

Sustainability Literacy Assessment 2016

1. Please select your education level:

- Freshman
- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior
- Graduate level
- Not a student: Faculty or Staff

2. Please select the college of your major:

- College of Natural Resources
- College of Letters and Science
- College of Professional Studies
- College of Fine Arts and Communication
- Undeclared
- Not Applicable

3. Choose the best definition for "sustainable living":

- Reserving land and resources for preservation so they can never be used
- Development that meets the needs of the present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs
- Reducing your personal carbon footprint and use of the Earth's natural resources
- Reaching for a standard of living that allows a person to afford their needs

4. In sustainability we often refer to the "Triple Bottom Line" when defining what makes something sustainable. What are the three components of the triple bottom line?

- Land, Labor, Capital
- People, Planet, Profit
- Profit, Profit, Profit
- Income, Expense, Profit

5. In your time here at UW-Stevens Point, in general, have your classes taught or referenced the concepts or three pillars of sustainability - economic, environment, and social?

- Yes, several of my classes have covered sustainability.
- One or two classes have covered sustainability.
- Sustainability concepts have not been taught in any of my classes.

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6. What federal agency oversees environmental regulations?
- Department of Agriculture
 - Council on Environmental Quality
 - Environmental Protection Agency
 - Department of Natural Resources
 - Department of Health and Human Resources
7. The United States represents 5% of the world's population. How much of the world's resources does the United States consume?
- 50%
 - 15%
 - 29%
 - 5%
8. Approximately 3 billion people, about half of the world, live on less than \$2/day. If the poor populations of this world were to live, consume, and develop like the Western part of the world in order to gain similar living standards, it is estimated that we would need _____ more planet Earths in order to produce the necessary resources and absorb our high levels of waste.
- 1
 - 5
 - 2
 - 6
9. The Suites @201 is LEED certified at a gold level. Neale Hall, Burroughs Hall and Knutzen Hall are all registered for LEED certification. The new science building will be built to LEED standards. What does this certification mean?
- The building is fully insured for all natural disasters.
 - The building is built with fair-trade building supplies and is free of lead and asbestos.
 - The building was built by certified contractors.
 - The building maximizes operational efficiency and minimize environmental impact.
10. Fracking is a process that involves drilling vertically into the Earth's surface and releasing natural gas through the breaking of shale. The shale is broken by releasing fluid at high pressures into the ground. Chemicals that are released through fracking can have long term exposure effects on human health and include chemicals like benzene, toluene, and methane. What environmental impacts are associated with fracking?
- Methane contaminated groundwater
 - Groundwater depletion
 - Fracking induced earthquakes
 - All of the above

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11. Coal is a fossil fuel used to generate electricity. When it is burned it releases dangerous chemicals such as carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and mercury. The mining, cleaning, and transportation of coal generates additional health and environmental hazards. What percentage of electricity in WI comes from this form of energy?
- 22%
 - 49%
 - 62%
 - 84%
12. To produce steam on campus, we mainly consume natural gas and coal, with oil and wood pellets used as backup fuels. UWSP offsets our electricity consumption through the purchase of renewable energy credits (RECs). By purchasing these credits, we take responsibility for the environmental impact of our use of electricity. What percentage of the school's electricity was offset by RECs for the most recently completed fiscal year?
- 59%
 - 100%
 - 15%
 - 75%
13. Only 1% of the water on earth is fit and available for human consumption. Which of the following statements on water conservation is not true?
- Leaking faucets can waste 100 gallons per day.
 - If you keep your showers under 30 minutes, you'll save up to 1000 gallons per month of water.
 - One flush of the toilet uses 6 ½ gallons of water.
 - You use about 5 gallons of water if you leave the water running while brushing your teeth
14. Livestock and their byproducts account for 51% of all worldwide greenhouse gas emissions. They also consume a large amount of the world's freshwater. How many gallons of water does it take to produce one pound of beef?
- 512 gal/lb
 - 1002 gal/lb
 - 1847 gal/lb
 - 3582 gal/lb
15. The fair trade label ensures that products were made and grown in a way that contributes to sustainable development, protecting the environment and securing the rights of workers. The fair trade label on products: Check all that apply:
- Ensures products were made, grown and harvested in a way that protects the environment and guarantees the proper rights for workers.
 - Fights for justice and against the climate crisis.
 - Guarantees the product is organic.

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16. The fair trade criteria includes:

Check all that apply:

- Protecting water resources and natural vegetation areas
- Banning GMO use.
- Requirement of proper management of waste, water and energy.
- Restricting use of pesticides and fertilizers.
- Promoting agricultural diversification, erosion control, and no slash and burn practices.

17. Sustainable farming practices produce food while keeping the air clean and maintaining healthy soils. Local food allows consumers to lower their carbon footprint and begin to know exactly what is being put into their food. Food and farming contribute both to the environment and social justice issues, landfill issues, and environmental health. Which of the following sustainable food initiatives is NOT implemented on campus?

- Green box on the go
- Over 50% of food is local
- Compost bins around campus
- Fair trade products offered at each school vendor

18. Ecosia is a search engine that donates about 80% of its surplus income to a tree planting program in Burkina Faso, with a goal of planting one billion trees by 2020. Would you like to see Ecosia become the default campus search engine?

- Yes
- Unsure
- No

19. The 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21) was held in Paris from November 30-December 11 2015. What was the outcome of this convention?

- Nations attempted to establish their individual roles in climate action but no treaty or legal document was drafted.
- A political agreement to cap the global temperature rise by committing to reductions of CO2 within each nation.
- A legally binding treaty that contains emission reduction commitments from 187 countries starting in 2020
- All developed nations of the world developed a universal agreement to rid all agriculture in their country from the use of GMO's by the year 2030.

20. As the climate warms, we see a general trend in glacial retreat. In Glacier National Park in Montana, the last glacier is estimated to disappear by the year 2030. Studies have shown that glaciers all over the world are thinning at an average loss of 0.31 m/yr. As we lose glacial mass, what greenhouse gas are we most worried about being released?

- Carbon dioxide
- Water vapor
- Methane
- Nitrous oxide
- Ozone

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21. Since pre-industrial times, our Earth has warmed 1.6°F. Since the year 2014, we have seen levels of carbon dioxide (CO2) higher than 400 parts per million (ppm) of carbon dioxide. What is the safe level of CO2 that scientists have found our planet can be at?

- 300 ppm
- 400 ppm
- 350 ppm
- 250 ppm

22. What do you believe to be the biggest contributor to global climate change?

- A natural shift in climate
- The release of fossil fuels, particularly carbon dioxide
- Deforestation of forests around the world
- Developing countries
- I do not believe global climate change is happening.

23. Riding your bike or walking to school/work and around the town instead of using a car gives a lower carbon footprint than driving a car. How often do you ride your bike or walk?

- I ride my bike/walk every day to school and to run errands
- I ride my bike/walk every day only to school.
- I ride my bike/walk to school every week, but not every day
- I only drive to school.

24. Rate the following sustainability concerns. 1=Urgent, immediate action is needed 2=problematic, action is needed at some point 3=Potentially problematic, long-term action may be needed 4=Not very problematic, no action is needed

	1	2	3	4
Global carbon and greenhouse gas emissions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pollution of rivers, lakes, and oceans	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Freshwater depletion, particularly groundwater	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
GMO use in foods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rising wealth and income gaps between social classes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social injustice of racial and ethnic minorities, LGBTQ members, and women	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Loss of habitat and wildlife due to human development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cafos-factory farm use within the meat industry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

25. Please rank the following campus sustainability issues in order of importance with one being the most important. Choose each number 1-10 only once.

**Order of
Importance from**

1-10

University divestment of all fossil fuel holdings -- Please Select -- ▼

Becoming a zero waste campus -- Please Select -- ▼

Achieving a platinum sustainability rating in the Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Sustainability Tracking and Rating System (STARS) -- Please Select -- ▼

Increasing renewable energy production on campus -- Please Select -- ▼

Meeting the carbon neutrality deadlines set forth in the campus carbon neutrality plan -- Please Select -- ▼

Eliminating coal use in the campus heating plant -- Please Select -- ▼

Herbicide use reduction or elimination in landscaping -- Please Select -- ▼

Increase in local, organic, and fair trade food products -- Please Select -- ▼

Using native plants in landscaping -- Please Select -- ▼

Increasing composting opportunities around campus -- Please Select -- ▼

