



## CU2010: Sustainability Leadership

Clemson Thinks<sup>2</sup> 2014 Faculty Institute  
Jennifer Goree, Director of Healthy Campus





## CU2010: Background

- Interdisciplinary minor in Sustainability launched spring 2014
- CU2010 only new course created for minor
- CU2010 was designed to be a CT2 seminar
  - Started out to be a sustainability course with a CT emphasis, but shifted to be a CT course with sustainability topics as vehicle to achieve CT goals





## CU2010: Our purpose

**Course Description:** Participants, representing Clemson's diverse student body, will learn and apply critical thinking skills to understand economic, social, and environmental sustainability in such contexts as personal lifestyle choices, the structure of the built environment, and the operation of public and private institutions. Participants will also develop and practice skills to act as agents of change in the University and the broader community.

**Course Objectives:** Students will work across disciplines to strengthen their critical thinking skills. To practice these critical thinking skills, students will engage with the multi-dimensional, complex challenges inherent in sustainability.





## CU2010: Our approach

- Team designed and team taught
  - Dialogue-based
  - Emphasis on processing together
    - Each class consisted of explicit SLO's; dialogue about assigned readings/viewings; class activities that foster CT
  - Instructors modeled respectful questioning
  - Developed a sense that the instructors were partners in CT endeavor
- 



## CU2010: Examples

- Continual Processing; Critical Incident Questionnaire (Stephen Brookfield)
  - Discussion Leadership Class
  - Evaluating Risk
  - Creating a 5 Year Plan
    - Speed dating
    - Pecha Kucha Sustainability Proposal
  - Create a final exam for future students
- 



## CU2010: Feedback

- I LOVED how student-centric the class was. I felt that we had a huge say in how the class was run and this allowed us to get a lot more out of the course than is typical.
  - ...the instructors really cared about us and cared about us gaining knowledge. They really wanted to see us succeed and learn and use our critical thinking skills.
  - The only weakness is that sometimes the class was confused about what was being asked of us for certain assignments. However, I think this was more because of the unique nature of the course rather than a fault of the instructors.
- 