

# THE RADICAL SUSTAINABILITY LAB

Galway

The ATU Galway-Mayo Centre for Sustainability and ATU Galway-Mayo Teaching and Learning Centre are delighted to launch the 'Radical Sustainability Lab', which will explore and experiment with creative teaching and learning approaches to embedding sustainability across the curriculum. The project is funded by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education under the Strategic Alignment of Teaching and Learning Enhancement (SATLE) Fund 2022.

If you are active in any of the teaching and learning initiatives listed below or are interested in participating in any of these initiatives, please email [sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie](mailto:sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie) for further information including potential funding support (of between €1,000-€5,000 per initiative listed).

## The project aims to:

- 1 Cultivate and nurture an authentic and creative education for sustainability community of practice.
- 2 Empower students to take an active part in embedding education for sustainability and the SDGs across the curriculum.
- 3 Provide opportunities for collaboration across disciplines.
- 4 Encourage active citizenship both within and outside the university.
- 5 Increase sustainability literacy amongst students and staff.
- 6 Contribute to the development of Sustainability Literacy to Leadership learning pathways for staff and students.

## 'Design Sprints for Sustainability/Circular Economy' in collaboration with Urban Input Output Collective, TU Delft and Queens University Belfast

<https://www.urban-io.org/>

A design sprint is a flexible design framework that can be used to experiment with and test new ideas and approaches that tackle big or complex challenges. Design sprints operate within versatile 'positive' time constraints (1-3 days) to allow time for an immersive learning experience. This project aims to explore how design sprints can be used as a creative teaching and learning approach.

See Google Ventures example:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZEupvPhA7Dw>

If you are interested in participating in a 'Design Sprint for a Circular Economy' as a learning activity for your module during Green Week, 6-10 March 2023, or if you are currently using design sprints as a teaching and learning activity please email [sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie](mailto:sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie) for further information.

## Design Thinking for Sustainability

Design thinking for sustainability aims to develop creative and user-relevant ideas to explore possible solutions that will positively impact a sustainable future. This project aims to explore how design thinking approaches can help create an immersive learning experience for students across all disciplines.

See Stanford School of Business example:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gnWj97CEjeo>

If you are currently using design thinking in your teaching practice or are interesting in exploring how it may apply to your discipline, please email [sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie](mailto:sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie) for further information.







## Outdoor Journeys

The 'Outdoor Journeys' project aims to bring the curriculum 'alive' by enabling experiential learning through engagement with the local community and place through three phases of questioning, research and sharing.

Listen to Dr. Simon Beames from Edinburgh University podcast from Finland [https://soundcloud.com/naturepathpodcast/simon\\_beames](https://soundcloud.com/naturepathpodcast/simon_beames)

If you are interested in exploring how outdoor journeys can create a unique learning experience for students or if you are already engaged in similar outdoor and nature-based learning, please email [sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie](mailto:sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie) for further information.

## Dissertations for Good

This project is based on a Students Organising for Sustainability (SOS) UK programme that partners highly motivated students and recent graduates with forward thinking organizations that are seeking to progress economic, social and environmental sustainability. Our aim for this project is to highlight, and reward nominated undergraduate dissertations and projects that tackle sustainability, circular economy and SDG-related topics.

There will be 5 prizes of €500 each with the winners and their supervisors offered the opportunity to submit a Development Studies Association (DSA) Ireland Working Paper, see <https://www.dsaireland.org/activities/working-paper-series/> and potentially enter the DSA's Best Student Paper Award, see <https://www.dsaireland.org/activities/awards/student-awards1/>

If you are coordinating or supervising a dissertation or project related to these areas and the students wish to enter the competition, please email the following details to [sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie](mailto:sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie), supervisor and student(s) name, programme title and year, project title, and a brief 1-2 line summary. This will help us generate a list of active projects, which will be then invited to submit their final submission in April 2023.



## 'Reduce your Use' Living Lab in collaboration with the Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland and the Office of Public Works

This project aims to support the ATU Galway-Mayo Buildings and Estates Office, who are participating in the 'Reduce your Use' campaign running from September 2022 to March 2023, see <https://www.seai.ie/reduceyouruse/public-bodies-and-schools/>

We are seeking staff and students to join our ATU Galway-Mayo Energy Team, to create opportunities to align the campaigns' objectives with applied learning and assessment approaches across a range of courses and modules.

If you are interested in participating, please email [sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie](mailto:sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie) for further information.

## The Sustainability Playbook

This project aims to explore the potential of using sustainability and SDG board games as a teaching and learning tool. Staff can select and test out a range of games including Eco-Action Bingo, Eco-Action Toppers, Eco-Action Snakes and Ladders, Climate Action Emergency card game, the Global Goals Compendium, and the Circularity Deck card game.

See Eco-Action games in action <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XXsKCJUbrCY>

See Circularity Deck tutorial <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cxy90TcMwOM>

If you are interested in participating, please email [sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie](mailto:sustainability.galwaymayo@atu.ie) for further information.



Ollscoil  
Teicneolaíochta  
an Atlantaigh

Atlantic  
Technological  
University



Centre for  
Sustainability



NATIONAL FORUM  
FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF TEACHING  
AND LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION



AN tÚDARÁS um ARD-OIDEACHAS  
HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY