

Sustainability Across the Curriculum

Resources for Loyola Faculty

Sustainability is one of Loyola's key initiatives exemplifying our unifying value of social justice. Sustainability Across the Curriculum is an initiative of Loyola University Chicago to promote sustainability in the academic endeavor as a part of our social justice mission.



Students presenting a landscape design for the President's garden as part of a NOAA grant funded project

Sustainability Learning Outcomes – Over 1,384 courses at Loyola are focused on sustainability or incorporate one of the learning outcomes listed below. We can help faculty incorporate sustainability into your teaching by providing case-studies, peer examples and discipline-specific curricular resources. Upon completion, students will be able to . . .

- **Knowledge**
 - Explain how biophysical and social systems are interdependent and interact to prevent or foster sustainability.
 - Describe how sustainability relates to environmental issues, social justice and economic development.
 - Reflect and provide examples how sustainability relates to one's area of study / discipline.
- **Values**
 - Articulate and demonstrate a personal philosophy or commitment to address sustainability in one's personal life, community involvement and civic engagement.
 - Articulate and demonstrate a commitment to promote a more just and humane society within a sustainable global environment.
- **Skills**
 - Articulate a long-term vision for individual, societal and ecological well-being.
 - Develop and demonstrate skills as a strategic change agent in the context of sustainability.
 - Demonstrate ability to apply sustainability through engaged learning on campus or in their community.
 - Ability to understand, describe and take part in reflective or contemplative practice

Sustainability Across the Curriculum recognizes classes that address sustainability competencies including systems thinking, applying context to larger issues, interdisciplinary problem solving, and capacity to analyze or synthesize new knowledge from existing data as it relates to environmental, social and economic issues. It works across theory, policy, communications, research and other practices to integrate and advance a better world for all.

Teaching Resources – Sustainability can be integrated into every discipline at Loyola to help prepare our students for 21st Century problems and interdisciplinary solutions. Loyola's sustainability initiatives are guided by the following principles:

- We seek to have the lowest environmental footprint in Illinois
- We support sustainability across the curriculum
- We believe sustainability is about Social Justice
- We facilitate the campus as a learning laboratory
- We support a pathway to careers (that empower a just future for all)
- We envision the campus as a community change-agent

Loyola's Sustainability Mission

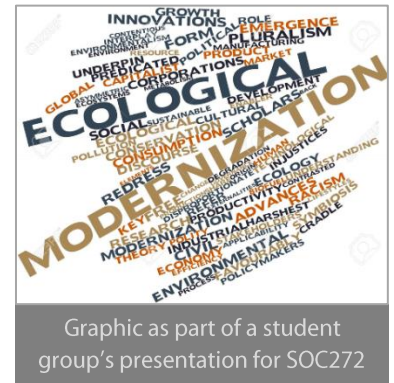
Sustainability at Loyola is driven by our Jesuit tradition of social justice, our service to humanity, and our role as an institution of higher education. It is embodied in an educational experience for our students and activities that seek to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. We are committed to an inclusive process considering social, economic and environmental impacts and exemplified in a transformative education for our students.

Examples of Courses and Research that integrated interdisciplinary sustainability

Sociology 272 - Environmental Sociology

This course explores the ways that social issues have an environmental dimension. Sustainability often emerges as a central concern, for example, when viewing the way that colonial expansion and the rise of capitalism were both processes that had a dramatic impact on the natural world, transforming it into a vast source of raw materials. This course examines the evolution of environmentalism as a social movement and explores the hybrid concept "sustainable development," which means very different things to industrialized countries and those seeking development. Previously students have studied how the world community attempts to address global environmental problems like climate change in the absence of a world government.

Faculty Member: Dr. Michael Agliardo, S.J.



Graphic as part of a student group's presentation for SOC272



One of the persistent feedback tools encouraging student water efficiency

Department of Psychology – Water Efficiency Behavior Change

The Psychology Department studies the behavior of people in a social context. Psychology faculty and students contribute to and utilize social psychological knowledge for the improved welfare of individuals, groups, organizations, and society as a whole. In collaboration with the Institute for Environmental Sustainability, this project increased water efficiency in the Loyola residence halls by applying social psychological theory to a sustainability challenge. The project designed an information campaign to inspire students to change their water consumption habits using core theories and principles of social psychology. This applied research is a good demonstration of sustainability specific to the field of social psychology.

Faculty Member: Dr. Robyn Mallett, Psychology

Anthropology 104E – The Human Ecological Footprint

Students in this course learn about historical and global trends in human impacts on the planet and what is driving them. To augment classroom learning, they design research on the consumption and waste disposal habits at our campus. In addition to the study of campus garbage, students are assigned guided reflection essays to help them consider the environmental sustainability of their own consumption and waste discard behaviors and how to change them. This connects to the sustainability competency of understanding individual and collective consequences.

Faculty Member: Dr. Dan Amick, Anthropology



Students conducting a waste audit as part of an Anthropology course on consumption patterns.

Institute of Environmental Sustainability is your sustainability resource

Our goal at Loyola is to support students, staff and faculty in making the University more sustainable. We partner, collaborate, guide and share resources to build a culture of sustainability. Visit LUC.edu/sustainability to learn what Loyola is doing and our future opportunities to do more. There is an interactive map to find sustainability projects on campus. Campus Sustainability is led by the staff of the Institute of Environmental Sustainability.