

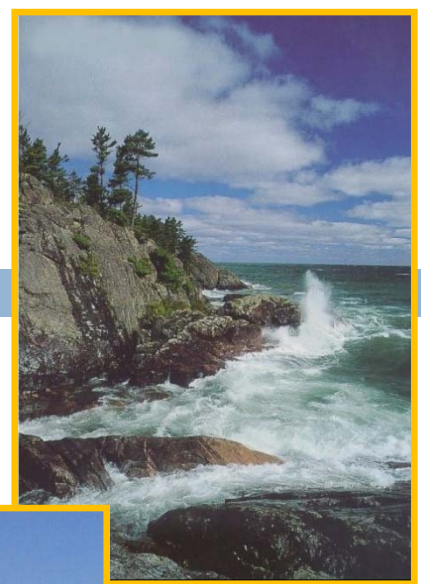
MODULE 1: DEFINITIONS, TERMS AND CONCEPTS RELATED TO RURAL SUSTAINABILITY

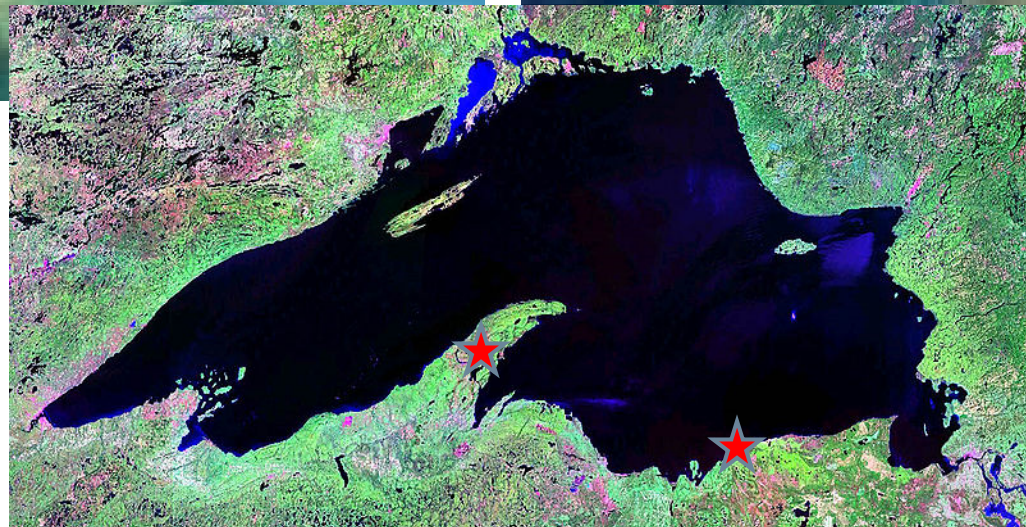
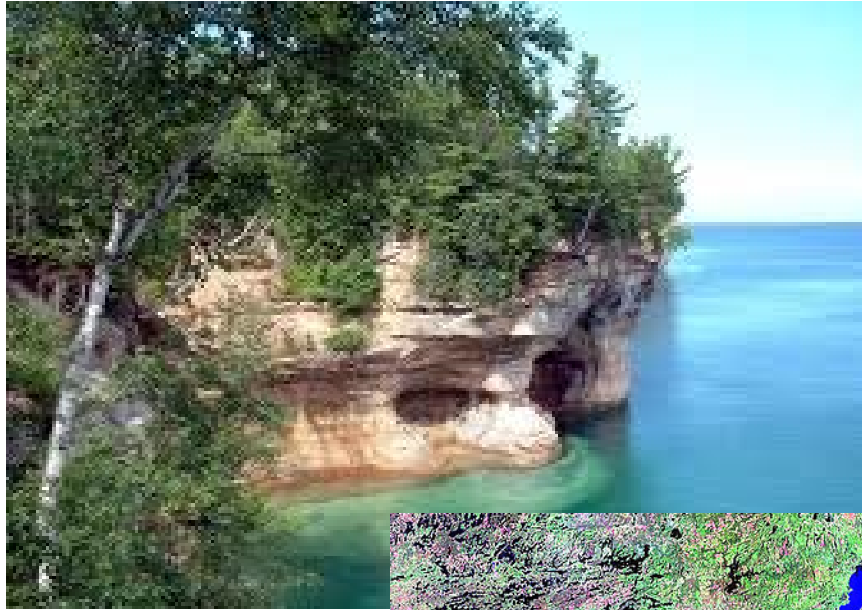
Alex Mayer, Michigan Technological University

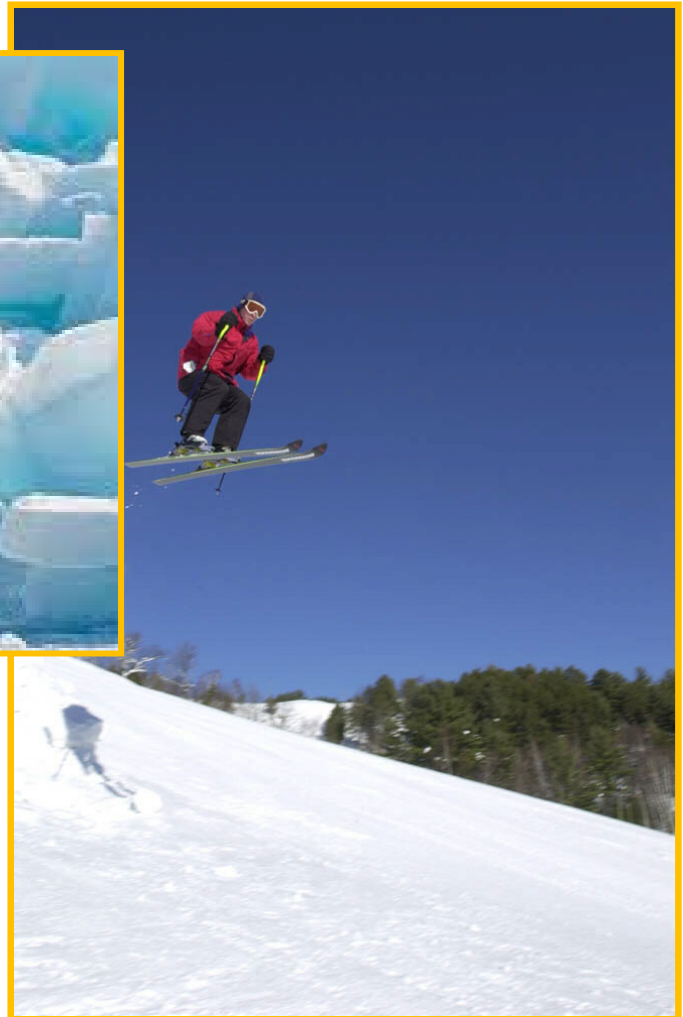
Outline of Module 1

- Introducing myself
- Overview of the Seminar on Rural Sustainability
- Introduction to the module
- Definitions, terms and concepts related to sustainability
- Definitions, terms and concepts related to rurality

Life @ Michigan Tech







My educational and research interests

- Physical, chemical, and eco-hydrology
- Water resources systems
- Watershed management
- Applied water resources economics
- Rural sustainability

Course overview: Origin and purpose of the course

- “SustR”: Sustainable Development for Rural Communities A Student Mobility Program
 - ▣ Consortium of six universities in the US, Canada, and Mexico
 - ▣ 1 or 2 semester student exchanges in the consortium universities
 - ▣ Shorter intensive field trips to experience rural sustainability issues in Mexico, Canada and the US
 - ▣ A new collaborative web-based course on rural sustainability

Course overview: Origin and purpose of the course

Locations of the six universities



For more information on the SustR program, contact the program director at your university.

At Michigan Tech, go to <http://www.geo.mtu.edu/~asmayer/sustr.htm>

Course overview: Weekly modules

□ Weekly Schedule

| Week | Date | Topic | Responsible University |
|------|--------------------------|---|------------------------|
| 1 | 9/13/2010 to 9/17/2010 | Introduction to the course; Definitions, terms and concepts related to rural sustainability | MTU |
| 2 | 9/20/2010 to 9/24/2010 | Goals and objectives of rural sustainable development | UNISON |
| 3 | 9/27/2010 to 10/1/2010 | Global, regional and local forces | UNBC |
| 4 | 10/4/2010 to 10/8/2010 | Governance as it applies to rural communities and the environment | LU |
| 5 | 10/11/2010 to 10/15/2010 | Policies and solutions for sustainability in biodiversity and populations | UPRM |
| 6 | 10/18/2010 to 10/22/2010 | Case study: Food security and cultural connectedness | LU |
| 7 | 10/25/2010 to 10/29/2010 | Case study: Natural Resource Extraction – the Case of Mining | MTU |
| 8 | 11/1/2010 to 11/5/2010 | Case study: Sanitation | UNISON |
| 9 | 11/8/2010 to 11/12/2010 | Case Study: Population and Environment in the State of Aguascalientes, Mexico | UAA |
| 10 | 11/15/2010 to 11/19/2010 | Case study: Sustainable rural tourism | UNBC |
| 11 | 11/29/2010 to 12/3/2010 | Case study: Renewable energy | UPRM |

Course overview: Weekly modules

- Weekly modules are available at course web site:
http://www.geo.mtu.edu/~asmayer/Seminar_on_Rural_Sustainability.htm
- Objectives
- Background
- Web-based lectures (posted on Monday)
- Readings
- Other resources
- Discussion questions
- Evaluation (assignments)
- Vocabulary
- Faculty contact(s) for questions of clarification

Course overview: Weekly modules

- Discussion sessions
 - ▣ Held every Friday, beginning at 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, Eastern time via Adobe Connect
 - ▣ Students from the consortium universities will participate in a discussion session on the week's topics, *led by the students from the university responsible for that week.**
 - ▣ At the beginning of the discussion session, *students from the responsible university** will deliver a 15-minute summary of the week's lecture and readings and a list of discussion questions
 - ▣ *Students from the responsible university** will then moderate the following discussion (approximately 60 minutes).

*except for the first week

Course overview: Written assignments

- Students will submit a three-page reflection paper each week of the first five weeks of the course. *
- Questions for each reflection paper will be posted the Friday before the week when the paper topic is discussed.*
- Reflection papers will be due the Wednesday after the week when the paper topic is discussed.*
- Student reflection papers will be posted on the course website.

*except for the first week

Course overview: Written assignments

- Reflection papers will be based on the following rubric: 20% for spelling and grammar; 30% for organization; 50% for depth of analysis.
- For the last six weeks of the course, no reflection papers are due, but reflection questions will be posted.
- A 10-page synthesis paper will be due 12/10/2010, connecting the two halves of the course and explaining the concepts of rural sustainability.

Course overview: Overall grading

- Semester grades will be based on
 - ▣ 5 weekly reflection papers 50%
 - ▣ synthesis paper 40%
 - ▣ participation 10%
- Refer to the syllabus for an explanation for expectations regarding participation.
- The home university's instructor will grade all aspects of their university's students.