

CVEN 689  
“SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS IN CIVIL ENGINEERING”

Guidelines for Review Paper

The goal of the class review paper is for you to locate, analyze, and synthesize material on incorporating principles of sustainable development into your field of professional practice beyond that covered in class. This discussion of new material should be complementary to class readings and discussions, and the paper should be written to extend the general principles covered thus far into specific techniques and considerations for your field of interest. For example, if you are particularly interested in the use of recycled materials in building construction, your research paper should include discussion on how concepts of natural capital, entropy production, etc., relate to this topic. The raw material for this discussion will partially come from your references and partially from your personal analysis and synthesis of information.

- At minimum, you should have 5 references of value included in your research. These can be articles from peer-reviewed journals or books approved by the course instructor(s). In most cases, web pages will not count, but they can be used as minor references.
- There is no maximum or minimum length requirement for the paper. However, an appropriate length would be approximately 2500 to 3500 words.
- The paper will be due Thursday, July 27, at 9:35 AM. Late submissions will be penalized one letter grade per 24 hours after this time.
- Students will work individually on the paper. Sharing of individual references is allowed, but sharing of notes and analysis is not allowed. That is, if the same article is used by two different students, that is not a problem. However, if the discussion of the reference in each paper is almost identical, suspicions of plagiarism will arise.
- Appropriate use of citations and a bibliography is expected, and all papers are expected to conform fully to the letter and spirit of the TAMU Honor Code ([www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor](http://www.tamu.edu/aggiehonor)).
- Sloppy formatting, spelling and grammatical errors, etc., may be the basis for grade deductions if they are particularly distracting to the reader (item #7 of the evaluation criteria).

- Each paper will be evaluated against the criteria listed below and should be complete with respect to these items.
  - Does the paper include new ideas about sustainable development that have not been covered in class? (10 points)
  - Are the new ideas in the paper connected by the student to the general principles discussed thus far in class? (15 points)
  - Does the paper provide guidance on how professional practice in the student's field of interest can incorporate principles of sustainability? (15 points)
  - Does the paper include an appropriate volume of external research? (10 points)
  - Does the paper include an analysis of ideas in the references *and* a synthesis of these ideas that goes beyond the original references? (20 points)
  - Is the paper clearly written and understandable? (10 points)
  - Is the paper appropriately formatted and without distracting spelling and grammatical errors? (10 points)
  - Have references been cited and listed in the bibliography? (10 points)
- The review paper should be considered a literature review complementary to the Term Project at the end of the course.