Sustainability, Minor

The sustainability minor is for students whose focus is on making a better world. Graduates with both skills in sustainability and a solid professional background in another field are receiving job offers because they bring useful and much-needed combinations of skills to organizations.

Description

Students in the sustainability minor will learn about the concept of sustainability and how it may be used to develop solutions to pressing issues affecting society, organizations and the world. The minor introduces sustainability principles and explains how sustainability can be applied to all academic disciplines and professional fields. Students will explore the challenges of sustainability within human institutions, organizations, cultures and technology and in local, national and international contexts. The minor is intended to draw from and inform any major that is offered by the university.

At a Glance

- **College/School:** School of Sustainability
- **Location:** Polytechnic campus, Tempe campus, West campus or online

Program Requirements

The sustainability minor requires 18 credit hours of study, at least nine of which must be upper-division. The program includes six credit hours of required core courses, six credit hours of required theme courses, and six credit hours of upper-division sustainability-related electives that relate to the student's major.

All courses must be completed with a grade of "C" (2.00) or higher.

**Required Core Courses -- 6 credit hours**
SOS 100: Introduction to Sustainability (G) (3)
SOS 300: Advanced Concepts and Integrated Approaches in Sustainability (3)

**Required Theme Courses -- 6 credit hours**

Two courses, each from a different sustainability theme area below.

**Coupled Human-Environment Systems**

- ASB 222: Buried Cities and Lost Tribes ((HU or SB) & G & H) (3)
- CHM 107: Chemistry and Society (SQ) (3)
- GLG 110: Dangerous World (SG & G) (3)
- GPH 210: Society and Environment (G) (3)
- ISS 450: Consumerism and Sustainable Development (3)
- LSC 362: The Human Environment (3)
- SOS 320: Society and Sustainability (L or SB) (3)
- SOS 327: Sustainable Food and Farms (3)
- STS 250: Science, Society, and Global Warming (3)

**Earth Systems**

- ABS 225: Soils (SQ) (3)
- ABS 270: Sustainable Biological Systems (3)
- BIO 100: The Living World (SQ) (4)
- ENV 410: Soil Science (4)
- GLG 101: Introduction to Geology I (Physical) (SQ) (3)
- GLG 108: Water Planet (SQ) (4)
- GLG 110: Dangerous World (SG & G) (3)
- GPH 211: Landform Processes (SQ) (4)
- LSC 388: Bee Ecology in Urban and Wild Habitats (L) (3)
- SES 106: Habitable Worlds (SQ) (4)
- SOS 326: Sustainable Ecosystems (3)

**Human Transformation of the Earth**

- ABS 260: Fundamentals of Sustainable Horticulture (SG) (4)
- ABS 270: Sustainable Biological Systems (3)
- ABS 363: Sustainable Landscape Practice (4)
- ALA 100: Introduction to Environmental Design (HU & H & G) (3)
- ASM 104: Bones, Stones, and Human Evolution (SB or SG) (4)
- BIO 130: Introduction to Environmental Science (SQ) (4)
- CON 101: Construction and Culture: a Built Environment (HU & H) (3)
- ENV 201: Fundamentals of Environmental Science (3)
- FSE 181: Technological, Social, and Sustainable Systems (HU) (3)
- IAS 407 / PHI 407: Environmental Philosophy and Policy (L or HU) (3)
- IND 243: Design for Ecology and Social Equity (3)
SOS 111 / PUP 190: Sustainable Cities ((HU or SB) & G) (3)
SOS 323: Sustainable Urban Dynamics (3)
SOS 324: Sustainable Energy Technology and Systems (3)
SOS 465 / PUP 465: Sustainable Urbanism (3)
STS 235: Technology and Urban Systems (L) (3)

**Social, Political and Economic Treatment of Natural Resources and Environment**

ABS 381: Natural Resources Policy (3)
ABS 479: Ecosystem Management and Planning (L) (3)
AGB 250: Economics of Resource Allocation: Food and Agriculture (3)
AGB 414: Food and Agribusiness Policy Issues (L) (3)
AGB 452: Global Food and Agricultural Policy (3)
ASB 100 / SSH 100: Introduction to Global Health (SB & G) (3)
GCU 441: Economic Geography (SB) (3)
IAS 340 / PHI 320: Bioethics (HU) (3)
IAS 409: Eco-Community Ethics (HU) (3)
PHI 306: Applied Ethics (HU) (3)
PHI 360: Business and Professional Ethics (HU) (3)
SGS 203: Contemporary Global Trends (SB & G) (3)
SGS 303: Global Trends (SB) (3)
SOS 110: Sustainable World (SB) (3)
SOS 321: Policy and Governance in Sustainable Systems (3)
SOS 323: Sustainable Urban Dynamics (3)
SOS 325: The Economics of Sustainability (3)
STS 101: Introduction to Science, Technology, and Society (SB) (3)
STS 110: Global Technology and Development (SB & G) (3)

**Upper-Division Sustainability-Related Electives -- 6 credit hours**

Upper Division courses that are sustainability-related and ideally make a connection between the student's major and the minor (6)

Students should consult with their major advisor for upper division sustainability-related elective course selection. Possible courses for these electives can be explored at [https://schoolofsustainability.asu.edu/sustainability-courses-at-asu/](https://schoolofsustainability.asu.edu/sustainability-courses-at-asu/), but still need to be approved by the student's major academic advisor.

Depending on a student's undergraduate program of study, prerequisite courses may be needed in order to complete the requirements of this minor.
Enrollment Requirements

**GPA Requirement:** None

**Majors Ineligible to Add This Minor:** BA in business (sustainability); BA in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in sustainability; BA in sustainability; BS in sustainability

**Other Enrollment Requirements:** Students interested in adding a minor in sustainability should work with their major academic advisor. A student's major advisor will approve the two upper-division electives required for the minor in sustainability.

Current ASU undergraduate students may pursue a minor and have it recognized on their ASU transcript at graduation. Students interested in pursuing a minor should consult their academic advisor to declare the minor and to ensure that an appropriate set of courses is taken. Minor requirements appear on the degree audit once the minor is added. Certain major and minor combinations may be deemed inappropriate by the college or department of either the major program or the minor. Courses taken for the minor may not count toward both the major and the minor. Students should contact their academic advisor for more information.

Attend Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

Contact Information

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