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 in 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.

Required Core Courses

- SOS 100: Introduction to Sustainability (G)(3)
- SOS 300: Advanced Concepts and Integrated Approaches in Sustainability(3)
Required Theme Courses

Two courses, each from a different sustainability theme area below (6)

**Coupled Human-Environment Systems**

- ASB 222: Buried Cities and Lost Tribes ((HU or SB) & H) (3)
- CHM 107: Chemistry and Society (SQ) (3)
- GLG 110: Dangerous World (SG & G) (3)
- GPH 210: Society and Environment (G) (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)
- 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)
- SES 106: Habitable Worlds (SQ) (4)
- SOS 326: Sustainable Ecosystems (3)

**Human Transformation of the Earth**

- ALA 100: Introduction to Environmental Design (HU & H & G) (3)
- CON 101: Construction and Culture: a Built Environment (HU & H) (3)
- FSE 181: Technological, Social, and Sustainable Systems (HU) (3)
- IND 243: Design for Ecology and Social Equity (3)
- SOS 111: Sustainable Cities ((HU or SB) & G) or PUP 190: Sustainable Cities ((HU or SB) & G) (3)
- SOS 323: Sustainable Urban Dynamics (3)
- SOS 324: Sustainable Energy, Materials, and Technology (3)
- SOS 465: Sustainable Urbanism or PUP 465: Sustainable Urbanism (3)
- STS 235: Technology and Urban Systems (3)

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

- ASB 100: Introduction to Global Health (SB & G) or SSH 100: Introduction to Global Health (SB & G) (3)
- GCU 441: Economic Geography (SB) (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 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

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/degrees/undergraduate-courses, 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

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.

Students in most majors may pursue at least one minor and, upon successful completion of the prescribed coursework, have that accomplishment officially recognized on the ASU transcript at graduation if the college or department of the minor officially certifies, through established verification procedures, that all requirements for the minor have been met and the college (and in certain colleges, the department) of the student's major allows the official recognition of the minor.

Note: Certain major and minor combinations may be deemed inappropriate either by the college or department of the major or minor. Courses taken as part of a minor may not count toward both the major degree and the minor. Students should contact the major advisor for more information.

Attend Online
ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year and accelerated 7.5 week classes. Applicants may view the program description and request more information here.

Contact Information

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