

CCS 101: Carbon Neutrality at UC Syllabus

Fall 2023

Location: Vaughan 100

Time: Mondays 12:00 PM - 1:50 PM, starting 10/2

Course Website: <https://canvas.ucsd.edu/>

Instructor: Pascal Polonik

Instructor Email*: ppolonik@ucsd.edu

*Please add CCS101 to the subject of your email to facilitate a quicker response!

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Catalog Description: The University of California-wide goals of the Carbon Neutrality Initiative are introduced through a series of modules where students learn basic principles of carbon neutrality, participate in seminars with campus operations staff, and tour relevant campus infrastructure including the UC San Diego microgrid, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified buildings, and sustainable transportation efforts. **Prerequisites:** upper-division standing.

Course Objectives

1. Understand societal and technical changes required for a low carbon future
2. Assess the robustness of climate action plans and place them in a broader context
3. View your own environment through a climate lens to identify challenges and opportunities for change
4. Evaluate your own role in climate action

Course Structure

There will be a pre-class assignment every week. The assignments are meant to help you reflect on the previous class and prepare you for the next class. The questions will often be discussed in class, either with other students or as a class. The first hour of each class will usually consist of a short lecture and several group discussions. The second hour of class will usually consist of a guest presentation. When possible, the readings and class discussion will reflect the background/content of the guest speaker presentation. You are expected to come to every class period prepared with thoughts to contribute to the discussion. Questions are always welcomed and encouraged.

Grading

<u>Component</u>	<u>Weight</u>
In-Class Participation	40%
Homework	30%
Final Assignment	30%
Total	100%

A = 90-100% **B** = 80-89% **C** = 70-79% **D** = 60-69% **F** = 59%-below

Pass = 70 - 100%

Attendance Policy and Extra Credit

Attendance is required. Should you need to miss class, please notify the instructor. The first unexcused absence will not result in lost points. Extra credit assignments may be offered; any opportunities will be made available to the whole class.

Course Policies

Respect

Students are expected to be respectful of each other, the instructor, and guest speakers at all times. By the nature of discussions, you will probably not agree with everything said in class. I encourage you to voice those disagreements respectfully to foster fruitful conversations. If you do not feel comfortable with someone's conduct, please contact the instructor.

Content

The syllabus is liable to change under instructor discretion, but rationale would be provided. The grading policy will not change in a way that would decrease any student's grade.

Technology

You may use laptops, tablets, or phones during the class for class-specific purposes. This can include note taking or googling. Please do not abuse this flexibility; avoid using technology in ways that will distract from your class experience or the experience of others.

Tentative Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Speaker	Notes
1	10/2	Motivation, context, value	None	
2	10/9	Energy, Offsets, and UCSD	Michelle Perez	
3	10/16	Power plant tour	Keenan Mrozek	Location TBD
4	10/23	Transportation	Josh Kavanaugh	
5	10/30	City of San Diego	Andrew Bowen	
6	11/6	Environmental Justice	Kyle Heiskala	
7	11/13	LEED Building Tour	Walter Kanzler	Location TBD
8	11/20	ClimateActionCampaign	Corinna Contreras	
9	11/27	Other UCs (Berkeley)	Jack Chang	Hybrid
10	12/4	TBD	TBD	

Campus Policies

- [UC San Diego Principles of Community](#)
- [UC San Diego Policy on Integrity of Scholarship](#)
- [Religious Accommodation](#)
- [Nondiscrimination and Harassment](#)
- [UC San Diego Student Conduct Code](#)

Resources for Support and Learning

UC San Diego provides a variety of resources to support learning beyond what is offered directly through the course. Please use the links below if you would like to make use of those services. If you experience problems accessing these resources, please contact the instructor, so they can assist you.

Learning and Academic Support

[Ask a Librarian: Library Support](#)

Chat or make an appointment with a librarian to focus on your research needs

[Course Reserves, Connecting from Off-Campus and Research Support](#)

Find supplemental course materials

[First Gen Student Success Coaching Program](#)

Peer mentor program that provides students with information, resources, and support in meeting their goals

[Office of Academic Support & Instructional Services \(OASIS\)](#)

Intellectual and personal development support

[Writing Hub Services in the Teaching + Learning Commons](#)

One-on-one online writing tutoring and workshops on key writing topics

[Supplemental Instruction](#)

Peer-assisted study sessions through the Academic Achievement Hub to improve success in historically challenging courses

[Tutoring – Content](#)

Drop-in and online tutoring through the Academic Achievement Hub

[Tutoring – Learning Strategies](#)

Address learning challenges with a metacognitive approach

Support for Well-being and Inclusion

Basic Needs at UCSD

Any student who has difficulty accessing sufficient food to eat every day, or who lacks a safe and stable place to live is encouraged to contact:
foodpantry@ucsd.edu |
basicneeds@ucsd.edu | (858) 246-2632

Counseling and Psychological Services

Confidential counseling and consultations for psychiatric service and mental health programming

Triton Concern Line

Report students of concern: (858) 246-1111

Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)

Supports students with disabilities and accessibility across campus

Community and Resource Centers

Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

As part of the [Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion](#) the campus community centers provide programs and resources for students and contribute toward the evolution of a socially just campus

(858).822-.3542 | diversity@ucsd.edu

Get Involved

Student organizations, clubs, service opportunities, and many other ways to connect with others on campus

Undocumented Student Services

Programs and services are designed to help students overcome obstacles that arise from their immigration status and support them through personal and academic excellence