

**San José State University**  
**College of Social Sciences / Environmental Studies Dept.**  
**EnvS 148: Sustainable Materials Management (SMM)**

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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tues and Thurs 2:45-4:00 and Friday by appt.
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Tues and Thurs 1:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m. Field Work: various Fridays 9 a.m.- 4p.m. and various dates for field trips, government meetings, events, and conferences
<b>Classroom:</b>	On/line (in accordance with Covid-19 pandemic protocols)

Transitioning from a discard-based, government-centric system requires knowledge of data and facts and how to apply them. We will rely primarily on data from government sources, their contractors, industry, and study of This information will be provided on a course web site. The course will have guest speakers from industry and government and will include field trips to recycling facilities (probably one day to two or more facilities). We may also professionals

- [www.grrn.org](http://www.grrn.org)
- Northern California Recycling Association (Spring conference)
- [www.ncrarecycles.org](http://www.ncrarecycles.org)
- United States Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Solid Waste
- <http://www.epa.gov/osw/>

### Course Book Club Project

discuss this in class)

Connet, Paul. 2013. The Zero Waste Solution. Chelsea Green Publishing. White River Junction, Vermont.

Collin, Robert. 2015. Trash Talk: An Encyclopedia of Garbage and Recycling around the World.

Goldstein, Julia. 2019. Material Value: More Sustainable, Less Wasteful Manufacturing of Everything from Cell Phones to Cleaning Products.

Humes, Edward. 2012. Garbology: Our Dirty Love Affair with Trash. Penguin Group. New York.

Leonard, Annie, 2011. The Story of Stuff: The Impact of Overconsumption on the Planet, Our Communities, and Our Health-And How We Can Make It Better.

McDonough, William and Braungart, Michael. 2002. Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things.

Minter, Adam. 2015. Junkyard Planet:

## Readings/Schedule

Classroom discussions, exams, and reading assignments and due dates are listed on the course website. The course website may be found on Canvas.

## CLASSROOM PROTOCOL

### Class Format

This course will be taught with virtual site visits, attending professional and/or government meetings, and classroom activities. A seminar format emphasizing the Socratic method where the professor asks students to explain their reasoning in response to questions will be used. *Students are expected attend each class meeting and course events.* guest speakers, attend a professional conference

trips to recycling facilities, study and share knowledge gained from studying your choice of books (from 4) and to engage in course lectures. See the course schedule for activities. The professor will attend all field trips and the course will include lectures and an occasional video to clarify topics throughout the course. *The course is designed to engage in active learning with student interaction.*

group dynamics, project development, and interaction with the working professionals. We will extrapolate information from lecture-related literature reviews, interviews, and site visits to judiciously apply critical thinking skills in the analysis of policy. *Quality participation is expected. The application of an inquisitive nature is the key element to a good classroom experience. Please feel welcome to ask questions frequently. Students may not use smart phones at any time during course activities. Use of laptop computers is limited to course activities only.*

### Canvas Learning Management System: Expectations

Students are expected to have basic computer skills including proficiency with the operating system of their computer, software used in the course, use and access of the web and Canvas web site, a word processing program, and know how to properly attach documents to emails. This course does not teach computer and software skills. All questions regarding Canvas or related SJSU web or computer issues must be directed to the SJSU help desk.

### Course Schedule

Classroom discussions, exams, lectures, reading assignments and due dates are listed in modules found on the Canvas website for this course. The schedule is subject to change with fair notice, typically announced in class.

## STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Class members *are required* to be engaged with the material. **Be a responsible class member by attending and being prepared for discussion.** The course is carefully constructed to *build knowledge from each meeting and activity. Missing a class causes disruption to this cycle of learning and will affect grades (participation is required).* Come to each class **prepared to engage, discuss, and learn (active learning).**

Please bring a name card to put on your desk until I get to know you.

***Be prepared to be conversant about the reading material each day (graded).***

***Be able to attend the required site visits (field trips). (Professor will attend each).***

***Be able to attend your choice of government program meetings (events will be provided).***

Actively participate in learning: Ask questions, provide opinions, and respond to questions

asked in class. (Opinions are always ok;  
knowing or engaging with the discussion info. Support open thought with reasoned thinking).  
Attend each class to pick up class handouts, if any.  
Take good notes.  
Take the time to edit your work and write quality assignments.  
Pay attention to details in the schedule including due dates. They may change.  
Read assignment instructions carefully  
Seek clarity by asking questions!  
Start work immediately on assignments once they are received. If you have questions about  
coursework, please ask at the beginning of class or during office hours.  
Be prepared for guests by reading the assigned material and treat them respectfully.  
Late assignments are not accepted.

**Speakers:**

## **UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

### **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade

[Catalog Policies](#) section at

<http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the current academic year calendars document on the [Academic Calendars webpage](#) at

[http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic\\_calendars/](http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/). The [Late Drop Policy](#) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current

use of someone else's language, images, data, or ideas without proper attribution. It is a very serious offense in both academic and professional environments. In essence, plagiarism is both theft and lying: you have stolen someone else's ideas, and then lied by implying that they are

Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [SDe](#)





## **ASSIGNMENTS LIST**