

**City University of Hong Kong  
Course Syllabus**

**offered by School of Energy and Environment  
with effect from Summer Term 2021**

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**Part I Course Overview**

**Course Title:** Energy, Environment and Sustainable Development

**Course Code:** SEE5114

**Course Duration:** One semester

**Credit Units:** 3

**Level:** P5

**Medium of Instruction:** English

**Medium of Assessment:** English

**Prerequisites:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* None

**Precursors:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* None

**Equivalent Courses:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* SEE8114 Energy, Environment and Sustainable Development

**Exclusive Courses:**  
*(Course Code and Title)* Nil

## Part II Course Details

### 1. Abstract

This course aims to develop better understanding of energy and environmental issues with sustainable development. It focuses on raising the awareness of the world's connection to environmental issues, examining the principles and tools for sustainable processes and exploring the methods for reducing the environmental impact. The students will learn about fundamental concepts of sustainability and the methods to evaluate their significance. Sustainable processes in the wider economic, social and environmental contexts will be covered.

The course is designed with an emphasis on interdisciplinary reflection, systems thinking and sharing of students' own experience. The teaching/learning will be supported by video presentations, seminars, web-based resources, site visit and group discussions.

### 2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

*(CILOs state what the student is expected to be able to do at the end of the course according to a given standard of performance.)*

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)	Discovery-enriched curriculum related learning outcomes (please tick where appropriate)		
			A1	A2	A3
1.	Describe issues relevant to the emergence and ongoing development of sustainable processes in the wider economic, social and environmental contexts	20	√		√
2.	Evaluate the overall techno-economic of sustainable processes	20	√		√
3.	Identify the methodologies available for environmental impacts assessment of a process design	20	√	√	√
4.	Recognise the context of the drivers, challenges and indicators to measure social sustainability	20		√	√
5.	Describe the basic principles of green transportation and integrated bioprocess design. Explain the important issues and factors affecting the practices of sustainable transportation system.	20	√	√	√
		100%			

A1: *Attitude*

*Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.*

A2: *Ability*

*Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to self-life problems.*

A3: *Accomplishments*

*Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.*

### 3. Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(TLAs designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs.)

TLA	Brief Description	CILO No.					Hours/week (if applicable)
		1	2	3	4	5	
Lecture	<b>Lectures</b> on (1) Special Waste Fractions; (2) Economics of a Process Design; (3) Environmental Assessment of a Process Design; (4) Circular Economy; (5) Electric Vehicle; (6) Case Studies of Integrated Bioprocess Design	√	√	√	√	√	2.5 hours/week
In-class exercises	<b>In-class exercises</b> will be given to students to assess students' concepts and grasp of knowledge taught in class	√	√	√	√	√	0.5 hour/week
Reading exercises	<b>Reading exercises</b> including reference books, journal papers and related online materials will be provided to students to facilitate self-directed learning.	√	√	√	√	√	
Mid-term	<b>Mid-term</b> will be arranged to assess students' understanding and ability to apply subject-related knowledge learned in class, textbooks and required reading materials.	√	√	√	√	√	
Examination	<b>Examination</b> will be arranged to assess students' understanding and ability to apply subject-related knowledge learned in class, textbooks and required reading materials.	√	√	√	√	√	

#### 4. Assessment Tasks/Activities (ATs)

(ATs are designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs.)

Assessment Tasks/Activities	CILO No.					Weighting	Remarks
	1	2	3	4	5		
Continuous Assessment: <u>75</u> %							
<b>In-class exercises</b> Students need to complete in-class exercises and participate actively in discussing these exercises to facilitate their understanding of knowledge taught in class.	√	√	√	√	√	6%	
<b>Case study and oral presentation</b> Students will work in groups, prepare and deliver oral presentation on 'Design an infectious waste stream treatment method' for treating the large amount of COVID-related waste stream (i.e., infectious waste, personal protective equipment, etc.) in the different locations. Students are required to identify the potentially infectious waste categories and estimate the waste potential considering the different scenario(s) and the type of healthcare resources used.	√	√	√	√		20%	
<b>Assignments</b> One assignment on Technoeconomic Study and Life Cycle Assessment to demonstrate their understanding of concepts One assignment on Integrated Bioprocess Design to demonstrate their understanding of concepts	√	√	√	√	√	20%	
<b>Reading exercises</b> Reference books, journal papers and online materials related to the 'Case study' will be provided to students via an online platform. Students are required to post sensible questions after reading the materials to demonstrate their understanding of the topics.	√	√	√	√		4%	
<b>Mid-term</b> Students will be assessed via the examination their understanding of concepts learned in class, textbooks,	√	√	√	√	√	25%	Duration: 2 hours, if applicable

reading materials and their ability to apply subject-related knowledge.							
<b>Examination: 25% (duration: 2 hours, if applicable)</b>							
<b>Examination</b> Students will be assessed via the examination their understanding of concepts learned in class, textbooks, reading materials, and their ability to apply subject-related knowledge.	√	√	√	√	√	25%	
						100%	

Examination duration: 2 hrs

Percentage of coursework, examination, etc.: 75% by coursework; 25% by exam

To pass a course, a student must do ALL of the following:

- 1) obtain at least 30% of the total marks allocated towards coursework (combination of in-class exercises, case study, oral presentation, if applicable);
- 2) obtain at least 30% of the total marks allocated towards final examination (if applicable);  
and
- 3) meet the criteria listed in the section on Grading of Student Achievement.

## 5. Assessment Rubrics

*(Grading of student achievements is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities with the following rubrics.)*

Assessment Task	Criterion	Excellent (A+, A, A-)	Good (B+, B, B-)	Fair (C+, C, C-)	Marginal (D)	Failure (F)
1. Case study and oral presentation	Ability to design a waste treatment method for treating the large amount of infectious waste stream in the selected villages/cities/countries	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
2. In-class exercises	Ability to apply concepts and theories to sustainable design of processes in practice	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
3. Assignments	Ability to analyse and calculate practical problems in sustainable design of processes	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
4. Reading exercises	Ability to evaluate and make sensible comments on reading materials related to the 'Case study' topic.	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
5. Mid-term exam	Ability to analyse and calculate practical problems in energy, environment and sustainability-related issues.	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels
6. Final exam	Ability to analyse and calculate practical problems in energy, environment and sustainability-related issues.	High	Significant	Moderate	Basic	Not even reaching marginal levels

### Part III Other Information (more details can be provided separately in the teaching plan)

#### 1. Keyword Syllabus

*(An indication of the key topics of the course.)*

- Unit operation and process flow sheet
- Techno-economic evaluation
- Life cycle assessment of sustainable chemical processes
- Social economic impact
- Social sustainability
- Green Transportation
- Integrated Bioprocess Design

#### 2. Reading List

##### 2.1 Compulsory Readings

*(Compulsory readings can include books, book chapters, or journal/magazine articles. There are also collections of e-books, e-journals available from the CityU Library.)*

1.	Technology for Biobased Products Online course by Delft University of Technology (TU Delft) <a href="https://www.edx.org/course/technology-biobased-products-delftx-tbp01x#.VJ6LVrAQ">https://www.edx.org/course/technology-biobased-products-delftx-tbp01x#.VJ6LVrAQ</a>
2.	Circular Economy: an introduction Online course by Delft University of Technology (TU Delft) <a href="https://www.edx.org/course/circular-economy-an-introduction">https://www.edx.org/course/circular-economy-an-introduction</a>
3.	Municipal Solid Waste Management in Developing Countries Online course by École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne <a href="https://www.coursera.org/learn/solid-waste-management">https://www.coursera.org/learn/solid-waste-management</a>

##### 2.2 Additional Readings

*(Additional references for students to learn to expand their knowledge about the subject.)*

The following are reference books and documents useful for the students in this course. Additional reference sources on the course topics will be provided over the course. Students may also find other information and Internet resources on the course website in Canvas.

1.	Study on Sustainable Development for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century (SUSDEV21) <a href="http://www.pland.gov.hk/pland_en/p_study/comp_s/susdev/ex_summary/final_eng/ch5.htm">http://www.pland.gov.hk/pland_en/p_study/comp_s/susdev/ex_summary/final_eng/ch5.htm</a>
2.	Perry RJ and Green JH. (2007) Perry's chemical engineer's handbook, 8 <sup>th</sup> edition, McGraw-Hill, New York.
3.	Sinnott, R.K., Towler, G. (2009) Chemical Engineering Design 5th ed. Elsevier/Butterworth-Heinemann.
4.	Peters MS, Timmerhaus KD and West RE. (2003) Plant design and economics for chemical engineers. 5th edition, McGraw Hill, New York.
5.	Sadhkhan J, Ng, KS and Martinez, E. (2014) Biorefineries and Chemical Processes: Design, Integration and Sustainability Analysis. John Wiley & Sons Inc.
6.	Lin, C.S.K., Kaur, G., Li, C., Yang, X. (2021) Waste Valorisation : Rethinking Waste streams in a Circular Economy. John Wiley & Sons Inc., New York, United States.