

SYLLABUS:

- WEEK 1:** **Topic:** Introduction & Overview of Course
August 29 **Discussion:** Sustainability in business, government and non-government organizations. Syllabus review.
- WEEK 2:** **Topic:** Standards Development – Why?
August 29 **Discussion:** Why are standards important? What is sustainable development? What is the World Trade Organization (WTO) & how does it impact national economies and domestic policy. Overview of changing role of international standards in the global market in wake of WTO.
Powerpoint: Standards Development - Why
Assignment: Reading for next week - *Standardization in a Global Marketplace: Process and Implications.*
- WEEK 3:** **Topic:** Standards Development – What, Who, and When?
September 5 **Discussion:** Are standards minimum requirements? Maximums? What is their purpose and who sets the standards? What are the implications (politically, economically, legally, environmentally, socially) for trade? How do these differ for local/global organizations? For developing/developed countries? What are the implications for sustainable development?
Powerpoint: Standards Development – What, Who, and When
Assignment: ASSIGNMENT OF PAPERS. Reading for next week: *The Multilateral Trade System: A Development Perspective.*
- WEEK 4:** **Topic:** “Harmonization” and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)
September 12 **Discussion:** Focus on harmonization of standards – what is it, what are the pros and cons? Focus on TBT as it relates to harmonization. How does this impact developed countries? Developing countries? Local/municipal governments? Consumers? Industry?
Assignment: Continue reading: *The Multilateral Trade System: A Development Perspective.*
- WEEK 5:** **Topic:** Trade and Human Development
September 19 **Discussion:** Examination of the current world trade regime through a human development lens while focusing on concerns expressed by developing country governments and a range of civil society organizations. Discussion of trade rules that may allow for diversity in national institutions and standards, including the impacts on local cultures and development priorities.
Powerpoint: Making Global Trade Work for People
Assignment: PROJECT ASSIGNMENTS. PART 1. Reading for next week – *Highlights of the Standards Setting Process in Five Example Bodies; diagrams.*

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- WEEK 6:** PAPERS DUE.
Topic: Discussion of Project Assignments.
Discussion: Changing society and its standards. Discuss from a variety of perspectives: technological, economic, legal, social. Comparison of standards (type and use) at the start of 20th century to standards today. Overview of the different industry sector topics and current events. What would happen if standards were created on the subjects listed? How might this affect sustainable development?
Assignment: Reading for Next Week: *Trade, Gender and Poverty.*
- WEEK 7:** **Topic:** Developed Countries & Developing Countries
Discussion: Different socio-economic priorities of Developed Countries & Developing Countries. Are countries homogenous? What is the feasibility of Developing Countries creating and supporting a national SDO system? What is the significance for standards development in ISO? ASTM? What are the unique issues, if any, for island nations? How are these reflected in the SDO process?
- WEEK 8:** **Break, no class**
- WEEK 9:** PROJECT - PART 1 DUE.
Topic: Standards Development – How?
Discussion: This is the mundane part of the course. However, it is necessary to understand the rules of the game in the new ‘post-WTO’ climate, so we will review USA standards development organizations (SDOs) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). How does the SDO process affect the potential for sustainable development?
Powerpoint: Standards Development – How?
Assignment: PROJECT ASSIGNMENTS. PART 2.
- WEEK 10:** **Topic:** Project Assignments.
Discussion: No lecture/discussion class; meetings w/instructors by appointment. Instructors to schedule time to focus on Projects – Part 2.
- WEEK 11:** **Topic:** Standards Development in ASTM International
Discussion: Overview of types standards and their uses. Presentation of sample standards related to sustainable development.
- WEEK 12:** **Topic:** Project Assignments.
Discussion: No lecture/discussion class; meetings w/instructors by appointment. Instructors to schedule time to focus on Projects – Part 2.
- WEEK 13:** PROJECT - PART 2 DUE.
Topic: ISO Tags and ASTM committees
Discussion: Real world examples of the ISO process and the ASTM process from the perspective of USA industry.
Assignment: PROJECT ASSIGNMENTS. PART 3. Reading for next week: Regulations Governing ASTM Technical Committees or "Green Book".

WEEK 14: **Topic:** Resolution of Negatives

Discussion: Review of consensus process in SDOs and the required negotiations. What are the fundamental issues in each industry sector? Are there similarities? What stakeholders share common perspectives? Presentation of Projects to class for “ballot” and adjudication.

WEEK 15: PROJECT - PART 3 DUE.

Topic: Resolution of Negatives (continued)

Discussion: Review of consensus process in SDOs and the required negotiations. What are the fundamental issues in each industry sector? Are there similarities? What stakeholders share common perspectives? Presentation of Projects to class for “ballot” and adjudication.

Assignment: Reading for next week: *The Global Governance of Trade as if Development Really Mattered.*

WEEK 16: **Topic:** Review and Conclusions

Discussion: What is the big picture? How do the global governance institutions impact sustainable development? How are standards involved? What SDO processes can best promote sustainable development? What SDO process can most harm sustainable development? What industry sector topics most need standardization? What industry sector topics should NOT be standardized?