

## ESPM 3603/5603: Syllabus and Schedule

**Room** Andrew Boss Laboratory 125

**Schedule** Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:00–4:15 p.m.

**Instructors** Dr. Jason Hill, Associate Professor  
Dr. Jeff Howe, Teaching Specialist  
Mr. John Brockgreitens, Teaching Assistant

**Contact** Email <elca@umn.edu>.

**Description** Life cycle assessment (LCA) is a tool used to assess the cradle-to-grave environmental impacts of products, processes, and policies. Students will learn LCA methodology, including goal and scope definition, inventory analysis, impact assessment, interpretation, and application. The course will be taught using numerous case studies, with special attention being given to topics of current interest. Students will have the opportunity to apply LCA methodology in the preparation of a group project on a topic of their choosing.

**Grading** Late work will be accepted only under extraordinary circumstances or with official University justification, and only if arrangements are made in advance. All regrade requests must be submitted in writing. Minimum grade cutoffs are 93.3% (A), 90.0% (A-), 86.6% (B+), etc. Final course grades may be curved.

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>%</i>
Quizzes (Best 10 of 12 @ 3% each)	30
Midterm Exam	20
Case Study Assignment	25
Project	25

**Expectation** University of Minnesota policy states that students should expect to spend 45 hours on course work per credit hour to receive an average grade. To receive a C in this 3-credit course, therefore, you should expect to spend about 135 hours this semester in class and on your readings and assignments. Over the 15 weeks of the semester, this averages to about 9 hours per week. Work in the A or B range may require considerably more.

**Attendance** Attendance is required. Unexcused absence or tardiness will result in a lower course grade.

**Materials** All handouts, assignments, and readings will be posted on the course's Moodle site.

**Readings** Readings scheduled for discussion must be completed before class and be brought to class, either on paper or electronically.

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**Required Skills** Students must be familiar with Microsoft Excel and its basic functions.

**Policies** Students must follow the University of Minnesota Student Conduct Code at all times.

**Schedule**

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>
1	T 9 / 8	General – Welcome
	Th 9 / 10	General – Background
2	T 9 / 15	General – Overview
	Th 9 / 17	General – History
3	T 9 / 22	General – Standards
	Th 9 / 24	General – Supply Chains
4	T 9 / 29	General – Life Cycle Inventory
	Th 10 / 1	General – Life Cycle Impact Analysis
5	T 10 / 6	General – Midterm Review
	Th 10 / 8	General – Midterm Exam
6	T 10 / 13	Case Study – Lighting
	Th 10 / 15	Case Study – Lighting
7	T 10 / 20	Case Study – Lighting
	Th 10 / 22	Case Study – Lighting
8	T 10 / 27	Case Study – Lighting
	Th 10 / 29	Case Study – Lighting
9	T 11 / 3	Case Study – Lighting
	Th 11 / 5	Case Study – Lighting
10	T 11 / 10	Project – Introduction
	Th 11 / 12	Project – Preparation
11	T 11 / 17	Project – Preparation
	Th 11 / 19	Project – Preparation
12	T 11 / 24	Project – Preparation
	Th 11 / 26	Thanksgiving
13	T 12 / 1	Project – Preparation
	Th 12 / 3	Project – Preparation
14	T 12 / 8	Project – Preparation
	Th 12 / 10	Project – Preparation
15	T 12 / 15	Project – Presentations