

Sustainability Resources for Instructors and Students
Compiled by Holly Riley, University of Montana, Fall 2022

Sustainability Activism and Advocacy Ideas for Instructors

- 🍃 Put sample language in your syllabus that allows students to turn in paper assignments on upcycled paper, especially second-use paper (paper that has already had something printed on the other side of it).
- 🍃 Make most (or all) assignments submittable via a digital format. For necessary paper copies, explore other specifications (font size, spacing, margins) that don't prohibit reading accessibility but allow for less pages printed.
- 🍃 Print any necessary paper copies, signage, etc. on white paper only—colored paper is less recyclable. If you have work copiers/printers/paper available to you, ask your department head/administrative coordinator about purchasing recycled/sustainable paper options.
- 🍃 Include language about recycling, compost and other resources in your classroom building (or on campus) in your syllabus. If recycling and compost bins are hard to find in your building, show students where they are on the first day of class.
- 🍃 Distribute syllabi, readings, and other course materials digitally as a primary format; you may make it clear to your students in your syllabus (and/or on the first day of class) that you can provide paper copies for accessibility reasons on request/if needed.
- 🍃 Provide clear links to e-books and other digital versions of the text in your syllabus; consider prioritizing materials that can be easily accessed digitally.
- 🍃 Petition department heads and/or building managers in your classroom and office building(s) to make recycling and/or compost bins available in your classroom, building, or office. Alternately, consider keeping a personal recycling bin in your office and letting students know they are welcome to use it during your office hours.
- 🍃 Offer incentives for sustainable commute to class—see sample language on Page 2!
- 🍃 Use as little artificial lighting in class as possible (discuss with students to determine what's visually accessible). If you have the option to choose your classroom, consider choosing a classroom with the most natural light.
- 🍃 Include assignments, readings, discussions, and learning goals geared towards sustainability in your course plan.
- 🍃 Add links to local sustainability organizations and/or resources in your syllabus or other course materials. A preliminary list of Missoula-based resources is on Page 3!

Sample Syllabus Sustainable Commute Addendum

For Instructors: The following is a sample syllabus resource describing an extra credit opportunity for sustainable commuting to class. Please feel free to alter the language and specifications in the way that best fits your course structure.

Instructions about how to add an extra credit assignment in Moodle can be found here:

<https://pacificu.libguides.com/moodle/extracredit>

In an effort to promote sustainability in this course and use my position and privilege as an instructor to offer incentives for sustainable action, I am offering an extra credit option for sustainable commutes to and from our in-person course meetings.

Sustainable commutes, for the purposes of this extra credit portion, include:

- 🍃 Biking, walking, skateboarding, etc.
- 🍃 Carpool, vanpool, or other transit with more than one person
- 🍃 Taking public transport, such as a bus or shuttle
- 🍃 Other sustainable modes of transport as approved by instructor.
- 🍃 *Note: virtual/Zoom attendance will *not* count as a sustainable commute for this extra credit portion.

Students who sustainably commute (round trip) to a minimum of five (5) course meetings this term will receive 5 extra credit points added to their attendance grade.

To receive this extra credit, monitor your sustainable commutes through the Way to Go! Missoula web or mobile app and present it to me (the instructor) on or prior to the last day of class. More information on tracking can be found here:

<https://waytogo.missoulainmotion.com/#/>

To promote my *own* accountability, I will also commute sustainably a minimum of five times during this class term. These commutes will also be logged in the Way to Go! Missoula app and shared with the class at the end of the term.

If I personally do not reach a minimum of five sustainable round-trip commutes, 5 additional extra credit points will be added to *all* students' attendance scores, regardless of their own sustainable commuter numbers.

*Accessibility note: If you have a disability or other accessibility need that prevents you from accessing any of the above listed modes of sustainable transport, please let me know and we will meet to discuss an accommodation for this extra credit opportunity.

**Safety note: Missoula in Motion also offers a Guaranteed Ride Home program in the event that your sustainable commute leaves you in a situation where you can't get home. This program is available to Way to Go! Missoula members who regularly log sustainable commutes, and will reimburse a licensed taxi or rideshare service if you are trying to get home from work in the event of illness, emergency, or unexpected overtime. More information can be found here:

https://www.missoulainmotion.com/files/ugd/5cd9ce_99f3534042314f54b8b1ce1df8f505e5.pdf

Missoula/University of Montana Sustainability Organizations and Resources:

Commuter Resources:

[Missoula in Motion](#): Sustainable transportation organization with links to many local sustainable transport resources.

[Way to Go! Missoula](#): Sustainable commute tracker, resource, and community challenge board. Includes a “commute options” planner that shows bus, bike, carpool, and walking routes and time estimates between any two local addresses.

[Free Cycles](#): Fix your own bicycle with tools and support, donate parts and volunteer time, access free bike parts, and more.

[ASUM Office of Transportation](#): Find sustainable campus commuting resources including buses, shuttles, bike programs, and other resources.

[Mountain Line Missoula](#): Missoula’s zero-fare community bus service.

Local Composting Resources:

[Missoula Compost](#)

[Garden City Compost](#)

[Soil Cycle](#)

On-Campus Organizations:

[Climate Response Club](#)

[ASUM Sustainability Center](#)

[Vegan Advocates of the University of Montana](#)

Other Local Organizations:

[Climate Smart Missoula](#): Local organization focused on engaging community in climate action. Find information about local climate/sustainability events, opportunities for advocacy, and community resources.

[Missoula Recycling Guide](#): A guide with links to different recycling programs in Missoula and guidelines for what can be recycled and where.

[Home ReSource](#): Local community sustainability center with reused building materials and other home improvements supplies for purchase.

[Missoula County Sustainability Program](#): Official Missoula County sustainability information with local legislative contact info and additional resources.

[Waste Less Works](#): Local deconstruction and selective demolition organization dedicated to promoting sustainable development by reducing waste in the built environment.

Local Secondhand Stores:

[Secret Seconds](#) (YWCA—several locations)

[Clothing ReStyle](#)

[Betty's Venom Vintage](#)

[Circle Square Secondhand Store](#)

[Donation Warehouse](#) (furniture, appliances)

[Underground Thrift Store](#)

[Goodwill Missoula](#)

[Hope Thrift Boutique](#)