Peace with Creation
Framework for Sustainability in the Curriculum

Educating students to serve and lead in a global context, the core of EMU’s mission requires that we incorporate into our teaching the interlocking aspects of economic, environmental, and social sustainability. *Peace with Creation: Sustainability from an Anabaptist Perspective* draws together EMU students, faculty and staff around the theme of sustainability and how it relates to Anabaptist beliefs concerning creation care, peace and social justice.

**Theology of Sustainability**

- God declares creation “very good” and placed human stewards in the garden of the earth to tend and keep it.
- We have the same hope for the rest of creation that we have for ourselves: transformation and renewal through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- The church promotes and engages in more sustainable practices as an expression of its love for and gratitude toward God whose glory is made manifest in creation.

**Principles of Sustainability**

- We acknowledge that individual, institutional, and community actions have local and global impacts on the current and future health and prosperity of all humans and other species. These impacts include the:
  - The fairness, equity, stability and security of human cultures and social systems
  - Economic opportunity for all current and future humans
  - Ecological diversity and integrity

- Therefore, we strive to transform and renew social, economic and ecological systems to create just and peaceful relationships between humanity and the rest of Creation.

**Principles for Teaching Sustainability**

The following principles are essential aspects of teaching sustainability:

- Emphasize the interconnectedness of all people, disciplines and actions (i.e. systems thinking)
- Engage students in actions that are experiential and include real world problem solving
- Explore economic, environmental, and social justice through connections to people both locally and globally

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Define sustainability according to the *Principles of Sustainability*.
2. Justify sustainability from a theological perspective.
3. Explain how individual, institutional, and community actions impact sustainability
4. Name and defend actions that promote sustainability at the individual, institutional, and community levels
5. Integrate the *Principles of Sustainability* within the student’s discipline
6. Incorporate sustainability into one’s values system

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1EMU Bible and Religion Department January 2011, abbreviated, see [https://my.emu.edu/ICS/QEP/](https://my.emu.edu/ICS/QEP/) for full version