How to use the Introductory PSYC101/102 Sustainability Article List

The purpose of this document is to act as supplementary reference material for intro-level psychology instructors who are interested in incorporating ideas of sustainability into their curriculum. This list is prepared by Brandon Tomm, Jiaying Zhao, Catherine Rawn, Elizabeth Williams, and Stefan Bourrier, from the University of British Columbia Canada.

This document lists 50 peer-reviewed papers from various disciplines ranging from psychology, ecology, behavioural economics, to policy research. These articles were collected for their common relevance to at least one topic in the PSYC 101/102 curriculum, and also to at least one of many topics in “behavioural sustainability.”

What is behavioural sustainability? For the purposes of this document, we will say that behavioural sustainability is a way to use the lens of psychology and behavioural science to understand and address issues in sustainability or climate change alongside contributions from other disciplines. Within the spreadsheet list, you will find each article is classified under a specific “sustainability topic,” which include the subtopics:

- Sustainable behaviour
- Climate change psychology
- Environmental policy
- Environmental cognition
- Environment and mental health

These subtopics are not meant to be exclusive, but to serve as a general guide through the new idea of behavioural sustainability. Additionally, each article is listed under at least one relevant chapter from an introduction to psychology textbook. The chapter taxonomy is based on “Psychology, from Inquiry to Understanding,” (Lilienfeld et al., 2011).

Short summaries accompany each article listed. Of these, 26 are abridged abstracts and 24 are written by Brandon Tomm.