

Assignment 1: Sustainability on Campus Context Paper

The goal of this first assignment (value: 10% of final mark) is help you develop a better understanding of what sustainability and sustainable development means and to explore the challenges associated with moving towards a more sustainable campus.

Specifically, you must choose from two themes provided in class (January 21st) and write a short background paper related to this theme. Your background paper will later be used to justify and inform your second assignment. Your paper will be expected to address some or all of the following questions:

1. What is sustainable development? Why is it important?
2. What are the solutions?; How is it being addressed (e.g. in Canada/Ontario/Ottawa)?
3. How does the issue relate to university campuses? uOttawa campus?
4. Is the situation improving? Getting worse? Do we even know?
5. What needs to happen if we hope to see positive change?
6. What information is needed to develop effective policies?

Sources of information for this assignment could include: university/ city/ provincial/ national reports; different media outlets (e.g. newspapers), personal communication with experts, the internet and peer reviewed literature. You will be expected to write 3 to 4 pages of double spaced text plus references. You must include at least 3 peer reviewed references in your bibliography.

The due date for this assignment is Thursday, February 13 before midnight

Note: use standard fonts and font size (12 point), default page margins (2.54 cm) and double spacing; you can write your assignment in either French or English

Submitting your assignment:

This course has moved to a paperless format. All assignments will be handed in through the Virtual Campus assignments function. A demonstration of how to do this will be given in class. **Assignments must be submitted in a pdf format.** MS and Apple products allow you to “print as” pdf. For others, free pdf converters are available online (<http://www.cutepdf.com/>).

Creating pdf and submitting assignment:

- In Word or other word processing software go to ‘Print’ document.
- You should have a pdf option in your list of printers. Select .pdf option and print
- You will be prompted to ‘Save As’. Choose location to save your new pdf document
- Email pdf document to ENV1101@uottawa.ca
- You will receive an automatic reply stating document was received successfully.
- Please include a title page listing: your name, email address, student number and subject theme