EVERY UTRGV CLASSROOM CAN BE A SUSTAINABLE CLASSROOM.

Faculty at UTRGV have the opportunity to introduce students to sustainable development concepts within their respective field. Lecturers, professors, and teaching assistants can set the tone of sustainability for the classroom that will leave a lasting impression on students and help UTRGV become a sustainable campus.

IT ONLY TAKES THREE STEPS:

1. Complete the assessment below and submit your results to the Office for Sustainability. Allow us to recognize your efforts!
2. Incorporate these habits at work and encourage your co-workers to do the same. It takes time to build a habit.
3. Work with OFS towards a 100% sustainable classroom. Become a Sustainable Development Leader!

SUSTAINABILITY IS A GLOBAL CAUSE.
GOAL: IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF OUR ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY WHILE BEING EFFICIENT WITH OUR RESOURCES.

The United Nations has developed 17 goals (SG17) to guide nations and their citizens towards a more sustainable future. With these goals, we have a frame of reference from which to assess our sustainable development.

ARE YOU A LECTURER OR PROFESSOR AT UTRGV?

EVERY LECTURE IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO PUT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS INTO ACTION.

I LEARN ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY CONCEPTS IN MY FIELD.

The Office for Sustainability’s website has listed resources to help students become agents of change for sustainable development. Upon graduation.

- I make time to read about sustainability in my field and think about opportunities for my students to contribute to the U.N. goals.
- I have pinpointed my class contributes to a more sustainable world and shared this information with my students.
- I am aware that sustainable development is written into UTRGV's Mission and Strategic Plan, and is also a UT System policy. I align my behavior towards these institutional goals.

I PRACTICE AND DEMONSTRATE SUSTAINABLE HABITS AT WORK.

- I practice sustainable habits as an individual in the classroom to encourage my students to follow my example in their lives outside of the university.
- I embrace digital classroom tools like smart-boards and projectors over chalk or dry-erase markers. I make sure the projector is off at the end of each class.
- I share digital versions of textbook or resources that are available online for free (legally) to help make a UTRGV education more affordable for students.
- I bring in a refillable water bottle to cut down on plastic waste and still be hydrated when giving lectures.
- I take digital notes on laptops.
- I encourage students to take digital notes on laptops.
- I ensure that the textbook I request is available as an e-book on the UTRGV Course Reserves Digital Library. If possible, I use older editions of textbooks or resources that are available online for free (legally) to help make a UTRGV education more affordable for students.
- I dress in layers to stay comfortable indoors, because my individual temperature preferences may differ from that of my colleagues.

I INFUSE SUSTAINABILITY CONCEPTS INTO MY CURRICULUM.

The International Center for Sustainability Across the Curriculum (ICSAC) is a two-day faculty development program open to educators from all fields of study. ICSAC has helped faculty integrate education for sustainable development into the syllabus of over 200 courses. Integrating sustainability into a course means adapting both content and pedagogy to create a learning experience that is more interdisciplinary, experiential, and focused on authentic problem-solving.

- The Office for Sustainability’s website has listed resources and information to help students become agents of change for sustainable development upon graduation.

GUIDE FOR SUSTAINABLE CLASSROOMS

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