

GYC_201
Stephenie Presseller
COL101-171
Fall 2013

Making Local & Global Connections through Needs Assessment, Values, and Sustainability

Excerpt COL 101 Syllabus:

Major Course Concepts

- Assessing your purpose for college
- Assessing your study strategies
- Setting college and career goals
- Examining your values and decision-making skills
- Developing an appreciation for diversity

IV. Expected Outcomes for Student Learning

- Self-assessment of personal responsibility
 - Clarifying purpose of college enrollment; understanding that learning is lifelong; identifying and accessing college and community resources; setting goals; making decisions.
 - Defining values – identifying beliefs and exploring how they affect behaviors; making moral/ethical choices.

Classroom Policies and Procedures

VI. Sustainability

Moraine Valley Community College has a commitment to sustainability. Sustainability can be defined as: working to meet the social, economic and ecological needs of today without compromising those of future generations. Students and Staff can support this through recycling; use the blue recycle bins for all non-landfill items (paper, plastic, metal, glass). To learn more about sustainability at Moraine Valley and for you, visit: morainevalley.edu/sustainability.

COURSE TEXT Relevant to this assignment

Chapter 2 Engage of Cornerstone, Custom Edition, by Sherfield, R.M.; Montgomery, R.J.; Moody, P.G., Moraine Valley Community College – special edition 2010 lists learning outcomes as:

- Discuss the relationships between internal motivation and Maslow's Hierarchy of Basic Needs.
- Identify your values and motivations

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ASSIGNMENT OVERVIEW:

Using Chapter 2 outcomes coupled with those from the syllabus highlighted above, students will begin to understand the basics of sustainability and how decision making will affect personal values and motivation as well as their impact on the local and global community.

Students will first identify and acknowledge their values and motivations. They will discuss the differences and similarities within the class and assess the differences for actual similarities. For example, one student may find motivation in their family and another in their church community; each is different, but also the same in that the motivation is people that are important to them and a part of their local environments. The same type of discussion will occur for values. Students will then align their values and motivations within the Maslow Hierarchy of Needs and develop their own path of “needs”. Students will brainstorm resources that are available locally or resourced globally that they use to meet their needs.

Finally, the Syllabus definition of sustainability will be introduced via lecture: “Sustainability can be defined as: working to meet the social, economic and ecological needs of today without compromising those of future generations.” Examples of sustainable practices will be discussed and debated.

Based on classroom activity, discussion and lecture, students will write a reflection paper addressing this question: “Considering the definition of Sustainability and Maslow Hierarchy of Needs, what are needs and how can personal decision making, aligned with your values and motivations, ensure we meet our own needs without compromising the needs of future generations locally and globally?”

Critical Thinking

Students will think critically about their actions, values and motivations and make decisions based on their assessment of sustainability as it relates to their needs.

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Assignment Design:

Prior to Class:

- Read Chapter 2 and complete individual assessments within the text

During Class:

- Classroom lecture on Maslow’s Theory
- Student discussions about values and motivations as it relates to needs, and resources that are available locally or resourced globally that they use to meet their needs
- Worksheet to align values and motivations with Maslow’s Theory
- Classroom Lecture on Sustainability with sustainable practice examples
- Student discussion on sustainability practices as they align to values and motivations; value based decision-making and impact on local community; and value based decision-making and impact on global resources

Homework:

- 1-2 page reflection on: “Considering the definition of Sustainability and Maslow Hierarchy of Needs, what are needs and how can personal decision making, aligned with your values and motivations, ensure we meet our own needs without compromising the needs of future generations locally and globally?”

Assessment:

- Engagement in activity
- Discussion participation
- Evaluation of final reflection paper, to include: the basic tenants of sustainability as needs and identify how they acquire resources to meet their needs, how those actions may or may not impact others and how they can continue to make decisions based on their needs, values and motivations that further support the future generations to be able to do the same.