

## EDSU 904

# Transformative Sustainability Teaching and Learning

Spring/2021

University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point  
Spring 2021

January 25 – May 14

(finals week May 17 – May 21)

Virtual Office Hours (Zoom in Canvas): Thursdays 5:30 – 6:00 pm weekly and by appointment

### Find me on...

Academia:

<https://uwsp.academia.edu/DrJoyPolancoONEil>

LinkedIn:

[linkedin.com/in/drjoypolancooneil](https://www.linkedin.com/in/drjoypolancooneil)

Name: Joy Kcenia Polanco-O'Neil, Ph.D.

Email: [joneil@uwsp.edu](mailto:joneil@uwsp.edu)

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# Course Information

## Course Description

This course builds on the introduction course, Educational Sustainability (EDSU 900) as an interdisciplinary approach to developing social and ecological change. Relevant theories and case studies will be utilized to address the cognitive, social, emotional and spiritual perspectives of transformational and systemic learning, in contrast to the managerial and mechanistic approach to teaching and learning.

## Program Learning Outcomes

### **PLO #4:**

Students will be able to consider diverse audiences and integrate inclusive practice into sustainable environments

### **PLO #6:**

Students will be able to demonstrate leadership to challenge existing norms, and create a holistic and ecological model for decision making as it relates to educational and community systems

### **PLO #8:**

Students will be able to use and analyze data for informed decision making in professional practice

## Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

A learning outcome is a statement that describes what a student will know (knowledge), be able to do (skill), and/or value/appreciate (disposition) because of a learning experience.

Students will be able to:

1. explain adult learning and transformative learning theory
2. delineate approaches and perspectives of transformative learning
3. complete positionality paper and how it relates to research and practice
4. relate transformative learning approaches and perspectives to socio-ecological change
5. analyze case studies and apply relevant theory, approaches and perspectives to teaching practice
6. investigate own practice/s of transformative learning
7. develop a concept poster of first year doctoral experiences

## Core Course Projects

Core Projects	Brief Description	SLOs (#)
Project #1: Situating Transformative Learning Theory and Perspectives	Students will gain a foundational understanding of adult learning theory, and its tie to transformative learning theory and sustainability.	SLO 1,2
Project #2: Transformative Sustainability Education	Given our diverse contexts and from our diverse perspectives, what does TL teaching and learning look like in practice?	SLO 3,4, 5
Project #3: Learning within a Sustainability Context	Students will have an opportunity to develop their first-year concept poster within an educational sustainability context.	SLO 6,7

## Course Materials

### Required Textbooks

Taylor, E. W., & Cranton, P. (2013). The handbook of transformative learning: Theory, research, and practice. San Francisco, Calif: Jossey-Bass.

Hathaway, M., & Boff, L. (2009). The Tao of liberation: Exploring the ecology of transformation.

Additional readings will be in the course.

## Communicating with your Instructor

I am available online by appointment. Standard protocol is to allow 24-48 hours weekdays for a return communication.



**TEAMS AND EMAIL:** For course subject matter related questions and dialogues, use Chats in Teams, Email or Canvas email. I check them all 24-48 hours and respond within that timeframe on the weekdays.



**VIDEO:** Teams has a video feature. Works GREAT for easy, quick connection. Zoom works great as well and is in Canvas or your email Outlook.

Teams or Canvas are preferred media for correspondence. If you use email, please correctly use the subject line; if a subject were to change, update the subject line and include an entire thread of an ongoing email conversation so that we can review its history. Please indicate subjects for email attachments.

# Grading and Evaluation

## Holistic Grading System

All work should be completed in a progressive manner to allow instructor to give continual feedback for improvement. This feedback may come in the form of engaging in the discussions, one on one chats/meetings and project work as well as assignments submitted. Points are not administered. It is expected that students incorporate feedback for improvement for their future work. Holistic work for three projects will be evaluated against the holistic grading rubric for the midterm and final grade.

### 1. Midterm

- a. Student submits holistic grading rubric
- b. Instructor responds to holistic grading rubric
- c. Set up a 15-minute meeting with instructor (optional)

### 2. Final

- a. Student submits holistic grading rubric
- b. Instructor responds to holistic grading rubric
- c. Set up a 15-minute meeting with instructor (required)

## Holistic Grading Criteria Rubric

**A = Strong Evidence = Distinguished B = Evidence Found = Competent C = Emerging Evidence = Emerging D = Weak Evidence = Developing F = No evidence = Fail = F**

CRITERIA
<b>Conceptual:</b> Connects concepts to other subjects Improves work based on feedback from instructor and peers Applies content to new ideas
<b>Skill acquisition:</b> Demonstration effective critical analysis Utilization of valid and reliable support resources Uses APA format citation correctly Doctoral level writing standard
<b>Workflow:</b> Follows project guidelines and navigates flow of a project
<b>Peer support:</b> Consistent and ongoing collaboration and sharing Fosters deeper understanding in the group
<b>Communication:</b> Timely, active ongoing engagement Effective, professional written communication

NOTE: Minuses and pluses are earned if you fall within the middle of the listed criteria table.

## Late Work

It is important to identify your role in projects and deadlines for projects. Projects have smaller components to them that need to be completed. It is important that you are participating in each of the components of the projects. The holistic grading rubric criteria holds high standards for timely work. Late work may result in lower marks in this rubric effecting your overall grade. If you need more time, communication is key and I will make exceptions for prior communication in extenuating circumstances.

## Attendance & Participation

Participation is expected. Attendance at synchronous seminars is recommended and if not able to attend, video recording (if applicable) viewing or contact with instructor is required to complete the seminar requirements. Ongoing visibility on projects is expected. If I do not “see” you, I will reach out to you. If you are having issues and need to step out for a few days, please let me and your classmates know if your absence will affect your contributions to projects. Communication is KEY! See holistic grading rubric you have all contributed to setting for your studies. The course is set up in a way to maximize workflow at an adult learning level. My expectation is that you are active in the projects assigned at a timely pace. Much of our work is process work. You are encouraged to reach out for support/feedback as needed.

## Incompletes

Under emergency/special circumstances, students may petition for an incomplete grade. An incomplete will only be assigned if there is evidence and/or explanation of some work completed. All incomplete course assignments must be completed within **one calendar year** (extensions may be granted under special circumstances). The grade will reflect this effort. Please speak with instructor regarding procedure for incompletes.

## Learning Technology

### Joy’s Learning and Technology Philosophy

As you will be learning about how we change systems of teaching and learning, in your studies, you will have an opportunity to embody this by the workflow set forth in your studies. As you will see, I do not have everything set up “packaged” in modules or anything of the sort. Instead, we will work on projects – as a class, in small groups, and individually. We will practice and embody *Sustainable Education* by building in a handful of “tools” and skills you will use for sustaining your studies. We will practice inclusion, and equity by the very nature of knowing and being. The intention is to use technology and learning intentionally to build both individual, student to teacher, student-to-student and group collaboration and engage in a deep learning process bring your learning to life...remotely!

Coming at this from an ontology of systems thinking and emergent properties. (An emergent property is a property, which a collection or complex system has, that cannot occur as an individual alone.) For our case, we are using this thinking to build several forms of technologies to come together to offer a whole, meaningful learning experience for you.

The other way I think of an emergent property is in how we function as a cohort community of learners. With respect that every bit of technology will not be everyone's favorite, we will commit to what we know is for the good of the whole. With that, there may be some technology that we choose that works best, what might need to be dismissed and what might need to be added. I invite you to please give it a try! Given our courses are reorientation and potentially transformative, I invite your voice to the learning space and share with me/us what works (or does not) as you, yourself moves through the course.

### Technology Policy

This course requires posting of work online that is viewable only by your classmates. None of the work submitted online will be shared publicly other than (Edublog) which is password protected but you can share the password of your site. Some assignments require account creation for online programs. In any technology we use, your academic records (grades, student IDs, personal identification information) will not be shared by the instructor of this course. Confidentiality of student work is imperative, so you should not share the work of your peers publicly without their permission, including FlipGrid, which is also password protected. By participating in these assignments, you are giving consent to sharing of your work with others in this class and you recognize there is a small risk of your work being shared online beyond the purposes of this course. If you elect to not participate in these online assignments due to confidentiality concerns then you may request an alternative mode of delivery.

### Technology Expectations

In this course you will be expected to complete the following types of tasks:

- Communicate via email and the Canvas Inbox;
- Complete basic internet searches;
- Download and upload documents to the LMS;
- Read documents online;
- View online videos;
- Participate in online discussions;
- Complete quizzes/tests online;
- Submit files to Canvas; and
- Participate in synchronous online discussions.

### Technology Requirements

- Minimum recommended computer and internet configurations for online courses can be found [here](#).
- You will also need access to the following tools to participate in this course.
  - Webcam,

- o Microphone,
- o Printer, and
- o A stable internet connection (i.e., not cellular).


### Course Structure and LMS

This course uses Canvas, the New Learning Management System (LMS) being adapted across the UW System. Canvas can be accessed via a launch portal at <https://www.uwsp.edu/canvas> using your campus login and password. Help in Canvas is available at the bottom of the launch portal, and through the “Help” menu within Canvas. A student orientation / training course is available for self-registration at <https://uws.instructure.com/enroll/FNRAL8>.

By registering for this course, you have agreed in an alternative technology plan should your computer stop working or you lose internet. The library is a good alternative.

### Getting Canvas Help



Click on the  button in the global (left) navigation menu and note the options that appear:

Options	Explanations
<p><b>Ask Your Instructor a Question</b> Submit a question to your instructor</p>	<p>Use <b>Ask Your Instructor a Question</b> sparingly; technical questions are best reserved for Canvas personnel and help as detailed below.</p>
<p><b>Chat with Canvas Support (Student)</b> Live Chat with Canvas Support 24x7!</p>	<p><b>Chatting with Canvas Support (Student)</b> will initiate a <i>text chat</i> with Canvas support. Response can be qualified with severity level.</p>
<p><b>Contact Canvas Support via email</b> Canvas support will email a response</p>	<p><b>Contacting Canvas Support via email</b> will allow you to explain in detail or even upload a screenshot to show your particular difficulty.</p>
<p><b>Contact Canvas Support via phone</b> Find the phone number for your institution</p>	<p>Calling the Canvas number will let Canvas know that you're from UWSP; phone option is available 24/7.</p>



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## Search the Canvas Guides

Find answers to common questions

## Submit a Feature Idea

Have an idea to improve Canvas?

Searching the [Canvas guides](#) connects you to documents that are searchable by issue. You may also opt for [Canvas video guides](#).

If you have an idea for Canvas that might make instructions or navigation easier, feel free to offer your thoughts through this **Submit a Feature Idea** avenue.

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*All options are available 24/7; however, if you opt to email your instructor, s/he may not be available immediately.*

## Microsoft Teams

Microsoft Teams is a program within Office 365 that you have access to.

Please watch this video to learn about Teams: <http://bit.ly/2QR2MG7>

We mostly use Email, Teams or Canvas for communication. Teams is a good place to Chat about a project or related matters that you are working on with me or classmates.

## End Note

EndNote is required as supported by the UWSP library and is very good for reference management and advance writing integration. We have group account to share articles that we find during library searches. The one drawback is that you cannot sub-group the articles so it may get unorganized fast.

## Other Tech Software

In addition to these main workflow technologies, you may be introduced to project dependent technologies/software integrated into Canvas.

## Netiquette Guidelines

Netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online both in Canvas and Teams. Your instructor and fellow students wish to foster a safe online learning environment. All opinions and experiences, no matter how different or controversial they may be perceived, must be respected in the tolerant spirit of academic discourse. You are encouraged to comment, question, or critique an idea but you are not to attack an individual. Working as a community of learners, we can build a polite and respectful course community.

The following netiquette tips will enhance learning experiences for everyone in the course:

- Do not dominate any discussion.
- Give other students the opportunity to join in the discussion.

- Do not use offensive language. Present ideas appropriately.
- Be cautious in using Internet language. For example, do not capitalize all letters since this suggests shouting.
- Popular emoticons such as 😊 can be helpful to convey your tone but do not overdo or overuse them.
- Avoid using vernacular and/or slang language. This could possibly lead to misinterpretation.
- Never make fun of someone's ability to read or write.
- Share tips with other students.
- Keep an "open-mind" and be willing to express even your minority opinion. Minority opinions have to be respected.
- Think and edit before you push the "Post Reply" button.
- Do not hesitate to ask for feedback.
- Using humor is acceptable

Adapted from: Mintu-Wimsatt, A., Kernek, C., & Lozada, H. R. (2010). *Netiquette: Make it part of your syllabus*. *Journal of Online Learning and Teaching*, 6(1). Retrieved from [http://jolt.merlot.org/vol6no1/mintu-wimsatt\\_0310.htm](http://jolt.merlot.org/vol6no1/mintu-wimsatt_0310.htm)

Shea, V. (1994). *Netiquette*. Albion.com. Retrieved from: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette/book/>.

## University Policies

### Inclusivity Statement

It is my intent that students from all diverse backgrounds and perspectives be well-served by this course, that students' learning needs be addressed both in and out of class, and that the diversity that the students bring to this class be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. It is my intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity: gender identity, sexuality, disability, age, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, race, nationality, religion, and culture. Your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated. Please let me know ways to improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally, or for other students or student groups.

### Religious Beliefs Accommodation

It is UW System policy to reasonably accommodate your sincerely held religious beliefs with respect to all examinations and other academic requirements. You will be permitted to make

up an exam or other academic requirement at another time or by an alternative method, without any prejudicial effect, if:

- There is a scheduling conflict between your sincerely held religious beliefs and meeting the academic requirements; and
- You have notified your instructor within the first three weeks of the beginning of classes (first week of summer or interim courses) of the specific days or dates that you will request relief from an academic requirement.
- Your instructor will accept the sincerity of your religious beliefs at face value and keep your request confidential.
- Your instructor will schedule a make-up requirement before or after the regularly scheduled requirement.
- You may file any complaints regarding compliance with this policy in the Equity and Affirmative Action Office.

#### Equal Access for Students with Disabilities

UW-Stevens Point will modify academic program requirements as necessary to ensure that they do not discriminate against qualified applicants or students with disabilities. The modifications should not affect the substance of educational programs or compromise academic standards; nor should they intrude upon academic freedom. Examinations or other procedures used for evaluating students' academic achievements may be adapted. The results of such evaluation must demonstrate the student's achievement in the academic activity, rather than describe his/her disability.

*If modifications are required due to a disability, please inform the instructor and contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center to complete an Accommodations Request form. Phone: 346-3365.*

#### Academic Honesty

UWSP 14.01 Statement of principles

The board of regents, administrators, faculty, academic staff and students of the University of Wisconsin system believe that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental to the mission of higher education and of the University of Wisconsin system. The university has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors.

UWSP 14.03 Academic misconduct subject to disciplinary action.

- (1) Academic misconduct is an act in which a student:
  - (a) Seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization or citation;
  - (b) Uses unauthorized materials or fabricated data in any academic exercise;
  - (c) Forges or falsifies academic documents or records;
  - (d) Intentionally impedes or damages the academic work of others;
  - (e) Engages in conduct aimed at making false representation of a student's academic performance; or
  - (f) Assists other students in any of these acts.
  
- (2) Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to:
  - Cheating on an examination;
  - Collaborating with others in work to be presented, contrary to the stated rules of the course;
  - Submitting a paper or assignment as one's own work when a part or all of the paper or assignment is the work of another;
  - Submitting a paper or assignment that contains ideas or research of others without appropriately identifying the sources of those ideas;
  - Stealing examinations or course materials;
  - Submitting, if contrary to the rules of a course, work previously presented in another course;
  - Tampering with the laboratory experiment or computer program of another student;
  - Knowingly and intentionally assisting another student in any of the above, including assistance in an arrangement whereby any work, classroom performance, examination or other activity is submitted or performed by a person other than the student under whose name the work is submitted or performed.

Any student suspected of academic misconduct will be asked to meet with the instructor to discuss the concerns. If academic misconduct is evident, procedures for determining disciplinary sanctions will be followed as outlined in the [University System Administrative Code, Chapter 14](#).

## Confidentiality

Learning requires risk-taking and sharing ideas. Please keep your classmates' ideas and experiences confidential outside the classroom unless permission has been granted to share them.

## Help Resources

### IT Technology Issues

The Office of Information Technology (IT) provides a Service Desk to assist students with connecting to the Campus Network, virus and spyware removal, file recovery, equipment loan, and computer repair. You can contact the Service Desk via email at [techhelp@uwsp.edu](mailto:techhelp@uwsp.edu) or at (715) 346-4357 (HELP) or visit this [link for more information](#).

#### Technical Assistance

If you need technical assistance at any time during the course or to report a problem with Canvas you can:

- Visit with a [Student Technology Tutor](#) HYPERLINK  
"https://www.uwsp.edu/tlc/Pages/ComputerGuides.aspx"
- Seek assistance from the [IT Service Desk](#) (Formerly HELP Desk)
  - IT Service Desk Phone: 715-346-4357 (HELP)
  - IT Service Desk Email: [techhelp@uwsp.edu](mailto:techhelp@uwsp.edu)