

# Sustainability, Minor

SUSUSMIN

If you want to follow your passion for improving your community and the world, you'll need the useful skills that employers are looking for. Pair this minor with a solid background in another field, and you'll have the ability to use a sustainability mindset to address broad social, economic and environmental challenges.

## Description

Students in the sustainability minor learn about the concept of sustainability and how it may be used to develop solutions to pressing issues affecting society, organizations, the environment and the world.

The program introduces sustainability principles and contextualizes how sustainability can be applied to all academic disciplines and professional fields. Students explore the challenges of sustainability within human societies, economies, the environment, cultures and technology, all in local, national and international contexts.

The minor is intended to draw from and inform almost any major offered by the university.

## At a glance

- **College/School:** [College of Global Futures](#)
- **Location:** [Downtown Phoenix](#), [Polytechnic](#), [Tempe](#), [West Valley](#) or [Online](#)

## Program requirements

[2024 - 2025 Minor Map](#)

[Minor Map \(Archives\)](#)

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 110: Sustainable World (SB) (3)

SOS 111: Sustainable Cities ((HU or SB) & G) (3)

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

Theme Course: Complete a course from one of the four theme areas below. (3)

Upper Division Theme Course: Complete a second course from a second (different) theme area below.  
(3)

### **Coupled Human-Environment Systems**

ASB 222: Buried Cities and Lost Tribes ((HU or SB) & G & H) (3)

CHM 107: Chemistry and Society (SQ) (3)

CRD 301: Sustainable Communities (3)

CRD 302: Inclusive Community Development (SB & C) (3)

GLG 110: Dangerous World (SQ & G) (3)

GPH 210: Society and Environment (3)

ISS 450: Consumerism and Sustainable Development (SB) (3)

LSC 362: The Human Environment (3)

SOS 320: Society and Sustainability (L or SB) (3)

SOS 327: Sustainable Food and Farms (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 (SQ & G) (3)

GPH 211: Landform Processes (SQ) (4)

LSC 388: Bee Ecology in Urban and Wild Habitats (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 (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 Trade (3)  
ASB 100: Introduction to Global Health (SB & G) (3)  
CRD 301: Sustainable Communities (3)  
GCU 441: Economic Geography (SB) (3)  
HCI 311: Health Innovation: Foundational Concepts (3)  
HCI 412: Transforming Health Care: A Systems Perspective for Innovation (3)  
HCI 421: Health Care Policy: The Innovator's View (3)  
HCR 230: Culture and Health (C & G) (3)  
HCR 336: Environmental Community Health (3)  
IAS 340 / PHI 320: Bioethics (HU) (3)  
IAS 409: Eco-Community Ethics (HU) (3)  
NLM 410: Social Entrepreneurship (3)  
PHI 306: Applied Ethics (HU) (3)  
PHI 360: Business and Professional Ethics (HU) (3)  
PRM 340: Outdoor Survival (3)  
SGS 203: Contemporary Global Trends (SB & G) (3)  
SGS 303: Global Trends (SB & G) (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)  
SOS 330: Sustaining the Commons (3)  
STS 101: Introduction to Science, Technology and Society (SB) (3)  
STS 110: Global Technology and Development (SB & G) (3)  
TDM 482: Sustainable Revenue Management (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 selections and approvals. Possible courses for these electives can be explored at [the School of Sustainability website](#), but still need to be approved by the student's major academic advisor.

Prerequisite courses may be needed in order to complete the requirements of this minor.

## Enrollment requirements

**GPA Requirement:** None

**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.

**Incompatible Majors:** BA in business (sustainability); BA in interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in sustainability; BS in public service and public policy (sustainability); BA in sustainability; BS in sustainability; BS in sustainable food systems

Current ASU undergraduate students may pursue a minor and have it recognized on their ASU transcript at graduation. 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 minor.

## Attend online

### ASU Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may [view the program's ASU Online page](#) for program descriptions and to request more information.

## Global opportunities

### Global experience

With more than 300 Global Education program opportunities available to them, students of all majors, including programs in the College of Global Futures, are able to tailor their experience to their specific interests and skill sets. Whether in a foreign country, in the U.S., or online, students build communication skills, learn to adapt and persevere, and are exposed to research and internships across the world, increasing their professional network.

Students can find programs specific to their interests on the [College of Global Futures Study Abroad webpage](#) and additional opportunities and information on the [ASU Global Education Office website](#). These sites also include additional information about applying for funding to support global travel.

## Career opportunities

A minor in sustainability enhances a student's career prospects across various fields including business, technology, science, education, government or the nonprofit sector. The transdisciplinary nature of this program equips students with valuable knowledge and skills that complement their bachelor's degree, setting them apart in a competitive job market.

This minor allows students to integrate sustainability principles into their chosen career path, addressing critical global issues related to economics, environment, policy, social dynamics, urban development and community well-being. Whether working on sustainable business strategies, environmentally conscious technology solutions or policy initiatives, graduates are well prepared to contribute positively to their organizations and society as a whole. By embracing sustainability, students not only enhance their employability but also become agents of change, championing a more sustainable and equitable future.

## Contact information

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