



**THOMPSON
RIVERS
UNIVERSITY**

Centre for
Excellence in
Learning & Teaching

Welcome to Sustainability in the Curriculum!

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY | MAY 2019



TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

TRU's Kamloops campus is situated on the traditional lands of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc within Secwépemc'ulucw, the traditional territory of the Secwépemc people.

AGENDA

- Introductions
- Goals of the workshop
- Changing a course
- Definitions of sustainability

- Many activities
- Debrief and moving forward



Introductions

- Tell us who you are, what you teach, and why you are here



Goals

- “There is no dogma”
- Multiple short presentations and exercises are designed to stimulate your imagination, not deliver information
- Our hope is for you to be able to conceptualize new ways to integrate sustainability concepts into your courses

Learning Outcomes

After the workshop, participants will be able to:

- Identify different ways to change a course to include sustainability
- Discuss with faculty from other disciplines and areas of study the interdisciplinary connections within sustainability
- Develop a new course or redesign a current course to include sustainability or a sustainability issue

Course Changes

- Make sure you are going through proper procedures for course changes in your area
- Remember that all changes need to align with course-level and program-level learning outcomes
- More about course changes later . . .

What is Sustainability?

- What does sustainability mean to you? How do you connect to sustainability?
- Take 2 minutes to make a few notes for yourself, then pair up with someone and discuss

TRU Definition

“Sustainability is based on a simple principle: Everything that we need for our survival and well-being depends, either directly or indirectly, on our natural environment. Sustainability creates and maintains the conditions under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony, that permit fulfilling the social, economic and other requirements of present and future generations.”

(<http://www.epa.gov/sustainability/basicinfo.htm>)

Sustainability is now defined as a socio-ecological process characterized by the pursuit of a common set of values that are based on equity and the common good. To not only create a fair and just world for all humans, but to also take holistic view that looks at supporting all species, for the sake of future generations but also for the sake of all life.

Some definitions and models

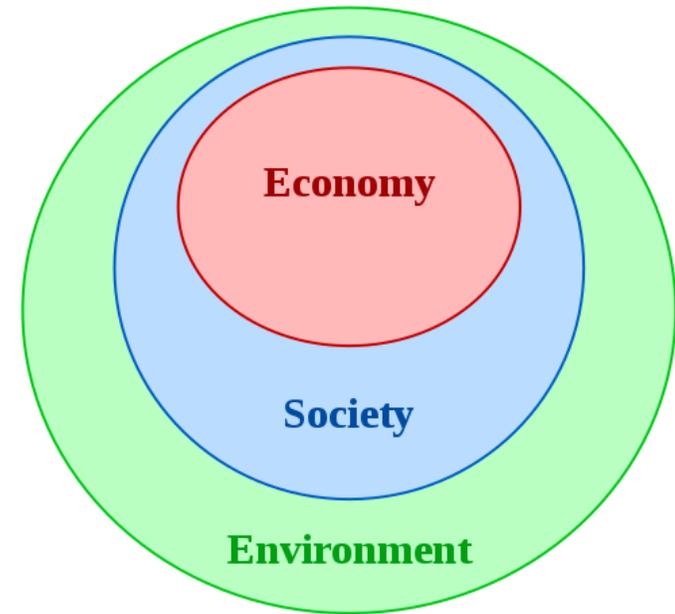
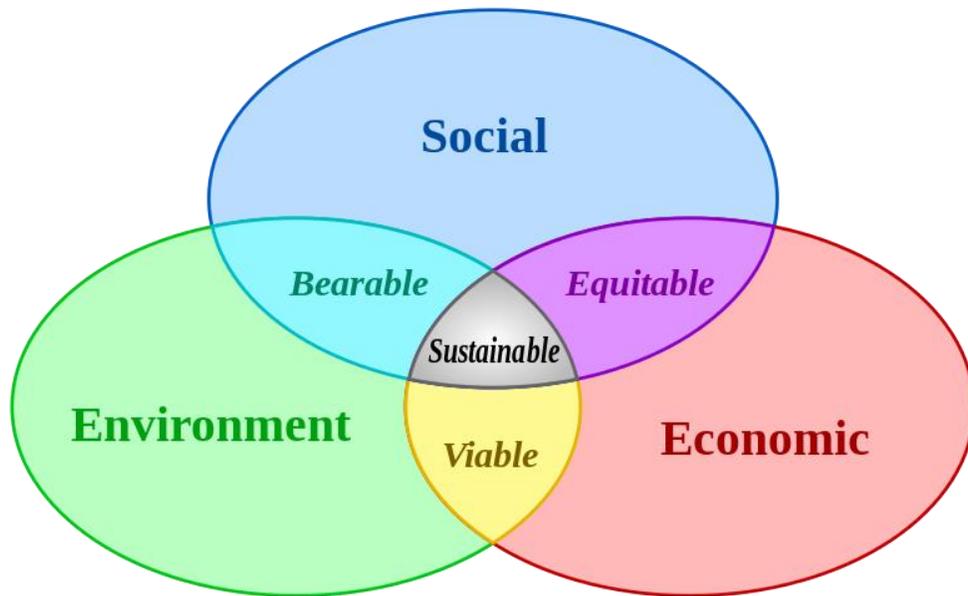
- “Universities educate most of the people who develop and manage society’s institutions. For this reason, universities bear profound responsibilities to increase awareness, knowledge, technologies, and tools to create an environmentally sustainable future.” (Talloires Declaration, 1990)

Some definitions and models

- Most commonly known: “Sustainable Development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” (Brundtland Report, 1987)
- Over the past few decades sustainability has also come to be defined in terms of a process: one that is adaptive & systems-thinking oriented requiring creativity, flexibility and critical reflection (Tilbury, 2004).

Some definitions and models

“Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” (*Our Common Future*, 1987)



MacEwan University's Model



UN Sustainable Development Goals



Big Ideas in Your Discipline?

- Consider for a moment the big contributions of your discipline to the world
- Take 2 minutes and write some of them down
- Pair up and share and discuss
- How many of those contributions are related to sustainability?