



Suggested Course Structures

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These are suggested structures for teaching a pollution prevention module or course during one or more 50-minute class periods. Class periods do not need to be consecutive.

Single-Session Introduction

Reading: Wise (1993).

Lecture: Introduce concept, policy, and history (35 minutes), show how pollution prevention relates to one or two selected topics in the course (15 minutes).

Assignment: "Apply pollution prevention concepts to other topics covered in this course."

Two-Session Introduction

CLASS 1

- **Reading:** Wise (1993 [key doc.]) and/or an introductory article from *EPA Journal* (1993 [key doc.])
- **Session:** Introduce concept, policy, and history; show how pollution prevention relates to other topics in the course.
- **Assignment:** "Apply pollution prevention concepts to other topics covered in this course."

CLASS 2

- **Reading:** Curran (1993, [key doc.]) and an implementation-oriented article from *EPA Journal* (1993[key doc.])
- **Session:** Conduct discussion of LCA and P2; introduce management of P2 by business, government, and individuals/society; discuss examples of P2 (if time permits).

One-Week Module

CLASS 1

- **Reading:** Overview reading such as Wise (1993 [key doc.]) and/or *EPA Journal* (1993 [key doc.]).
- **Session:** Introduce P2 concept, policy, and history and provide issues for consideration.
- **Assignment:** Critical thinking questions.

CLASS 2

- **Reading:** Curran (1993 [key doc.]) and Smith et al. (1992 [key doc.]).
- **Session:** Introduce the concept and controversies of LCA; introduce management of P2 by business.
- **Assignment:** Application of P2 and LCA principles to other topics in the course.

CLASS 3

- **Reading:** Topic-oriented reading from Section IV of the Resource List or Bibliographic Teaching Outline.
- **Session:** Introduce management of P2 by government and individuals; show P2 and LCA case study or examples.

CLASS 4

- **Session:** (optional discussion session) Conduct a "mini-LCA" for a specific product system, such as a topic already mentioned in the course. (See Section IV of the Bibliographic Teaching Outline for topics.)

Two-Week Module

CLASS 1

- **Reading:** Wise (1993 [key doc.]), Habicht (1992 [key doc.]), and/or Smith, et al (1992 [key doc.]).
- **Session:** Introduce P2 concept, history, and policy, and show relationship to other topics or disciplines.
- **Assignment:** Study questions.

CLASS 2

- **Reading:** See Outline Section III.A.
- **Session:** Introduce LCA framework and issues.
- **Assignment:** "Find P2 opportunities at each life-cycle stage."

CLASS 3

- **Reading:** Curran (1993 [key doc.]).
- **Session:** Cover follow-up topics (and/or discussion) of LCA and P2; introduce management of P2 by business and give an example.
- **Assignment:** "Describe a specific example of a business P2 activity. What makes it different from other business environmental management activities?"

CLASS 4

- **Reading:** *EPA Journal* (1993 [key doc.]) or something from Section III.B.
- **Session:** Introduce management of P2 in government and describe an example.
- **Assignment:** "Describe a personal P2 activity and discuss why or why not it is easy to implement."

DISCUSSION SECTION

Conduct a "mini" life-cycle assessment for a specific product system. (See Outline Section IV for topics.)

CLASS 5

- **Reading:** Jamieson and VanderWerf (1993 [key doc.]) or something from Section III.C.
- **Session:** Conduct follow-up of discussion; introduce P2 management by individuals and society; and give brief individuals and society P2 example.
- **Assignment:** Prepare to take test or give report.

CLASS 6

- **Session:** Conduct an in-depth examination of life cycle impacts, P2 opportunities, and societal roles for one or two topics. Possible test or report.

Half-Semester Module

Assign Hirschhorn and Oldenburg (1991) as a general text; see other modules above and the Bibliographic Teaching Outline for specific readings and assignments as needed.

WEEK 1

Cover human-environment impacts and sustainability; examine the definition and concept of P2 and its history.

WEEK 2

Examine P2 policy, both enactment and implementation; show P2's application to different disciplines/fields; and introduce LCA concept compared with other systems analysis tools.

WEEK 3

Examine LCA framework and controversial issues; describe management of P2 in business.

WEEK 4

Show business P2 example(s); describe government management of P2; show government P2 example(s); describe individual and societal management of P2 and show example(s).

WEEK 5

Explore Topic #1 and initiate student projects.

WEEK 6

In-depth examination of one or more P2/LCA applications. (For topics, see Outline Section IV.)

WEEK 7

Exploration Topic #2.

WEEK 8

Presentations and/or exam and wrap-up.

POTENTIAL EXPLORATION TOPICS

- P2 and federal, state, or local policy
- Global P2 and sustainability
- Relationship of P2 and LCA to an environmental issue
- In-depth examination of a P2 initiative
- P2/LCA examples/ opportunities at the grocery store
- P2/LCA examples/ opportunities at home
- P2/LCA examples/ opportunities at one's school
- Relation of P2 to a specific discipline or field
- Comparison of P2 with preventive medicine
- The history and/or literature of P2
- P2 and "futuring"
- LCA, P2, and current social issues
- Ethical implications of P2 and LCA