Global Sustainability Science, MS

Students have the opportunity to earn two master's degrees in sustainability, spending time at ASU and in Germany through this unique, global education partnership.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS Global Sustainability Science

The MS in global sustainability science is a two-year collaborative degree program offered jointly by Arizona State University and Leuphana University of Luneburg, Germany. Students who participate in the program earn a Master of Science in global sustainability science from ASU and a Master of Science in global sustainability science from Leuphana University. Students from both universities collaborate throughout the program and spend one semester together at Leuphana in Luneburg as well as one semester together at ASU in Tempe, Arizona. The program culminates with a capstone project resulting in a publishable scientific journal article. Students have the opportunity to engage with sustainability problems and solutions in an international setting.

The program focuses on value-oriented and transformational aspects of sustainability, linking research with practical implementation of sustainability solutions. Project-based learning offers students opportunities to conduct their research on real-world sustainability solutions in collaboration with stakeholders and professionals. In addition, the program facilitates intercultural collaboration, which prepares graduates for working in internationally operating institutions and organizations.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** School of Sustainability
- **Location:** Tempe campus
**Degree Requirements**

41 credit hours including Capstone Course SOS 596

**Required Core (17 credit hours)**

SOS 510 Perspectives on Sustainability (3)
SOS 511 Advanced Sustainability Problem Solving (3)
SOS 525 Social-Ecological-Technical Systems (SETS): Domains and Interfaces (3)
SOS 557 Global Sustainability Research Preparation (1)
SOS 558 Global Sustainability Research Project (3)
SOS 559 Global Sustainability Science Perspectives Seminar (1)
SOS 581 Synthesis for Sustainability Research (3)

**Methods Elective (3 credit hours)**

**Open Electives (15 credit hours)**

**Culminating Experience (6 credit hours)**

SOS 596 Capstone: Scientific Paper (6)

**Additional Curriculum Information**

Students should see the academic unit for elective coursework approval.

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**Admission Requirements**

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the School of Sustainability.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree, in any field, from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.25 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.25 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. GRE scores
4. three letters of recommendation
5. letter of intent or written statement  
6. professional resume  
7. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

Applicants not meeting the minimum GPA requirement may still be considered, although the School of Sustainability will require a GPA petition.

References should be from educators (preferred) or professionals familiar with the applicant's experience and capability for graduate work. It is highly recommended that the recommendations are academic in nature and address the applicant's experience and potential for success in a graduate program; however, professional recommendations also are accepted. If possible, at least one recommendation should be academic in nature.

All applicants must upload a statement of intent when completing the online application. In no more than 600 words, applicants must explain the goals they intend to achieve through their program of study at the School of Sustainability. Applicants should describe how their background will contribute to their success in the program and how completion of the degree program will support their long-term career goals. Finally, applicants should elaborate on key research questions they wish to address or problems they wish to solve as part of their program of study and identify potential faculty advisors.

GRE scores are required but may be waived for students already enrolled at Leuphana University of Luneburg.

**Application Deadlines**

**Fall**

**Global Opportunities**

**Global Degree**

With a global degree program, students have the opportunity to receive their ASU degree in partnership with an international institution. Students and faculty can create and share knowledge to solve pressing global and societal challenges by combining strengths in research and teaching from two different institutions. Global degree programs also give students exposure to international academic experiences and content. Students should contact the academic unit directly for more information about this global degree program.