Course Description: This course will introduce students to the interdisciplinary study of sustainability.

Required Reading:
Paul Hawken, Amory Lovins, Hunter Lovins, Natural Capitalism, selected chapters
Ray Andersen, Mid-course Correction, selected chapters
Additional readings are placed on e-reserve

Course Objectives: To provide students with a broad-based introduction to sustainability that is relevant to all majors. Students will gain a working knowledge of sustainability through readings and class discussions of theory and case studies.

Course requirements and evaluation:
Mid-term exam: 100 points
Final Exam: 150 points
Ecological Footprint project: 25 points
Sustainable materials project: 50 points
Final paper: 75 points
Final presentation: 25 points
Class participation: 50 points
Total class points: 475

Final grades will be determined on a 10-point scale: A=90-100%, B=80-89%, C=70-79%, D=60-69%, F=less than 60%

Final paper will be a 6-7 page persuasive paper making a case for sustainability in your intended career. Further instructions about the paper and presentation will be handed out and discussed in class.

Sustainable Materials Project: choose a material that you use in your daily life, write 2-3 pages on where it is made, what materials are used, what is its environmental impact, how long does it last, how is it disposed of.

Class Participation
The success of this class will depend in large part on the full participation of each student and the exchange of ideas and perceptions. Participation can take various forms and will be different for each person. Some examples of "participation" include: asking relevant questions, verbally examining a concept or perception, listening actively, and learning from your colleagues about their own discipline. Obviously, behaviors like sleeping and talking with your classmates indicates a lack of attention and focus. Likewise, civility in the classroom is crucial to enlightened discussion. Students who show disrespect for the ideas and expressions shared during lectures and discussions will fare poorly in their discussion grade. Grading for class participation is necessarily a subjective assessment. We will gladly discuss with you, during office hours, our assessment of this aspect of your grade during the semester.

Attendance will be taken at each class period, partly as a way of learning your names, and partly as a record. Poor attendance will affect your class participation grade.

Completion of reading before the appointed class is required.

E-Mail and Telephone Communications:
Auburn University has recognized e-mail as the official form of communication. It is imperative that students in this class regularly check their TigerMail accounts for communications about the course. Student e-mail will be answered within 24 hours, except on weekends or university holidays. E-mail or the telephone cannot be used
to discuss grades. If the nature of a student e-mail is too complex to answer electronically, you will be asked to come during office hours or to make an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

**Late Assignments and Make-up Exams:** Assignment due dates are rigid unless you have an excused absence. Assignments will be accepted one day late for half credit. Make-up exams will be all essay format and will only be given with prior permission (please notify us at least one week in advance) or an excuse from the infirmary or a doctor on letterhead. All other circumstances will result in a zero for the exam.

**Attendance and Behavior:** Attendance is mandatory and assumes that you have read required materials in advance, are awake, and participate. Two unexcused absences will be allowed, each additional absence will result in a 10% final grade reduction per absence. Cell phones must be silenced and should not be used during class. This class is designed to include lots of discussion and you will have many opportunities to share your opinions, however, you are expected to show respect for your classmates, instructors, and guest speakers by not talking amongst yourselves when we aren’t engaged in group participation.

**Honesty:** Auburn University expects students to complete their academic work with honesty and integrity. The Academic Honesty Code is outlined in the *Tiger Cub* and contains a list of those actions that are considered cheating and the possible consequences of engaging in those actions. Violations of the Academic Honesty Code will not be tolerated in this course.

**Students with Disabilities:** Any student needing special accommodations should inform the instructors and/or contact the Program for Students with Disabilities in Haley Center 1244, 844-2096 (V/TT) or email: haynemd@auburn.edu as soon as possible.

**Schedule of Classes**

Weeks 1-2: Introduction to sustainability
- M—Introduction to class
- W—Lecture: History of sustainability, read Natural Capitalism, Chap 1
- F—film: The Next Industrial Revolution
  - M—Lecture: The high cost of waste
  - W—students bring current articles on sustainability to discuss
  - F—Read and discuss natural Capitalism, Chaps 3-5

Week 3: Climate Change
- M—read and discuss Intro and Chap 1: The Weathermakers (e-reserve)
- W—Film: An Inconvenient Truth
- F—The Climate Change Wedge Game (created at Princeton University)

Week 4-5: Ecosystem Services
- M—Water
- W—Air
- F—Food
  - M—Toxin Removal
  - W—Resilience
  - F—Discussion

Week 6: The Triple Bottom Line
- M—The Environment, read End of Nature, chaps 1-3 (e-reserve)
- W—The Economy, Natural Capitalism, chap 8
- F—Equity, Natural Capitalism, chap 14
Week 7: Ecological Footprint
   M—Mid-term Exam
   W—Ecological Footprinting exercise
   F—Footprinting, cont

Week 8: Introduction to Case Study: Interface, Inc
   M—Interface and Ray Andersen,
   W—Read and discuss Mid-course Correction, chaps 1-2
   F—Film: segments of interview with Ray Andersen

Week 9:
   M—Where is “away,” the issue of waste
   W—Read and discuss Natural Capitalism, chap 3
   F—Sustainable materials; read biomimicry, e-reserve
   Sustainable materials papers due.

Week 10:
   M—Discuss projects
   W—Sustainable Design, guest lecture
   F—Sustainable Design, guest lecture

Week 11:
   M—Sustainable business.
   W—The Interface example, chap 3
   F—Sustainable buildings

Week 12:
   M—The Interface example, Final Papers due
   W—Sustainable Engineering
   F—The Interface example, chap 4

Week 13:
   M—The Interface example, chap 5
   W—Renewable energy
   F—The Interface example, chap 6

Week 14: Presentations

Week 15: Presentations

Final Exam per university schedule