

## Course Title: Sustainable Development & Planning

Course No.: 10616465

Credits: 2

Instructor: Dr. Ali Abdelhamid

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### About the Course:

Sustainable Development & Planning is an optional course offered by An-Najah National University (ANNU) as part of its broader commitment to integrating **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** into the curriculum across various disciplines, including engineering. This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of sustainable development as a multidimensional process that touches on economic, social, cultural, environmental, and spatial dimensions.

**Development** is not just an economic phenomenon but a holistic process that involves reorganizing and reorienting entire systems. Students will explore how development processes aim to improve the quality of human life through:

1. **Raising living standards** (income, education, healthcare).
2. **Promoting human dignity and self-esteem** by building social, political, and economic systems that support human rights.
3. **Enhancing freedom of choice** by expanding the variety of goods, services, and opportunities available to people.

At the core of this course is the concept of **sustainable development**, defined in the Brundtland Report (1987) as “*development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.*” Students will critically examine sustainability as a planning and policy framework and explore how professionals like planners, engineers, architects, economists, and policy makers collaborate to achieve sustainability goals.

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## Course Objectives / Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand the **fundamentals of sustainable development and planning**, particularly in the context of the SDGs.
- Analyze **global and local attempts** to achieve sustainable development, with a focus on planning strategies that address the SDGs.
- Apply key concepts, tools, and techniques for **land resource assessment, land capability, and suitability analysis** in sustainable land use planning.
- Integrate sustainable development principles into **national and regional development planning**, emphasizing the challenges faced in implementing such policies.

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## Course Schedule:

The course is structured to guide students through a comprehensive examination of sustainable development, with key sessions covering the following topics:

Week	Session	Topics
1st	Introduction & Conceptual Framework	The concepts of development, sustainability, and sustainable development planning.
2nd & 3rd	What is Sustainability & Sustainable Development?	Historical background, objectives, and characteristics.
4th & 5th	Planning for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable City	The role of planning in sustainability.
6th	<b>1st Midterm Exam</b>	
7th & 8th	21st Century Agenda & Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)	Components and implementation tools of MDGs.
9th & 10th	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	The 2030 Agenda, SDG targets, indicators, and innovation.

Week	Session	Topics
11th	<b>2nd Midterm Exam</b>	
12th & 13th	New Urban Agenda	Sustainable urban models, engines of change, and principles of the New Urban Agenda.
14th & 15th	Potentials for Sustainable Development & Planning in Palestine	Challenges, approaches, and possibilities for sustainable urban development in Palestine.
16th	<b>Final Exam</b>	

### Course Requirements & Grading:

Requirement	Grading
1st Midterm Exam	% 20
2nd Midterm Exam	% 20
Term Paper	% 10
Final Examination	% 50
<b>Total</b>	<b>% 100</b>

### Course Resources:

#### 1. Compulsory Sources:

- Course lectures, notes, and discussions.
- Distributed publications (papers, reports, studies, etc.).

#### 2. Additional References:

- **In English:**
  - *Engineering Applications in Sustainable Design & Development* – Bradley A. Striebig, 2015.
  - *Principles of Sustainable Aquaculture* – S. W. Bunting, 2013.
  - *The Future of Sustainable Cities: Critical Reflections* – John Flint (Ed.), 2012.

