

Sustainability Month 2020: Class Discussion / Essay Prompts

Purpose of this document: These materials were prepared to help support faculty who choose to integrate some of the Sustainability Month events and programs listed below into their courses, either as class assignments or extra credit opportunities. They are provided as a resource but faculty should not feel obligated to use them or discouraged from developing their own assignments, requirements or prompts!

Extra credit tracking method: Student participation will be tracked via pre-registration for events as well as via a digital “sign-in sheet” distributed through the Zoom chat window during the live event. Faculty may also choose to require students to complete a reflection essay using one or more of these prompts in order to earn assignment credit or extra credit.

[Climate Justice = Social Justice: Conversations Exploring the Intersections of People, Planet and Power](#)

Mon, Oct 5 – 12 - 1pm: *Keynote and Q & A with world renowned environmental justice leader Dr. Mustafa Santiago Ali*

PROMPTS:

- What did you find most interesting about Dr. Ali’s story, background, or career and why?
- In what ways did Dr. Ali’s presentation expand your understanding of environmental justice issues? What new information did you learn that was most interesting, impactful, or motivating to you?
- Why is it important to engage diverse communities and people of color in the work of addressing environmental and climate change issues? What do you think happens when these stakeholders are left out of the conversation?

Wed, Oct 14 – 12 - 1pm: *Panel discussion with Youth Climate and Environmental Justice leaders Xiuhtezcatl Martinez & “Green Girl Leah” Thomas*

PROMPTS:

- What did you find most interesting about Xiuhtezcatl and Leah’s personal stories about what inspired them to become climate and environmental activists? What did you find most impressive and/or relatable?
- After hearing from Leah, how would you explain the term “intersectional environmentalism” to someone not familiar with the concept? How does it differ from a traditional approach to environmental advocacy?
- Why is it important for young people, people of color, and indigenous people to be engaged and recognized as leaders in the environmental and climate movement?

Future of Energy

Tues, Oct 20 – 12-12pm: *Energy leaders from CSU San Bernardino and CSU Fullerton in collaboration with electrical vehicle support company Chargepoint will discuss insights to help shape a more sustainable campus and respond to questions from the audience.*

PROMPTS:

- What is one Energy priority for CSU Fullerton? Why is this priority significant for the university?
- What is one Energy priority for CSU San Bernardino? Why is this priority significant for the university?
- Describe how Chargepoint is helping to support the campuses energy goals?
- What topic would you have like to hear more about and why?

Sustain-Ability Workshop

Thurs, Oct 29 – 11 - 12pm: *Resilient CSUSB is the campus roadmap that outlines priorities and actions for a more sustainable university.*

PROMPTS:

- What are the three pillars of sustainability and give an example of how they have influenced a decision on campus on in the Inland Empire?
- What was the single most interesting, surprising, thing you learned from the workshop and why?
- What did you learn about the CSUSB Resilient Plan? Describe some small roles that students, faculty, staff and alumni can make to create a more sustainable university.
- What topic would you have like to hear more about and why?