

Sustainability Impact Accelerator

Mr. Hill - Fall 2019

Course Overview

This will be an interactive, learner-centered, action-oriented class that will not only help students explore the wicked complexity of humanity's struggle to become sustainable, but also empower them to create tools that will help humanity reach it. Students will be required to think and act critically, collaboratively, flexibly, creatively and holistically, viewing the world through an interdisciplinary prism of environmental, economic, and social perspectives.

Main Topic List – not numbered because this will be a non-linear process

Unit: Personal development through solving environmental crises
Unit: Collaborative tools (Trello, Slack) and skills
Unit: Ideation toward impact and human-centered design – project development
Unit: Seeking knowledge, stakeholder and mentors
Unit: Build a Minimum Viable Product, run experiments, test assumptions
Unit: Theory of Change – how what you do will lead to what you want



Unit: Testing your value, growth and impact hypotheses
Unit: Pitch deck – your project the impact the world
Unit: Disrupt underlying motivations, support systems, incentives and policies that support an unsustainable world.

Basic Overview of Assignments and Assessment

Reflective journal – 20%

You must keep a journal regularly document your process with notes, sketches, to-do lists, follow-up summaries of concepts you find important. You should always write ideas down on Trello –you can later sort through to identify what's important. Consider if any reflections should go into your final paper. Your reflections can also include aspects about your personal development through your sustainability work.

Personal and Professional development – 20%

You will create part of this grading rubric. Well-executed failure will be rewarded with points.

Pitch Day – 20%

You will prepare a pitch deck (PPT) that outlines the problems your team intend to have a major impact on and the solutions you developed.

Final Cook-book – 20%

Your team needs to develop your project into a form that can be used by other students in other schools around the world. A cook-book of flexible steps which can be followed to create a high-impact sustainability project. Any underlying science must be rigorous and clearly communicated. This paper will be shared with the world.

Participation – 20% In good spirits do all of the reasonable following:

- Actively contribute your share of the work always.
- Be attentive and flexible
- Collaborate professionally – what does this mean?