

MINOR IN SUSTAINABILITY

Students at GW come from around the world to connect to diverse ideas, cultures, and ways of life. The 18-credit minor in sustainability offers students a rigorous platform to examine critical sustainability issues and solutions. The program begins with Introduction to Sustainability, a team-taught course that equips students with a strong foundation in global sustainability principles and paradigms. Students build on this foundation by further investigating sustainability through the lenses of ecosystems, economies, communities, and practices. The capstone experience provides students with a structure for applying what they've learned through a semester-long research, service, and/or internship project. Students are empowered to consider the competing perspectives of stakeholders, the unintended consequences of decisions, and how interventions at different levels and scales affect systems and their component parts. Ultimately, students gain the tools necessary for creating healthy and thriving resource systems.

Requirements

All students in the minor program are required to take SUST 1001 Introduction to Sustainability; at least one course in each of four pillars (below); and at least 3 credits in an experiential learning course (below) selected from SUST 3094 Culminating Experience in Sustainability, SUST 3096 Research in Sustainability, or SUST 3097 Culminating Experience in Sustainability, acts as a capstone course for the minor.

At least 9 credits (3 courses)—e.g., SUST 1001, the student's selected capstone course, and one selected pillar course—must be unique to the minor and cannot be double counted toward the requirements of any other major and/or minor program. The unique course requirement does not apply to SEAS students, who are governed by their school's policy regarding unique/double counting course requirements with the minor program.

At least 6 credits (two courses) must be taken at the 2000 level or above. These courses could include the student's selected capstone course and one of their selected pillar courses.

Pillars

- Pillar I: Sustainable Ecosystems—Earth Sciences and Public Health
- Pillar II: Sustainable Economies—Business, Markets, Technology, and Trade
- Pillar III: Sustainable Communities—Culture, Politics, and Society
- Pillar IV: Sustainable Practices—Leadership, Values, Norms, and Behaviors

Experiential Learning Experience

The experiential learning experience is required as a capstone for the minor. Students may fulfill this requirement in their junior or senior year through directed research, fieldwork, an internship (paid or unpaid), or community service. Students may enroll in SUST 3094, SUST 3096, or SUST 3097 to fulfill the requirement. Successful completion of SUST 1001 and approval of the instructor

or program director are required prior to enrollment in the capstone course.

Each semester, GW departments and programs offer special topics courses that may fulfill the pillar requirement. Topics relevant to the concentration must be approved by the program director prior to enrollment. Consult the Schedule of Classes (<https://my.gwu.edu/mod/pws/>) for topics offered.

With prior approval of the program director, courses taken in study abroad programs may be used to fulfill one of the pillar requirements.

PILLAR I

Sustainable Ecosystems: Earth Sciences and Public Health Pillar

Required

One 3-credit course from this pillar must be selected as part of the minor program or if a course fits this pillar but is not listed, it can be approved by the program director. Also, the following list of course options does not include special topics courses, which also may count toward the minor with the prior approval of the program director. Topics relevant to the concentration must be approved by the program director prior to enrollment. Visit the sustainability minor [website \(http://sustainability.gwu.edu/sustainability-minor/\)](http://sustainability.gwu.edu/sustainability-minor/) for current course offerings.

Code	Title	Credits
Columbian College of Arts and Sciences		
BISC 1005	The Biology of Nutrition and Health	
BISC 1006	The Ecology and Evolution of Organisms	
BISC 1007	Food, Nutrition, and Service	
BISC 1008	Understanding Organisms through Service Learning	
BISC 2454	General Ecology	
CHEM 2085	Environmental Chemistry	
CHEM 3140	Geochemistry	
GEOG 1002	Introduction to Physical Geography	
GEOG 2134	Energy Resources	
GEOG 2136	Water Resources	
GEOG 2137	Environmental Hazards	
GEOG 3275	Sustainable Food Systems	
GEOL 1001	Physical Geology	

GEOL 1005	Environmental Geology
GEOL 2106	Oceanography
GEOL 3131	Global Climate Change
GEOL 3138	Hydrogeology
GEOL 3191	Geology of Energy Resources
SUST 3002	Climate Change and Policy
SUST 3003	World on a Plate

School of Engineering and Applied Science

CE 1020	Introduction to a Sustainable World
CE 2510	Environmental Sustainability
CE 3520	Environmental Engineering Design: Drinking Water Treatment
CE 3521	Environmental Engineering Laboratory
CE 3604	Physical Hydrology
CE 4530	Wastewater Treatment Design and Reuse

School of Public Health and Health Services

PUBH 3132	Health and Environment
PUBH 3133	Global Health and Development
PUBH 3150	Sustainable Energy and Environmental Health

PILLAR II

Sustainable Economies: Business, Markets, Technology, and Trade

Required

One 3-credit course from this pillar must be selected as part of the minor program or if a course fits this pillar but is not listed, it can be approved by the program director. Also, the following list of course options does not include special topics courses, which also may count toward the minor with the prior approval of the program director. Topics relevant to the concentration must be approved by the program director prior to enrollment. Visit the sustainability minor [website \(http://sustainability.gwu.edu/sustainability-minor/\)](http://sustainability.gwu.edu/sustainability-minor/) for current course offerings.

Code	Title	Credits
Columbian College of Arts and Sciences		
ECON 2151	Economic Development	

ECON 2136	Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
ECON 2180	Survey of International Economics
GEOG 2148	Economic Geography
GEOG 3275	Sustainable Food Systems
PSC 2439	International Political Economy
SUST 3003	World on a Plate

School of Business

BADM 2001	Markets and Politics
or BADM 2001W	Markets and Politics
IBUS 4401	Managing the Multinational Enterprise
IBUS 4402	Managing in Developing Countries

PILLAR III

Sustainable Communities: Culture, Politics, and Society Pillar

Required

One 3-credit course from this pillar must be selected as part of the minor program or if a course fits this pillar but is not listed, it can be approved by the program director. Also, the following list of course options does not include special topics courses, which also may count toward the minor with the prior approval of the program director. Topics relevant to the concentration must be approved by the program director prior to enrollment. Visit the sustainability minor [website \(http://sustainability.gwu.edu/sustainability-minor/\)](http://sustainability.gwu.edu/sustainability-minor/) for current course offerings.

Code	Title	Credits
Columbian College of Arts and Sciences		
AMST 2440	The American City	
AMST 3810	Planning Cities	
ANTH 3501	Anthropology of Development	
ANTH 3502	Cultural Ecology	
ANTH 3513	Anthropology of Human Rights	
ANTH 3804	Origins of the State and Urban Society	
GEOG 2127	Population Geography	
GEOG 2141	Cities in the Developing World	
GEOG 3143	Urban Sustainability	

GEOG 3143W	Urban Sustainability
PHIL 2133	Philosophy and Nonviolence
PHIL 2134	Philosophy of Human Rights
PHIL 2281	Philosophy of the Environment
PPPA 2701	Sustainability and Environmental Policy
PSC 2240	Poverty, Welfare, and Work
PSC 2367	Human Rights
SOC 2169	Urban Sociology
SUST 2002	The Sustainable City
SUST 3002	Climate Change and Policy

School of Public Health and Health Services

EXNS 1114	Community Nutrition
PUBH 2114	Environment, Health, and Development

School of Engineering and Applied Science

CSCI 1030	Technology and Society
or CSCI 1030W	Technology and Society

PSC 2220	Public Opinion
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School of Engineering and Applied Science

CSCI 4532	Information Policy
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School of Business

MGT 3305	Human Capital Sustainability
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ORSC 2116	Leading Change
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ORSC 2123	Negotiation and Conflict Resolution
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PSTD 1010	Introduction to Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution
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School of Public Health

HLWL 1104	Outdoor and Environmental Education
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PUBH 3151	Current Issues in Bioethics
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PILLAR IV

Sustainable Practices: Leadership, Values, Norms, and Behaviors

Required

One 3-credit course from this pillar must be selected as part of the minor program or if a course fits this pillar but is not listed, it can be approved by the program director. Also, the following list of course options does not include special topics courses, which also may count toward the minor with the prior approval of the program director. Topics relevant to the concentration must be approved by the program director prior to enrollment. Visit the sustainability minor website (<http://sustainability.gwu.edu/sustainability-minor/>) for current course offerings.

Code	Title	Credits
Columbian College of Arts and Sciences		
ANTH 3407	Conservation in a Changing World: Human and Animal Behavior	
GEOG 3132	Environmental Quality and Management	
HSSJ 1100	Introduction to Human Services and Social Justice	
HSSJ 2200	Principles of Ethical Leadership	