

# ENV 490 Current Topics Seminar: The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals *Course Syllabus* Spring 2022

All the SDG's come down to education Malala Yousafzai

A little less conversation, a little more action. Prime Minister of Norway Erna Solberg

At its essence, sustainability means ensuring prosperity and environmental protection without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. A sustainable world is one where people can escape poverty and enjoy decent work without harming the earth's essential ecosystems and resources; where people can stay healthy and get the food and water they need; where everyone can access clean energy that doesn't contribute to climate change; where women and girls are afforded equal rights and equal opportunities.

UN.Org/Sustainable Development

By weaving your passion and unique skills with a need or cause, and standing with the people you want to serve, you will be well-positioned to make a meaningful dent in the world. Oscar Auliq-Ice

The global work of the United Nations is not without reason compared to that of a family - striving for a common goal in concert with all members for a better future. Kofi Annan

"Any harm done to the environment, therefore, is harm done to humanity." Pope Francis



Department Name: CUH Environmental Program & U.N. Cifal Honolulu College/School/Division Name: School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics; Chaminade University of Honolulu Course Credits: 3 Class Meeting Days: TTh Class Meeting Hours: 1:00-2:20 Class Location: WSC 120 or Zoom!

Instructor:	Dr. Gail Grabowsky
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<b>Office Location:</b>	Wesselkamper Science Center, room 105
Office hours:	Tuesday-Friday 3:00-6:00 PM; Or by appointment (Zoom or in person)
<b>Course Website:</b>	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1KQ0Yj3T5Hme9P2II7-gq7AUIid4GE4ww?usp=sharing
<b>Class Zoom Link:</b>	https://chaminade.zoom.us/j/2916035174

**NOTE:** Here we go again! Oh my goodness guys hang in there with this pandemic! The omicron variant as you know is **the most contagious yet** BUT it is also **much less virulent**. So it is very possible – via evolutionary processes – that *H. sapiens* may finally get to "herd immunity" in which we are all protected by our own antibodies generated by vaccination or natural immunity. Viruses tend to evolve to be less virulent – I will explain the cause for this in class if you would like. So, covid may be around – like the flu and colds – for a very long time but we know how to live with those bugs and we will learn to live with a much less dangerous covid as well. HOWEVER because we are in the middle of the omicron spike due to its contagiousness CUH has wisely opted to offer the **first three weeks online** to allow time for airlines and people to recover. So STAY SAFE and we will start online and then **switch to 100% in-person on January 31**<sup>st</sup>! I personally CANNOT WAIT TO SEE YOU ALL IN PERSON!

In the meantime I am going to run the online portion of class synchronously most days. IF you have an excused absence, I will record the class. So, you must let me know prior to class of your upcoming excused absence if you want me to record class!

#### **University Course Catalog Description**:

Guys this course is a one-time only current/special topics course so it has a pretty vague formal course description in the CUH Catalog: Selected topics of current interest in environmental studies will be addressed. This year I have decided to learn with you about the United Nations <u>Sustainable</u> <u>Development Goals</u> because Chaminade is the host of the newest U.N. Cifal Training Center: Cifal Honolulu - one of 23 in the world with the purpose of helping local regions achieve the SDG targets through training, partnerships and action! I am the Executive Director but even though I have been teaching the SDG's for many years I do not know them in the depth needed AND they will be very educational to us all AND may help you find a career AND we might design some projects for the Cifal Honolulu together! So here we go!

#### **Course Overview & Purpose:**

This course is all about learning the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals IN DETAIL. The world has until 2030 to achieve the TARGETS for each goal. The reason we need to know them is because our new Cifal Honolulu Center is going to help make them happen, and in order to do that we first have to be very aware of them. Another purpose of the course is to participate in making the SDG's happen via action. Finally you are the lucky juniors and seniors who are her for the launch of the Center and I want you to help me and my assistant Dr. Tasha Kawamata Ryan design the launch which will take place in March!

#### **Marianist Values:**

This class represents one component of your education at Chaminade University of Honolulu. An education in the Marianist Tradition in marked by five principles and you should take every opportunity possible to reflect upon the role of these characteristics in your education and development:

- 1. Education for formation in faith
- 2. Provide an integral, quality education
- 3. Educate in family spirit
- 4. Educate for service, justice and peace
- 5. Educate for adaptation and change

#### Native Hawaiian Values:

Education is an integral value in both Marianist and Native Hawaiian culture. Both recognize the transformative effect of a well-rounded, value-centered education on society, particularly in seeking justice for the marginalized, the forgotten, and the oppressed, always with an eye toward God (Ke Akua). This is reflected in the 'Olelo No'eau (Hawaiian proverbs) and Marianist core beliefs:

- 1. Educate for Formation in Faith (Mana) E ola au i ke akua ('Ōlelo No'eau 364) May I live by God
- 2. Provide an Integral, Quality Education (Na'auao) Lawe i ka ma'alea a kū'ono'ono ('Ōlelo No'eau 1957) Acquire skill and make it deep
- 3. Educate in Family Spirit ('Ohana) 'Ike aku, 'ike mai, kōkua aku kōkua mai; pela iho la ka nohana 'ohana ('Ōlelo No'eau 1200) Recognize others, be recognized, help others, be helped; such is a family relationship
- 4. Educate for Service, Justice and Peace (Aloha) Ka lama kū o ka no'eau ('Ōlelo No'eau 1430) Education is the standing torch of wisdom
- 5. Educate for Adaptation and Change (Aina) 'A'ohe pau ka 'ike i ka hālau ho'okahi ('Ōlelo No'eau 203) All knowledge is not taught in the same school

#### What this course counts for:

Knowledge, action, planet saving, good projects on your resume and maybe even a career!

#### Course Learning Outcomes: After you complete this course you will:

- Explore the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) in depth
- O Compare the Targets and Indicators for each SDG
- Formulate beliefs about the quality and importance of each SDG and its targets and indicators
- O Propose which SDG's Cifal Honolulu should focus on
- Help develop partnerships in the community with Cifal Honolulu
- O Devise a plan for the launch and future endeavors of UN Cifal Honolulu
- O Participate in helping our community achieve some of the SDG's
- O Determine new personal ways you may help humanity achieve a sustainable existence

Course prerequisites: Course must be taken in your junior or senior year or approved by the instructor.

#### **Texts:**

<u>Required:</u> There is no hard copy text for this class! However each of you will have your own personal "Extended Report" all about the SDG you will unveil! Each report can be found <u>in this folder</u>.

<u>Additional Selected Readings</u>: The Un has an incredibly extensive list of major publications, examples of community actions, community reports, reports on specific sustainability topics etc. <u>They can be</u> <u>found here</u>. We will all take advantage of these throughout the course.

Course Website: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1KQ0Yj3T5Hme9P2II7-gq7AUIid4GE4ww?usp=sharing

There will also be a course Canvas folder – I use it mainly to shoot you out into Google Drive but I do also use the Canvas Modules to keep a clear chronological record of the major week-by-week course content and a fixed location for the course's required service-learning assignments.

#### **Course Requirements:**

Your grade in this course will be based on the following. Each of the items/activities listed below will be described to you in writing or orally in class. The due dates for each activity (or its parts) are indicated on the Schedule portion of this syllabus.

- One U.N. SDG "Unveiling" discussion lead by each of you
- Written Critique of the Goal you Unveiled; are the TARGETS, INDICATORS, ACTIVITIES good enough? You perform a SWOT analysis of your SDG.
- Action: Testimony and following at least one bill before this year's Hawaii State Legislature OR Participation in Chaminade's *Compassionate Cat Care & Reduction* (CCC&R) Program OR participate in another SDG-Related project
- Cifal Honolulu Launch Action Planning Group project for the main Goals and ACTIVITIES Cifal Honolulu should undertake

#### **Course Grading:**

The proportion that each of the above contributes to your grade in this course is as follows:	
Û.N. SDG "Unveiling"	25%
Written Critique of the Goal you Unveiled: Its SWOT's	25%
Action: HI State bill shepherding OR participation in CCC&R OR Other SDG Project	25%
Cifal Honolulu Launch Action Planning for Cifal Honolulu will focus on	25%
	100%
The points that each of the above contributes to your grade in this course is as follows:	
U.N. SDG "Unveiling"	250
Written Critique of the Goal you Unveiled: Its SWOT's	250
Action: HI State bill shepherding OR participation in CCC&R OR Other SDG Project	250
Cifal Honolulu Launch Action Planning for the SDG's Cifal Honolulu will focus on	250
	1000

**U.N. SDG Unveiling:** The first week of class, each of you will find yourself the Overseeing Observer of ONE of the 17 U.N. SDG's which you will "Unveil" to the class. I have spent some time looking into the <u>SDG web pages</u> and have become familiar with the way each SDG is set up. They each consist of: (1) An OVERVIEW that describes the reasons we need the goal. And (2) a list of TARGETS with indicators of success. There is also (3) a list of the EVENTS, PUBLICATIONS and ACTIONS that have occurred in an effort to meet the TARGETS! YOU are each going to explain the SDG by sharing with the class: Its OVERVIEW, TARGETS, INDICATORS and some of the EVENTS, PUBLICATIONS and ACTIONS that have been undertaken for that goal. You will have an entire 80 minute class period but this is NOT a presentation. You are simply sharing the info and leading the discussion for the SDG with the class. For this assignment, each of you will have access to the wonderful "Extended Reports" here for each of the SDG's.

Written Critique of your SDG through a SWOT (or SOAR) analysis: This is the only paper you'll write for this class and it will be shared with the entire class by being posted in this Google Drive folder <u>here</u>. Each of you will become the expert on your SDG and so we all will learn best from you regarding your thoughts on the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (= SWOT analysis) OR a SOAR analysis (Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations and Results) of the SDG itself and the efforts being made to accomplish it through TARGETS, INDICATORS and EVENTS, etc!

Taking Action via Shepherding a Hawaii State Bill, the CCC&R Project or some other SDG-Related Project: This is the service-learning and world changing portion of this class. We will each participate in some activity that will help accomplish on of the SDG's and its TARGETS. You can choose from three options: shepherding a bill, free-roaming cats or other SDG-related. You will be asked to log your activities, link them to an SDG and its TARGETS, and share them with the class. There are MANY **bills** proposed by the Hawaii State Legislators this year that relate to this class! There are bills about water pollution, renewable energy, land use, endangered species, habitat protection, houselessness, poverty, minimum wage, ETC! Also, the legislature is using Zoom now! If you choose. **CCC&R Project:** Everything you might want to know about this campus project conducted in partnership with the Hawaii Humane Society is in <u>this folder</u> and <u>this folder from last semester</u>. I started the project in the fall of 2020 in order to humanely reduce the number of cats on campus through trap-neuter-release. Since then we have removed 34 kittens from campus to loving homes, but there is much more you can participate in for credit on this project. Here is a sheet that explains the many options for participation which I will explain in class. And just for fun here are three kittens I caught on 12/31/21 and 1/1/22. Now they won't have to live a hard feral life... Finally you may choose a **service learning project of your own**. For all of these your grade is NOT based on hours of participation but rather on your impact and linkage to an SDG.



**Cifal Honolulu Launch Action Planning:** Our U.N. Cifal Center Honolulu is brand new and housed at Chaminade. Their purpose is to help achieve the SDG's locally – which for us is the Pacific! Dr. Gail is the Executive Director and I would LOVE your help! You are all juniors and seniors now and have a lot of knowledge already. Also many of you are ENV majors or have had ENV classes so you know what many of the major issues are at home and in the world. So: I NEED YOUR HELP in designing our Cifal Center's launch in March! Who should we invite? What should we do? What activities? What kind of tech should be involved? Let's plan!

Attendance: <u>Excused absences</u> include being ill with a doctor's note, missing for a work-related emergency, family-related emergency and/or missing for an athletic event/retreat/research paper presentation at a symposium. You'll need to provide some kind of documentation or a phone number of someone responsible that I may call in order to verify the reason for your absence. <u>You are all</u> allowed TWO unexcused absences. After the third absence you will lose 20 points from your overall grade for each unexcused absence.... Be SURE you let me know if you will be missing class if you want me to record it for you!

#### **Extra Credit Options:**

Periodically throughout the course there will be virtual talks and webinars that you may attend that pertain to the course material. You can earn +2 extra credit points towards a lecture exam for each one you attend with content related to the course content. In order for all talks and service activities to count for extra credit you MUST have them approved PRIOR TO the event and you MUST document your presence (if Dr. Gail is not also in attendance) with a photograph of yourself participating or some other kind of evidence. You may earn up to 10 extra credit points from attending talks/presentations.

#### **Course Atmosphere:**

This course is meant to be a seminar experience; it is not a lecture course and not a science course, it is a multidisciplinary course! We will be *discussing* issues, the readings, our ideas and opinions, making presentations, videos, debating each other and educating each other almost every day. So if you are shy you'll have to try and shed that skin and be bold! Fake it if you have to – remember that everyone's thoughts are valuable and if you don't share yours the rest of us will be denied that "gold."

#### **ADA Policy**

Statement from the Student Handbook:

Pursuant to federal and state laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 as amended by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, all qualified students with disabilities are protected from discrimination on the basis of disability and are eligible for reasonable accommodations or modifications in the academic environment to enable them to equal access to academic programs, services, or activities. If a student would like to determine if they meet the criteria for accommodations, they should contact the Counseling Center in the Student Support Services Building, Room 101, by phone at (808) 735-4845 or email: counselingcenter@chaminade.edu for further information.

#### **Title IX Compliance**

Chaminade University of Honolulu recognizes the inherent dignity of all individuals and promotes respect for all people. Sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse will NOT be tolerated at CUH. If you have been the victim of sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, we encourage you to report this matter promptly. As a faculty member, I am interested in promoting a safe and healthy environment, and should I learn of any sexual misconduct, physical and/or psychological abuse, I must report the matter to the Title IX Coordinator. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources by visiting Campus Ministry, the Dean of Students Office, the Counseling Center, or the Office for Compliance and Personnel Services.

#### Nothing is Certain but Change Itself Clause...

This syllabus and course schedule are living documents: they are free to change. I try to adhere as closely as possible to each, but there will be times in which we will take longer on a particular topic or add or delete a topic to enhance the course. I like to be able to react to you as the course proceeds and go with the flow a bit in order to make the course experience sort of custom fit to you!

# You are responsible for all of the information in this document: losing it or not reading it are not excuses for not knowing what's in it!

# YOU WILL CHOOSE AND NEGOTIATE FOR YOUR SDG'S THIS FIRST WEEK OF CLASS!!!

Everyone check this and decide what U.N. SDG you'd like to "Unveil" for the class!



# **ENV 490 Current Topics Seminar:** The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

### WEEK TOPIC & PRESENTERS

1/31 - 2/4

2/7 - 2/11

2/14 - 2/18

- 1/10 1/14 Course Intro & Mechanics; What is the United Nations all about? What if we invented the SDG's? You choose your SDG's Cat Project; <u>HI Legislative Calendar</u>; <u>Other Action Projects</u>
- 1/18 11/21 Deep dive into SDG Unveiling assignment goals & outcomes Introduction Cifal Honolulu & why we are having this class! What SDG's are most important to tackle in Hawaii and the Pacific?

How do Marianist & Catholic + NHPI values reinforce the SDG's?

What ACTIVITIES and EVENTS should Cifal Honolulu create/enable?

1/24 - 1/28SWOT Analyses (and here, here and SOAR here) & your SDG<br/>Cifal Honolulu launch Design Thinking

SDG 4: Quality Education – Dr. Gail

SDG 3: Good Health & Well Being -

Cool UN Events/Actions/Publications/Etc! I

Cool UN Events/Actions/Publications/Etc! II

#### ACTIVITIES Student feedback

Discussion – All Project details

Dr. Gail Introduce Cifal Honolulu Planning/Outcomes

Dr. Gail & Discussion Planning/Outcomes

Unveiled! Discussion roundtable Reveal/Share

Unveiled! Unveiled!

Unveiled! Planning/Outcomes Reveal/Share

Unveiled! Unveiled!

Unveiled! Planning & Outcomes Reveal/Share

Unveiled! Unveiled!

Unveiled! Planning/Outcomes Reveal/Share

## 2/23 – 2/25 SDG 5: Gender Equality -SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities -

SDG 1: No Poverty -

SDG 2: Zero Hunger -

- 2/28 3/4 SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation -What TARGETS might we want to focus on and why? Cool UN Events/Actions/Publications/Etc! III
- 3/7 3/11SDG 7: Affordable & Clean Energy -<br/>SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth -
- 3/14 3/18 SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure -What INDICATORS might we want to focus on and why? Cool UN Events/Actions/Publications/Etc! IV

3/21 - 3/25	SPRING	BREAK!!!	Testify! Catcl	h Kittens! Count	Cats! Plant	Native Plants!

3/28 - 4/1	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities - SDG 12: Responsible Consumption & Production -	Unveiled! Unveiled!
4/4 - 4/8	SDG 13: Climate Action - Who should Cifal Honolulu's Partners be? Cool UN Events/Actions/Publications/Etc! IV	Unveiled! <mark>Planning/Outcomes</mark> Reveal/Share
4/11 - 4/13	<mark>SDG 14</mark> : Life Below Water - SDG 15: Life on Land -	Unveiled! Unveiled!
4/18-4/22	SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions - Cifal Honolulu Revisit our own Plans & Recommendations	Unveiled! Planning/Outcomes
4/25 - 4/29	SDG Summary; Cifal Honolulu Best Undertakings Roundtable! How might YOU ALL want to be involved in making SDG's real? What might YOU initiate on campus and beyond to make the real?	Planning/Outcomes Collective Planning/Outcomes Personal Planning/Outcomes

Important Dates You Should Know:
Bill Shepherding OR Compassionate Cat Care & Reduction OR Other SDG Project assignments are all due by Friday May 6<sup>th</sup> at midnight!