

Consult the [General Studies Request FAQ](#) for more information and quick answers.

New permanent numbered courses must be submitted to the workflow in [Kuali CM](#) before a General Studies request is submitted here. The General Studies Council will not review requests ahead of a new course proposal being sent to the Senate.

Submission Information

College/School

W. P. Carey School of Business (CBA)

Department/School

Department of Supply Chain Management (CSUPPLY)

Submission Type

Mandatory Review

New Request: A request for a new designation, a change in designation, or to reinstate a designation that has been lost.

Mandatory Review: Only select if this course (or topic on a *permanent* course) is undergoing mandatory review in the current academic year. Not for omnibus topic use.

Modification: A request to modify the expected learning outcomes of the course, but not change any other aspect of the originally approved proposal. Only for courses that have a previously approved General Studies Gold request.

ASU Request

Is this request for a permanent course or a topic?

Permanent Course

Subject Code

SCM

Course Number

385

Units/Credit Hours

3

Course Information

Enter the course catalog information, found in the [web course catalog](#) or [Kuali CM](#).

Course Title

Business and Sustainability I

Course Catalog Description

First of two related courses; provides a general overview of sustainability topics that are important to business today with a focus on consumer products and services and the social and environmental impact of the organizations that provide them.

Enrollment Requirements (Prerequisites, Corequisites, and/or Antirequisites)

Prerequisite(s): SCM 300, SCM 380, or SOS 110 with C or better; minimum 60 hours; Credit is allowed for only SCM 385 or SOS 385 OR Visiting University Student

Is this a crosslisted course? List all crosslisted courses by subject code and number.

Yes SOS 385

Is this course offered by (shared with) another academic unit?

No

Shared or Crosslisted Departments/Schools

School of Sustainability (CSS)

Statement of Support #1

[Re: SCM 385 GS GOLD Sustainability: Letter of Support.pdf](#)

Statement of Support #2

No Response

Statement of Support #3

No Response

If you are requesting to change the existing GS Gold (not Maroon) designation, please check this box.

General Studies Gold Designation Request

General Studies Designation

Sustainability (SUST)

Attach a representative syllabus for the course, including course learning outcomes and descriptions of assignments and assessments.

[26 Summer SCM:SOS 385 Syllabus Printezis.docx](#)

Sustainability (SUST)

The Sustainability requirement will provide students with an interdisciplinary understanding of socio-ecological systems in relation to global challenges and opportunities. The learning objectives emphasize systems thinking, where human and non-human systems are understood as intimately connected, with human actions affecting all life on a planet with limits and boundaries. Students should also become familiar with how cultural, political, economic, social, and ethical beliefs, practices and systems are related to and impact planetary systems. Students will use course concepts and systems and futures thinking to address contemporary questions or challenges.

Most of the course content should align with the Gold category learning outcomes.

Instructions: In the fields below, state the assignment, project, or assessment that will measure each learning outcome, and provide a description. The description should provide enough detail to show how it measures the learning outcome. If needed, more than one can be identified.

The proposal does not need to include all course assessments that measure a given learning outcome. The provided assessment should include sufficient detail to allow the subcommittee to make their evaluation. When appropriate, the same assessment can be listed for more than one learning outcome (e.g., a culminating project).

You may provide links to a document (Google Drive or Dropbox) that includes the relevant details for the assessment. **Do not provide links to Canvas shells.**

SUST Learning Outcome 1: Demonstrate an understanding of the earth and its ecosphere, including the measures that indicate their capacities and limits.

Module 1 covers the physical environment, earth, sustainability, emission inventories, GHGs, climate change and an environmental guide for development. Module 1 Quiz tests these.

Module 2 covers specific calculation methodologies. Module 2 Quiz tests these.

Module 3 covers profitability & sustainability, ESG in business and an investment case for for sustainability. Module 3 Quiz tests these.

Module 5 covers supply chain hotspots, sustainability tools for SCM, LCA and sustainable material assessment. Module 5 Quiz tests these.

Module 7 covers business value of circular economy, recycling and waste. Module 7 Quiz tests these.

Sample Questions: A mechanism that keeps resources in use for as long as possible, by design designing products to be refused, repaired, or recycled, is generally called? What are the three "scopes" of GHG emissions? What are the criteria to consider when choosing the "inventory boundary" for GHG accounting? What are the business goals that they were designed and maintained corporate GHG inventory can serve? What is "adaption and mitigation" in the context of climate change and GHG? How is "working carbon" classified in the context of ESG? What is "ESG investing"? The practice of overstating environmental credentials is referred to as? Describe "biomimicry" and its relationship to sustainable product design.

Please check Page 2 & 3 of the Course Syllabus for a complete list of topics, learning outcomes & assessment for each week and module of the course.

SUST Learning Outcome 2: Trace historical impacts of a range of socio-economic, political or cultural choices on integrated human-environmental wellbeing.

Module 1 covers topics on global sustainability goals and the progress we have made on those, the state of climate crisis, ESG (what, why now, why us). Module 1 Quiz tests these.

Module 2 covers topics on a 40-year plan for energy, renewable energy. Module 2 Quiz tests these.

Module 3 covers topics on the dilemma between profitability and creating strategic business pathways for the future. Module 3 Quiz tests these.

Module 4 covers topics on historical environmental impacts from consumer products, the Industrial Revolution, cradle-to-cradle and evolution of sustainable design. Module 4 Quiz tests these.

Sample Questions: Has recent human activity started to introduce stored carbon, back into the atmosphere, which is creating a carbon imbalance? What causes the "dead zone" in the Gulf

of Mexico? What is "global warming potential" and which greenhouse gas has a higher GWP than CO₂? What are the three stages for evolving sustainable product design that companies typically go through? Describe "cradle-to-cradle" design for sustainable products. Fill in the blank: After the industrial revolution, there was a _ between class and consumption and a _ of the link between identity and consumption. What does ESG have to do with how the environment and society impact the company's business and profitability? Is modern architecture and the building construction industry, a good example of "thrift" in the context of sustainability? What are the five "S" that make an economy more circular?

Please check Page 2 & 3 of the Course Syllabus for a complete list of topics, learning outcomes & assessment for each week and module of the course.

SUST Learning Outcome 3: Envision pathways toward futures characterized by integrated human-environmental wellbeing.

This is covered in every Module with topics on climate change and action (1), global view and progress on sustainability (2), transition to net-zero (3), sustainable product design (4), case for sustainable materials (5), the future of cars & transportation (6), beyond recycling and eliminating waste.

These are tested through weekly **graded** discussions in Modules 1 through 5. A detailed grading **rubric** designed around LO#3 is provided to the students.

Sample discussion questions that focus on LO3 from each module covered in the course:

1. Rockström argues that we need to shift from a mindset of "managing the planet" to "thriving with the planet." What does this shift entail, and how might it be achieved?
2. In the context of transitioning to net-zero, what is the role of carbon credits and how can we ensure that it supports the most vulnerable communities?
3. How might we measure the success of sustainable business practices, and what metrics or indicators should be used to assess their impact on the environment, society, and the economy?
4. What role do you think consumers should play in driving the transition to a more sustainable economy, and how can they use their purchasing power to support environmentally and socially responsible companies?
5. What are some of the challenges that companies might face in implementing more transparent and responsible supply chains, and how can these be addressed?
6. What role do cities and governments play in this transformation, and how can they work together with businesses and communities to drive innovation, investment, and policy change?
7. How can we shift from a culture of disposability and overconsumption to one of durability, repair, and reuse, and what role can design play in this transition?

Please check Page 2 & 3 of the Course Syllabus for a complete list of topics, learning outcomes & assessment for each week and module of the course.

SUST Learning Outcome 4: Articulate an approach to addressing contemporary questions or challenges that employs concepts or practices of sustainability.

This is covered in every Module with topics on climate change & action (1), clean & renewable energy (2), the profitability & sustainability dilemma (3), sustainable product design (4), sustainability hotspots in supply chains (5), sustainability hotspots in buildings & electrifying transportation (6), circular economy & waste elimination (7).

These are tested through weekly **graded** discussions in Modules 1 through 5. A detailed grading **rubric** designed around LO#4 is provided to the students.

Sample discussion questions that focus on LO4 from each module covered in the course:

1. What are some of the challenges that we would need to overcome, both as individuals and as a society, in order to make this shift?

2. What alternatives to carbon credits could be pursued to address emissions reduction, and what are the main challenges as these alternatives are integrated into a just transition to net-zero?
3. What are the challenges that businesses face in transitioning to a more sustainable model, and how can these be addressed?
4. What are the challenges that businesses face in meeting the demand for sustainable products, and how can these be addressed?
5. How can supply chain transparency help to address some of the environmental and social challenges associated with our current production and consumption patterns?
6. What are the key challenges and opportunities facing us as we work towards a future where transportation is clean, safe, and accessible to all?
7. How can we ensure that the solutions presented by Andrew Dent are inclusive, equitable, and accessible to all, particularly in the context of social and economic inequalities?

Please check Page 2 & 3 of the Course Syllabus for a complete list of topics, learning outcomes & assessment for each week and module of the course.

List all course-specific learning outcomes. Where appropriate, identify the associated SUST learning outcome(s) in brackets (see below for example). Note: It is expected that a majority of course-specific learning outcomes will be associated with a SUST learning outcome.

Students explore the interface between Business and Sustainability. We examine their interactions and discuss sustainable consumer products/services, as well as best practices for the organizations that make them **[Outcome 3]**. We discuss the Environmental & Social Governance (ESG) framework as we will dive deeper into topics that include: Sustainable Energy, GHG & Carbon Credits/Offsets, the Dilemma between Profitability & Sustainability, Sustainable Product Design, Ecolabels, Sustainable Supply Chain Management, Life Cycle Analysis, LEED Certification & USGBC Green Standards, Circular & Regenerative Economy Business Models **[Outcome 1]**. Through a combination of lecture videos, TED talks, readings, group discussions, and individual quizzes & exams, you will gain a comprehensive understanding of how businesses can incorporate sustainable practices into their operations while addressing social and environmental concerns **[Outcome 3]**. In this course students learn to define key terms and basic concepts related to environmental, social, and economic sustainability **[Outcome 1]**. We'll explore the impact of businesses on the environment and society, and how companies can reduce their GHG emissions. You will learn how to construct a business-case for sustainability-related projects and identify strategies for increasing DEI in organizations and supply chains **[Outcome 2]**. We'll also cover topics such as sustainable product design, consumer activism, green consumers, selecting sustainable suppliers, and supply chain resilience **[Outcome 4]**. You'll gain insights into sustainability issues in different transportation modes and vehicles, sustainable logistics management, threats to natural resources, and practices that protect them **[Outcomes 1 & 4]**. Finally, we'll discuss the business and value creation models associated with alternative business forms and the importance of recycling and reuse of resources **[Outcomes 3 & 4]**.

Form Submission - Proposer

Submitted for Approval | Proposer

Antonios Printezis - January 8, 2026 at 1:31 PM (America/Phoenix)

Department Approval

Sent Back

Nguyen Le

Michele Pfund - January 27, 2026 at 1:04 PM (America/Phoenix)

Syllabus needs updated

Form Submission - Proposer

Submitted for Approval | Proposer

Antonios Printezis - January 27, 2026 at 1:13 PM (America/Phoenix)

Department Approval

Approved

Nguyen Le

Michele Pfund - January 27, 2026 at 2:23 PM (America/Phoenix)

GSC Coordinator Review

Approved

Kimberly Singleton - January 28, 2026 at 7:57 AM (America/Phoenix)

April Randall

Assistant Vice Provost Review

Sent Back

Tamiko Azuma - January 29, 2026 at 1:43 PM (America/Phoenix)

Thank you for submitting your proposal for consideration for a General Studies Gold designation. Further information is required before the proposal can be submitted for General Studies Council review.

For Learning Outcomes 1 & 2, please provide examples of questions that measure the specific learning outcome.

For Learning Outcomes 3 & 4, the assessments seem to be Yellowdig Discussion Boards. Yellowdig discussion boards that are autograded (e.g., based on word count or receiving a comment/reaction) are not appropriate assessments for the Gold learning outcomes because the student work is not graded on content. If the student work is additionally graded on content, please include the grading rubric.

Note: This does not mean that the assignments should be removed from the class, only that they should not be included as assessments in the Quali form.

The General Studies Council needs this information to confirm that the assessment appropriately measures the specific learning outcome.

If you have any questions, please email me (Tamiko Azuma) at azuma@asu.edu.

Form Submission - Proposer

Submitted for Approval | Proposer

Antonios Printezis - February 3, 2026 at 1:55 PM (America/Phoenix)

Department Approval

Approved

Nguyen Le

Michele Pfund - February 3, 2026 at 3:52 PM (America/Phoenix)

Questions have been added for LO1&2. Please see syllabus for information on how yellowdig posts will be grades (with rubric)

GSC Coordinator Review

Approved

Kimberly Singleton - February 4, 2026 at 7:30 AM (America/Phoenix)

April Randall

Assistant Vice Provost Review

Approved

Tamiko Azuma - February 9, 2026 at 12:18 PM (America/Phoenix)

All required components confirmed.

Pre-GSC Meeting

Approved

Kimberly Singleton

April Randall - February 9, 2026 at 2:27 PM (America/Phoenix)

Sustainability (SUST) Committee

Acknowledgement Requested

Ryan Heintzman

Kevin Dooley

Jose Lobo - February 25, 2026 at 6:49 AM (America/Phoenix)

Revise and resubmit(major): The submitted course shows potential alignment with the general SUST category, but in its current form, does not yet meet the criteria for designation and requires significant revisions. The committee recommends that the assessments be made clearer and their connection to their corresponding SUST LOs be made more explicit to meet the SUST criteria. If you choose to revise the proposal, please address the concerns outlined below in the revised submission. Resubmissions will be fully reviewed and may still require further revisions. In the revised submission, please clearly indicate the changes or additions using bold or highlighted text or explicitly indicate the changes in the text.

Treavor Boyer

General Studies Council Meeting

Waiting for Approval

Kimberly Singleton

April Randall

Proposer Notification

Notification

Antonios Printezis

College Notification

Notification

Michele Pfund

Nguyen Le
