

Global Challenge – Winter 2021

## Assignment 1 – Sustainable all the way! (20%)

Due Saturday, March 6, 23:59

\* Watch the Assignment Instructions **Recording** on Teams (top tab)!

“Sustainability”, this buzz word we hear all the time and every where... Why is it that it’s now considered a “novelty” while it should be obvious that all human activity should be sustainable for a happy and healthy planet, and therefore for happy and healthy humans? Or, is sustainability just the revival of old practices that were suppressed by more contemporary practices? Make sure to have the first reading done before you start this work.

The aim of this assignment for you to get a better grasp of what the various spheres of sustainability really mean when applied in real-life practices and initiatives. It is also meant for you to explore sustainable alternatives to current mainstream systems.

You will choose a particular “responsible” organization or enterprise that has sustainability in mind in its mission and in the way it operates. You will collect as much information on it as you can and will write an essay to prove that it is genuinely sustainable on several fronts (at least environmentally, socially, economically, and hopefully politically and community-wise as well.

**Submission instructions:** **SAVE your essay as a PDF (I need this to correct your work!),** and upload the final PDF document in Lea under Assignment 1. **ALSO submit in TURNITIN.COM. It will not be graded until it is in BOTH Lea and Turnitin.**

**Step 1 – Prep-work: choose, read, contact, take notes (5%)** – *to be submitted with your essay: pasted it at the end.*

Choose an enterprise/organization within Canada and ideally in or close to Montreal. Below are a few links with potential examples. **EXCLUDE** governmental organization such as “Sport Montreal”. Choose one that does have an environmental component.

**Sources to find an organization:**

<https://ccednet-rcdec.ca/en/about>

<https://s4es.ca/>

<https://www.akcelos.com/en>

<https://chantier.qc.ca/?lang=en> (→ Discover Social Economy → Enterprise Directory...)

I highly recommend you read the “**About**” page of all the above links. I also recommend you read **Reading C-8 on Social Economy** before you start this work, although it is only to be covered on week 7. It will help you choose the “right” kind of enterprise/organization.

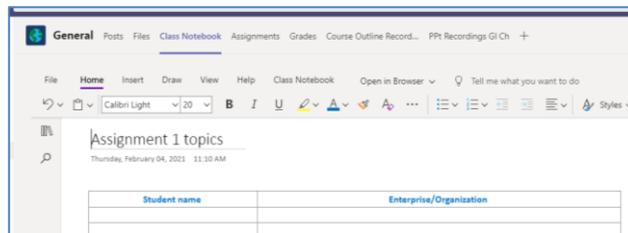
Search on it, read on it, and try getting in touch with the people there to obtain further information. **Make sure** to choose one you will have enough material to write an essay on! If you are unsure of your choice, contact me.

Submit the following with your essay in short point-form notes:

- Its location, who it serves & what geographical area it covers (is it local, regional, national?), when and how it started.
  - What it is about. Its product(s)/service(s).
  - What about this enterprise makes it sustainable and “responsible”?
  - Your chosen enterprise’s logo & some pictures from its website or from you if possible.
- \* You can copy-paste a few sections from the website BUT make sure to add quotation marks!

\*\* You must all choose a DIFFERENT organization/enterprise. To assure this:

↳ **INDICATE** your chosen organization/enterprise under “Collaborative Space”, under Class Notebook as shown below. First come, first served, i.e. if you see your choice is already taken, you need to look for another one!



\*\* Have some **preliminary reading and notes** for **Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>** for a **Mandatory Synchro class** in your respective topic.

## Step 2 – Essay (15%)

Write a 750-800word essay (respect the word limit!) to address the following thesis statement:

The organization/enterprise I chose, \_\_\_\_\_[name]\_\_\_\_\_, is genuinely sustainable on many levels (environmentally, economically, socially, etc.) compared to mainstream for-profit-only organizations/enterprises because \_\_\_\_\_.

### Essay Content:

- Your essay therefore consists of supporting this thesis using all the information you have been able to collect on the organization and to justify how it is sustainable on various facets.
- Enhance your discussion by also including some comparison with for-profit-only organizations/enterprises/companies such as Walmart.
- Of course, also include a description of your organization/enterprises (in first body para.)

Your paper will follow the basic essay rules (intro, body, conclusion):

- **Intro:** present topic (organization), state thesis statement, main sub-topics (body parts)
- **Body:** organize your main points and arguments in a logical way with a clear flow from one paragraph to another (each para. = main idea). Start each paragraph with a topic sentence.
- **Concl.:** wrap-up your essay by concluding why your organization is sustainable: briefly restate each argument.

- \* You can insert a few direct quotations from the organization website (with quotation marks of course). Note that direct quotes cannot consist of more than 1/5 of the entire text. This is a rule of thumb for any essay by the way.

#### Specific requirements:

- Double-space PLEASE! (Easier for me to correct and comment).
  - Include the word count at the end of the essay.
  - Start each paragraph with a topic sentence (a sentence that announces the para. topic).
  - Proofread (~4 times) and apply the spell-check.
  - Opt for short and concise sentences; unless you are a skilled writer, these are better than long and confusing sentences.
  - Provide a reference list in APA, even if the whole essay is based on your organization's website. To find out how to do this properly, see below. \*
  - **Quality of English** is essential and will count for **3 marks** on 15. I reserve the right to not grade a paper which English is very weak. For support, see below. \*
- \* Consult the various sources I have added to the new tab "[Support for Students](#)", in Class Notebook.

#### **Evaluation criteria:**

- all of the above
- structure and organization of overall essay (consider writing an outline first)
- depth of analysis and discussion
- relevance and accuracy of arguments/proofs in support of the thesis statement
- overall effort (it usually shows!)

**Submit to Turnitin.com – See instruction on Course Outline:**

class ID **27747423** and class enrollment password **globe**.

Upload your paper in the assignment folder called Assignment 1.

**\* Your paper will NOT be corrected until it has been submitted in Turnitin! \***



*To inspire you, here's my sustainably produced, locally and fairly purchased cotton scarf from Ethiopia.*