

GEOG 5301 Sustainable Transportation	
Instructor	Harvey J. Miller
Class meetings	Mondays, Wednesdays 2:20PM - 3:20PM. UPDATE: via Carmen Chat. Lectures for the remainder of the semester will be prerecorded and posted for viewing. I will be available during the time for questions and discussions. Exception – on April 13, 15 and 20, we will have an interactive, real-time Zoom session where we view student project presentations.
Office hours	UPDATE: By appointment. I suggest Zoom, although we can use chat as well I will be available Mondays, Wednesdays 12:30PM - 2 PM. Please email for an appointment.
Phone	(614) 292-5207. UPDATE: Still works!
Email	miller.81@osu.edu
Other media	Blog: u.osu.edu/miller.81 Twitter: @MobileHarv

Course Description
The explosion in mobility over the past two centuries is one of the most profound changes in the history of human civilization. While mobility has benefits, it comes with environmental, social and economic costs. A prime challenge facing humanity over the next few decades is address the environmental cost of transportation while maintaining – and even increasing – mobility and access to opportunities. This course examines the problem of developing sustainable transportation systems. We will examine the environmental and human problems associated with transportation, including climate change, air quality, consumption of non-renewable resources, safety, congestion and social equity. We will also examine possible solutions to these problems, including pricing, alternative fuels, autonomous vehicles, public transit, walkability, bikeability, urban form and intercity rail.

Learning Objectives
After successful completion of this course, students will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand concepts surrounding sustainability and their application to the problem of mobility 2. Understand the technological and social processes that have created the mobility revolution 3. Understand the scientific basis for non-sustainable transportation and the implications for the environment, society and personal well-being. 4. Engage in informed discussions about policy, planning, technological and educational prescriptions that improve transportation sustainability.

Readings and Learning Technologies

There is no textbook for this course: I will post all readings at the Canvas class website. There are required and optional readings. I will also make announcements and provide other course information via this site. Please check this site regularly for updates; it is also a good idea to turn on notifications.

It is your responsibility to ensure access to the learning technology website and its tools. This includes seeking technical support from OSU staff (ocio.osu.edu) when encountering any problems. Students must themselves confirm that discussion postings are successfully posted or files are uploaded to Carmen in order to receive credit.

Evaluation

Attendance (10%): I will grade this based on the percentage of your attendance in class, e.g., 90% attendance will earn 90% credit. I count an excused absence as attendance in class. Valid reasons for excused absences include university business, illness, family emergencies and unavoidable incidents. *You must inform me and provide documentation no later than one week from the missed class.*

UPDATE: Attendance policy is suspended for the remainder of the semester. Your attendance grade will be based on the in-person class sessions up to March 4th.

However, I will be checking on your Carmen activity. If you are or near the border between two grades when I do the final grading, I will consider your Carmen activity in making a decision whether to "bump you up" to the next grade.

Examinations (50%): There will be three short examinations during the semester, including a (non-comprehensive) final examination. The exams will occur using the Carmen online learning management system. These exams will occur in a designated computer lab on campus. **You cannot take the exam remotely; you must take the exam in the designated computer lab at the time indicated.**

UPDATE: Exam 3 will be an open book exam that you can take anytime during the day of April 20. I will update later about the format.

Term project (40%): The term project should be a critical discussion of a transportation sustainability problem and possible solutions. Some suggestions:

1. A critical review and discussion of the scientific literature on a sustainable transportation issue – e.g., mobility, air quality and health; access to jobs and health care; Complete Streets; Vision Zero policies
2. Investigate local problems and potential solutions in Columbus or some other location of your choosing. For example, what is the history of bike infrastructure in Columbus? What do you think is needed to improve it? What are the prospects and barriers to progress?
3. Identify a proposed or recent transportation project or policy in a particular study area (e.g., a new highway interchange, a new airport, a new light rail line, a redesign of a bus network, autonomous vehicles, scooters) discuss the sustainability issues involved.

Students can also propose other topics, subject to the instructor's approval.

The project will consist of four major milestones:

1. Project idea: 200-300 word description of your idea **(5% of project total)**
2. Project proposal: 3-4 page detailed proposal **(15% of project total)**
3. Presentation: To the class on your research – a Pecha Kucha talk of 20 slides/20 second each **(30% of project total)**. **UPDATE: Students should upload a self-contained Pecha Kucha presentation (slideshow with voice over). This will be played and discussed during our only real-time Zoom sessions of the remaining semester (see updated schedule below). You can record this using voice over PowerPoint, Zoom, or any other software. See the corresponding Carmen assignment for more detail.**

I also understand that there may be challenges for some students to participate in the real-time Zoom session. Presentations will also be posted to Carmen for students who cannot participate in real-time. I will also not take attendance for those sessions. But, your presentation will be played even if you are not participating in real-time (with no shame or blame).

4. The paper itself **(50% of project total)**

I will provide details at the Canvas learning technology website.

I will evaluate the presentations and papers using professional standards: they should reflect original thought, be well-written and organized, and must be referenced following scientific standards. Students must submit papers must be submitted using the Turnitin plagiarism detection software.

Grading scale. I use the OSU standard scale to assign the final course grade. I use the rules of scientific rounding for borderline cases – e.g., 92.5% and above is rounded up to 93%.

A 93-100%; A- 90-92%; B+ 87-89%; B 83-86%; B- 80-82%; C+ 77-79%; C 73-76%; C- 70-72%; D+ 67-69%; D 60-66%; E 0-59%

Policies

Disability services. Any student who feels they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact me privately to discuss their specific needs. Please contact the Student Life Disability Services at 614-292-3307 in room 098 Baker Hall to coordinate reasonable accommodations for documented disabilities.

Academic misconduct. Academic misconduct in any form will not be tolerated; this includes but is not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations such as cheating. Plagiarism is the representation of another's works or ideas as one's own: it includes the unacknowledged word for word use and/or paraphrasing of another person's work, and/or the inappropriate unacknowledged use of another person's ideas. *All cases of suspected misconduct, in accordance with university rules, will be reported to the Committee on Academic Misconduct.* For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct: <https://studentconduct.osu.edu/>

Class conduct. Our primary joint responsibility in this class is to create a productive learning community. You are expected to conduct yourself with professionalism courtesy in the classroom, in your interactions with other students and the instructor and in your online behavior at the Canvas site. **Threatening or intimidating speech in any form will not be tolerated.** Other disruptive behavior includes, but is not limited to, holding conversations with classmates, passing notes, making unnecessary comments, leaving and coming back into the classroom (except in emergencies), coming in late or leaving early on frequent occasions, surfing the web and failing to turn off cell phones.

GEOG 5301 course schedule

Required and optional readings are available at Carmen. I will update the readings during the semester; please check back frequently.

Date	Topic	Project milestones
Part 1. Sustainability and mobility		
1/6	1.1. Sustainability concepts	
1/8	1.2. Unsustainable and sustainable mobility	
1/13	1.3. The history of transportation	
1/15	1.4. The evolution of urban transportation	
1/20	No Class – MLK Day	
1/22	1.5. The mobility revolution	
1/27	Exam 1 – Location: Derby Hall 0140	
Part 2. Sustainable transportation: Problems		
1/29	2.1. Greenhouse gases and climate change	
2/3	2.2. Air quality and health	
2/5	2.3. Energy and non-renewable resources	
2/10	2.4. Safety	
2/12	2.5. Congestion	
2/17	2.6. Physical inactivity and health	
2/19	2.7. Social equity	
2/24	Exam 2 – Location: Derby 0140	1. Project idea due
Part 3. Sustainable transportation: Solutions		
2/26	3.1. Cost, pricing and taxation	
3/2	3.2. Travel demand management	
3/4	3.3. Alternative fuels and electric vehicles	
3/9	No class – Spring Break	
3/11	No class – Spring Break	
3/16	No class - Extra Spring Break	
3/18	No class – Extra Spring Break	
3/23	3.4. Connected and autonomous vehicles	2. Detailed proposal due
3/25	3.5. Public transit	
3/30	3.6. Walkability	
4/1	3.7. Bikeability	
4/6	3.8. Urban form	
4/8	3.9. Intercity rail	3. Presentations uploaded
4/13	Presentations and discussion via Zoom	
4/15	Presentations and discussion via Zoom	
4/20	Presentations and discussion via Zoom	
4/22	Exam 3 – Location: Online	
4/27		4. Project due