DESCRIPTION  Climate change and sustainability have been increasingly important topics in science, especially in health. Dentistry’s interprofessional involvement has grown in recent years, but these topics are rarely discussed in practice. This course is aimed at introducing the concept of climate change and sustainability into the realm of dentistry and bridging the gap between dentistry and health.

OBJECTIVES  
- Define the concept of climate change.
- Understand the intricate relationship between climate change and health.
- Demonstrate a comprehensive perspective on the role that sustainability plays on economic and environmental issues.
- Differentiate evidence-based climate science from unsubstantiated claims.
- Understand the effects dental materials have on the environment.
- Successfully integrate sustainability management strategies in a dental setting.
- Be familiar with current sustainability initiatives at UCSF and beyond.

REQUIREMENTS  Be an enrolled student at University of California, San Francisco School of Dentistry.

MATERIALS NEEDED  Computer with internet access. All learning materials will be provided to the students through e-mail and the Collaborative Learning Environment (CLE).

GRADING CRITERIA  In order to receive a passing grade in this course, the student must complete and pre- and post- sustainability survey, attend 80% of the course meetings, and participate in at least one scientific paper discussion.
Sustainability in Dental Practice

MILESTONES

JAN 9  Course introduction  
Brittany Zhang and Daniel Ta

JAN 16  Reading assignment #1:  

JAN 23  Dental Amalgam Safety  
Michael Bates, PhD

JAN 30  Growing Healthcare Costs and Climate Change  
Gina Solomon, MD, MPH

FEB 6  Impacts of Antibiotics Use and Misuse  
Katherine Gruenburg, PharmD, BCPS

FEB 13  Realistic Approach to Establishing a Sustainable Dental Practice  
Devon Smith, DDS

FEB 20  Reading assignment #2:  

FEB 27  Discussion #1: Cognitive Bias

MAR 3  Discussion #2: Dental Clinical Waste

MAR 13  School Initiatives, Future Endeavors, Final Remarks  
Brittany Zhang and Daniel Ta