen** website.

**Academic Integrity:** We expect students will submit work that is their own and will abide by the University's Code of Academic Conduct. All plagiarism and other misconducts will be reported to the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct: ([http://oaa.osu.edu/assets/files/documents/csc\\_12-31-07.pdf](http://oaa.osu.edu/assets/files/documents/csc_12-31-07.pdf)).

**Disability Services:** Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292- 3307, TD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

**Stress management:** The OSU's Counseling and Consulting Service, through the Office of Student Life, has drop-in appointments open to all students for managing stress and anxiety; see: <http://www.ccs.ohio-state.edu/drop-in-workshops>