

Considering Sustainable Design Projects in Africa.

Dr. David Goss

Sustainable design has become center stage in global discourse, also bringing changes in the modes of production, consumption, and discussion of African creations. In this course we will discuss the development of sustainable design thinking in the global context: the 3R's, the Natural Step, Cradle to Cradle. Considering different design strategies: charitable, networks, and social business. Also design modes, like: fairtrade; recycling and reusing; trash to fashion; secondhand markets; community mobilization; marketing ruralism; health, sex education, hygiene, nutrition; gender; architecture and constructions; urbanism; green washing; gated communities; and eco-tourism.

Course requirements and grading:

Attendance, reading and participation: 20%

Final paper: 80%

Compulsory Attendance: 80%.

No.	Lecture	Content of discussion	Reading.
1	Course introduction.	General introduction: Africa, aesthetics, and functionality.	Van Damme, Wilfried. A Comparative analysis concerning beauty and ugliness in Sub-Saharan Africa.
2	Sustainable discourse background.	Global issues: The Brundtland report; International summits and protocols.	U.N. Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future, 1986. Sotamaa, Yrjö, The Kyoto Design Declaration: Building a Sustainable Future
3	Background of sustainable design.	Designs role as instigator of the global sustainable discourse.	Buckminster Fuller, Richard. Operating Manual for Spaceship Earth Papanek, V, Designing for a Safer Future, William McDonough & Partners, The Hannover Principles Design for Sustainability.
4	Sustainable design, between the 3 R's and Cradle to Cradle.	Sustainable design concepts of agency: the 3R's; The Natural Step; Cradle to Cradle.	Margolin, Victor. Expansion or Sustainability: Two models of development. Barr, Stewart. Gilg Andrew W. and Ford Nicholas J. Differences Between Household Waste Reduction, Reuse and Recycling Behaviour: Mohanty, C. R. C. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle (the 3Rs) and Resource Efficiency as the basis for Sustainable Waste Management McDonough, William. Braungart Michael, The next industrial revolution.
5	Strategies of sustainable design.	Sustainable design strategies: charitable, networked, and Social business strategies.	Madge, Pauline. Ecological Design: A New Critique. Crabbe, Anthony. Three Strategies for Sustainable Design in the Developing World. Margolin, Victor. Expansion or Sustainability: Two models of development .
6	African sustainable projects.	Fairtrade?; Recycling and reusing in Africa	Rivoli, Pietra. The Travels of a T-shirt in the Global Economy. Hughes, Alex and McEwan, Cheryl and Bek, David and Rosenberg, Zaitun. Embedding fairtrade in South Africa : global production networks, national initiatives and localized challenges in Northern Cape
7	African sustainable projects. (cont.)	From trash to fashion; African secondhand and textiles.	Hansen, Karen Tranberg. Secondhand Clothing and Fashion in Africa Alberta St. John James & Anthony Kent. Clothing Sustainability and Upcycling in Ghana . Tutton, Mark. Ghana Bags a Handy New Way to Tackle Plastic Waste
8	African sustainable projects. (cont.)	Community mobilization through sustainable projects; Marketing ruralism	Beadforlife, Annual Report 2017 . Terreblanche, Christelle. Ubuntu and the Struggle for an African Eco-socialist Alternative.
9	African sustainable projects. (cont.)	Sustainability a trend?; health, sex education, hygiene, nutrition; Gender sustainability	Peter, Judy. Rita Tasker: Gender and Eco-feminism. Oluoko-Odingo, Alice Atieno. Vulnerability and Adaptation to Food Insecurity and Poverty in Kenya
10	African sustainable projects. (cont.)	All natural – the return to traditional materials and processes.	Lususu, Simply Authentic: Accessories Catalog, Easy Afric Designs, 2015-2016. Mayer, Sheldon. Sole Rebels: An Ethiopian success story. Agarwal, Anil. Research: Mud as a Traditional Building Material.
11	Mud houses and Afrofuturism – living in a comic book.	Sustainable architecture and constructions; African urbanism and cities as seen in contemporary culture.	Grant, Richard J. and Oteng-Ababio, Martin. The Global Transformation of Materials and the Emergence of Informal Urban Mining in Accra, Ghana. Banga, Margaret. Household Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices in Solid Waste Segregation and Recycling: The Case of Urban Kampala
12	Critique of sustainability and eco-safari.	African green wash - Ecological concerns and gated communities; eco-tourism; development compatibility.	Manjengwa, Jeanette Marie. Problems Reconciling Sustainable Development Rhetoric with Reality in Zimbabwe. Ballard, Richard and Jones, Gareth A. Natural Neighbors: Indigenous Landscapes and Eco-Estates in Durban, South Africa. Brody David, Go Green: Hotels, Design, and the Sustainability Paradox.
13	Course summary.		1

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- Brody David, Go Green: Hotels, Design, and the Sustainability Paradox, *Design Issues: Volume 30*, Number 3, Summer 2014, MIT Press, pp. 5-15.
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