



Fashion and the Environment Undergraduate Course Information Guide

Course Number: CCS 220, 2 credits, 5 Weeks
Delivery Formats: Online Async

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Course Description

This course introduces students to the concept and science of sustainability, its relationship with the business of fashion, and strategies and work practices to shift the business to a sustainable operating mode. Coursework topics focus on defining sustainability, understanding human-induced climate change, and local and global effects that fashion has had on the Earth and its peoples. Learners will examine the impact of supply chains and apply sustainability practices to create an action plan for a fashion company. The course is self-paced and includes a pre-assessment test and modules of interactive instruction based on asynchronous lectures, videos, interactive exercises, case studies and knowledge assessments.

Understand key points of Sustainability in Fashion and Retail examines the challenges faced by designers, product developers, and consumers as they create, wear, and recycle clothing and fashion. Topics include (but are not limited to): the environmental impact of fast fashion, social responsibility, economic impact of textile and clothing recycling, technology and sustainable futures, and exploring healthy and clean fiber.

Learning Outcomes

After completing this course, you will be able to:

- Understand key sustainability issues impacting fashion.
- Understand fashion as a set of interconnected systems in relation to sustainability issues.
- Understand design’s current and potential roles in society.

Learning Strategies and Resources

The emphasis in this class is the understanding of concepts and developing your critical thinking skills. Reading the texts and learning materials are critical. Students are to read the current material ahead of time and bring questions to ask in one-on-one Zoom sessions or via the Discussion Board. Active participation in class is important for doing well. Asking questions (even simple ones), answering questions, and completing all quizzes, assignments, and readings are required.

Required Readings

Books and learning materials are available at the DePaul bookstore, at <http://depaul-loop.bncollege.com>, or through alternative sources.

There is no required textbook for the course.

There is an optional textbook for the course.

Hethorn, J., & Ulasewicz, C. (2015). *Sustainable Fashion, What's Next?* (2nd Ed.). New York, NY: Fairchild Books ISBN: 978-1-62892-531-9 (Paperback), eBook ISBN: 978-1-62892-533-3.

Additional readings may be available on Electronic Reserve, at the [DePaul Library](#). Login to Ares Course Reserves and select the course. Log in using your Campus Connect User ID and password. You will then get a page listing the courses in which you're enrolled that have readings posted in Ares. Click on the title of this course and the list of our electronic reserve readings will be displayed.

Learning Deliverables

There are deadlines for all assignments and missed assignments can only be made up with a valid excuse. Your performance in the course will be assessed as follows:

Quizzes and Weekly assignments will be taken on D2L and will be posted nearly every week. Questions are designed to gauge your understanding of concepts, assess your participation, and track your class attendance with weekly due dates.

Exams will cover the material of the modules; dates are listed in the course schedule TBD during the last week of course.

Reviews shall be short (2-3 page) written summaries of a topic; one for each module.

Participation will be measured from your engagement in class and with the material on D2L assigned weekly due dates.

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Assessment of Student Learning

Distribution of Grade Points

Graded Assignment	Percentage of Final Grade
Individual Assignments (5)	20%
Knowledge Checks (2)	10%
Module/Video Quizzes (5)	10%
Discussion Forum Posts (5)	25%
Written Final Assignments	20%
Final Exam	15%

Grading Scale

A = 95 to 100	A- = 91 to 94	B+ = 88 to 90
B = 85 to 87	B- = 81 to 84	C+ = 77 to 80
C = 73 to 76	C- = 69 to 72	D+ = 65 to 68
D = 61 to 64	F = 60 or below	INC

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Course Schedule

Week or Module Title or Theme	Readings / Learning Activities	Graded Assignments
Week 1, Module 1: What is	Review Module 1 Content Readings:	Discussion Topic: Course Introduction and Overview

<p>Sustainability in Fashion?</p>	<p>Perspectives on sustainability</p> <p>Understanding Fashion in changing world</p> <p>Introduction to terms and concepts of sustainability and circularity design, understanding the role of eco in fashion</p> <p>Video: Fashion, More than Garments</p>	<p>Pre-Assessment assignment</p> <p>Knowledge Check assignment</p> <p>Complete Week 1 Quiz</p>
<p>Week 2, Module 2: Sustainability Steps and Environmental Issues and Roles of Ecosystems in Fashion</p>	<p>Readings:</p> <p>Sustainability steps and environmental issues and roles of ecosystems in fashion.</p> <p>Manifestos</p> <p>The four Agendas</p> <p>Next steps</p> <p>Article: Reconnecting with nature for sustainability.</p> <p>Video: Systems Thinking.</p> <p>Audio Podcast: Sally Fox on breeding naturally colored organic cotton.</p>	<p>Discussion Topic: Why is sustainability important to you and your practice?</p> <p>Discussion Topic: Exploring the Agendas</p> <p>Exploring the manifesto Assignment</p> <p>Complete Week 2 Quiz</p>
<p>Week 3, Module 3: Complexity of Materials and Recycling of Textiles</p>	<p>Readings:</p> <p>Complexity of materials and recycling of textiles</p> <p>Caring for clothes to reduce environmental impacts</p> <p>How the fashion industry uses and abuses water?</p> <p>Measuring the environmental footprint of our clothes</p> <p>How our clothes impact the oceans and seas</p>	<p>Discussion Topics:</p> <p>Challenge yourself to an everyday change</p> <p>Challenges for the fashion Industry</p> <p>Individual Assignment Question, Fast Fashion</p> <p>Complete Week 3 Quiz</p>

	<p>Why fashion brands need to priorities water conservation from an investor's perspective</p> <p>Environmental Benefits Of Buying Second Hand Clothing</p> <p>Video: Making of Biologic</p> <p>Power Point: Creating New Sustainable Applications and Processes from Alternative Materials in Nature for Art and Fashion</p>	
<p>Week 4, Module 4: Climate Action- Biobased Innovation & New Materialism</p>	<p>Readings:</p> <p>Climate Action-Biobased innovation; new materialism</p> <p>The Sustainability Mission</p> <p>How governments can support improvements in the fashion industry</p> <p>Why our current level of clothing consumption is unsustainable?</p> <p>Overconsumption of clothing</p> <p>Fast fashion enters the resale game, but don't call it sustainability</p> <p>Sustainability – What Is It? Definition, Principles and Examples</p> <p>Weaving a Better Future: Rebuilding a More Sustainable Fashion Industry After COVID 19</p> <p>What are the Special Significances of the Second Hand Clothing Industry</p> <p>Green Fashion for Carbon Footprints</p> <p>Who is most responsible for improving supply chains?</p> <p>Power Point: Fashion's Toxic Threads (The Economist)</p>	<p>Discussion Topics:</p> <p>Sustainable Practice</p> <p>Sustainable Development Goals and Brands</p> <p>Individual Assignment Question, Knowledge Check</p> <p>Complete Week 4 Quiz</p>

	Video: The True Cost of Fast Fashion (The Economist)	
Week 5, Module 5: Visions, Goals, Action Plans And Working For Change	<p>Readings:</p> <p>Visions, Goals, Action Plans And Working For Change</p> <p>What are the Sustainable Development Goals?</p> <p>COVID-19 and its impact on the fashion industry.</p> <p>Fashion Revolution: The impact of COVID-19 on the people who make our clothes</p> <p>Sustain Your Fashion Web Page, Reading: United Kingdom House of Commons: Fixing Fashion</p> <p>What did you learn this week?</p> <p>Video: Self Cleaning Clothes (The Edge)</p>	<p>Discussion Topic:</p> <p>Sustainable Development Goals in the fashion industry</p> <p>Individual Assignment Question, The True Cost</p> <p>Complete Week 5 Quiz</p> <p>Individual Final Assessment: Research Project</p>

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Course Policies

For access to all SCPS and DePaul University academic policies, refer to the following links:

[SCPS Student Resources Website](#)

[DePaul Student Handbook](#)

The [D2L Course Website](#) for this course.

Course Syllabus

The official syllabus for this course that includes course dates, instructor information and quarter specific details will be provided by the course instructor by the start of the course and available on the course D2L website.

Course Registration

To find out when this course will be offered next, you can go to the [SCPS Registration website](#) for details on how to register for the course.

For information on how this course can apply to your program, contact your academic advisor.

School of Continuing and Professional Studies

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