

HONCC APPLICATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY DESIGNATION v1.7

INSTRUCTOR: (This is an INSTRUCTOR-based designation)

COURSE: (Alpha Number: Title)

DESIGNATION TYPE: (Choose the type of sustainability designation you are seeking)

S-Related A course in which sustainability content is addressed as a distinct course component or module, and/or through focus on a single sustainability principle or issue. There must be inclusion of at least one core-concept or related theme. (see Appendix).

S-Focused A course which contains sustainability as a **major** theme of the course. A significant portion of course content is directly and explicitly related to sustainability, addressing concepts of sustainability including the social, economic and environmental dimensions or examining an issue or topic using sustainability as a lens. There must be inclusion of two or more core concepts (see Appendix).

CERTIFICATION TYPE: Please indicate the certification status.

New

Renewal

APPLICATION QUESTIONS: (Use the space provided or attach additional files)

Please indicate how the sustainability concepts and/or practices will be implemented in this course by answering the following questions. The Sustainability Designation Review Committee will review applications for S-designation requirements. If needed, the committee will contact applicants for further clarification or to provide assistance.

1. What sustainability terminology, knowledge, and issues will be studied in the course? Explain how these required concepts and issues relate to the main course content.

2. What course materials and readings will be used to address sustainability terminology, knowledge, and issues?

3. Measured in units of days, hours, units/modules, OR assignments, specify the percentage of course time and course materials that will be devoted to sustainability terminology, knowledge, and issues.

4. Present the existing course SLOs that will include and address the sustainability components of the course or present the new SLOs related to sustainability to be added to the course (see Appendix for suggested SLOs).

5. How will you assess the effectiveness of student understanding concerning the sustainability components taught in the course? Include specific methods used to assess student understanding, such as essays (including planning, composing, revising, editing, proofreading), quizzes, homework, mid-term and final exams (in and/or out of class), student presentations, individual student conferences, portfolios--and your plans concerning improving assessments in future courses. For renewals please share how you have been assessing outcomes.

SYLLABUS INFORMATION: Attach a copy of the course syllabus that clearly indicates to students how sustainability terminology, knowledge, and issues are incorporated in the course and that accurately reflects your responses above. Your syllabus should include the following language:

For SR - Sustainability Related classes, include the following paragraph:

This course covers sustainability and sustainability-related material and carries a Sustainability-Related Designation (SR). A course with a Sustainability-Related Designation incorporates a unit or assignment on sustainability or a sustainability challenge, includes one or more sustainability themed activities, and integrates sustainability terminology, knowledge, issues, and concerns throughout the course.

For SF - Sustainability Focused classes, include the following paragraph:

This course covers sustainability and sustainability-related material and has a Sustainability-Focused Designation (SF). A course with a Sustainability-Focused Designation includes sustainability as a major theme of the course. A significant portion of course content is directly and explicitly related to addressing concepts of sustainability, such as the social, economic, and environmental dimensions, or examining an issue or topic using sustainability as a lens.

APPENDIX: (Refer here for core-concepts, related themes, terminology, and SLO samples)

I. UH Sustainability Core-Concepts: (A video tutorial)

- 1. Sustainable Economics**
- 2. Ecosystem Services**
- 3. Ecological Footprint**
- 4. Sustainable Materials Management**
- 5. Climate Change: Mitigation, Adaptation, and Resilience**
- 6. Sustainable Community Food Systems**
- 7. Equity**
- 8. Traditional Ecological Knowledge**

II. Sample Related Themes to Address in a Sustainability Course

1. Sustainability as a Concept

- Historical examples of sustainability and costs of environmental destruction
- Definitions and theories of sustainability such as strong vs weak sustainability
- Sustainable development (economic, urban, agricultural etc.)
- Philosophical aspects of sustainability such as functional integrity vs resource sufficiency
- Environmental sciences of sustainability
- Indigenous cultures, attitudes and practices related to sustainability
- Sustainable agriculture and food production
- Sustainable construction practices
- Sustainable industrial/production practices
- Sustainability system assessment
- Urban, regional, rural planning and design
- Transformative vs incremental actions

2. Sustainability Science

- Climate modeling/Climate change
- Energy, Energy = alternative, renewable energy sources
- Ecosystems
- Environmental life cycle analysis
- Geography and natural systems
- Habitat loss/species impact
- Ocean science
- Pollution
- Water Resources

3. Sustainability in Practice

- Green House Gas emission audits and assessments
- Economic sustainability issues
- Food supply and sustainability practices and issues
- Recycling and waste reduction
- Renewable/alternative energy sources
- Social justice issues

4. Social and Ethical Aspects of Sustainability

- Culture, religion and ethics as they apply to issues of sustainability
- Effects of human activity on the environment throughout history
- Human population and its impact
- Poverty – causes and responses
- Social equity
- Influences of technology on human behavior and impacts on the natural world
- Tragedy of the Commons

5. Economics, Business and Public Policy as Related to Sustainability

- Ecosystem services
- Environmental law and policy
- Legal frameworks – regulations related to sustainability
- Sustainability Economics
- Sustainable Tourism

III. Sample Terms to Address in a Sustainability Course

- Alternative and renewable energy
- Biodiversity
- Conservation
- Cultural Heritage
- Climate science and Climate Change
- Carbon footprint
- Carbon neutral
- Carbon sequestration
- Carrying capacity
- Composting
- CO₂ Offsetting
- Deforestation/reforestation
- Energy efficiency
- Endangered/Threatened Species
- Ecological footprint
- Ethical consumerism
- Externalities - positive and negative
- Fair Trade
- Global Warming
- Greenhouse Gas/Effect
- Greenwashing
- Habitat Loss
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- Invasive alien species
- Keeling curve
- Life cycle environmental assessment
- Population issues (e.g. Malthusian catastrophe)
- Potable water
- Ozone layer
- Recycling
- Renewable Energy
- Resource Sufficiency
- Sustainable Tourism
- Tragedy of the commons
- Waste Management

IV. Sample SLOs (from KapCC)

1. Define sustainability on local, national, and international levels.
2. Identify the personal values and attitudes that can facilitate sustainable living.
3. Describe how the individual relates to the wider issues of sustainability.
4. Measure one's impact on the triple bottom line: People, Planet, Profit.
5. Identify the sociocultural values and attitudes that facilitate sustainable living at the local, regional, and global levels.
6. Apply concepts of sustainability to local, regional and/or global challenges.
7. Demonstrate how concepts of sustainability are connected to local, regional and global issues.
8. Describe how traditional and indigenous perspectives inform practices of sustainability.