Sustainability (SUST)

Faculty

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Sustainability Curriculum Steering Committee

- Professor Myria Allen, Communication
- Professor Stephen Boss, director, Geosciences
- Professor Kevin Fitzpatrick, Sociology
- Associate Dean Carol Gattis, Honors College
- Clinical Assistant Professor David Hyatt, Supply Chain Management
- Professor Jon Johnson, Management
- Professor Kim LaScola-Needy, Industrial Engineering
- Professor Marty Matlock, Biological and Agricultural Engineering
- Clinical Associate Professor Zola Moon, Human Environmental Sciences
- Professor Jennie Popp, Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness

The minor in Sustainability is interdisciplinary, drawing from faculty and course work across all colleges of the University of Arkansas. The minor is accessible to all undergraduate students, regardless of degree program. The purpose of the minor in Sustainability is to provide foundational knowledge and skills related to the emerging discipline of sustainability, organized around four thematic areas reflecting strength in scholarship of University of Arkansas academic colleges: Sustainability of Social Systems, Sustainability of Natural Systems, Sustainability of Built Systems, and Sustainability of Managed Systems. Students who complete the minor in Sustainability will be expected to:

- Articulate commonly accepted definitions of sustainability and discuss various nuances among those definitions;
- Have an understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of sustainability issues, particularly as they pertain to the thematic areas of knowledge addressed by the minor (sustainability of natural systems, sustainability of managed systems, sustainability of built systems, and sustainability of human social systems);
- Be conversant regarding acquisition and analysis of data pertinent to sustainability issues;
- Communicate orally and in writing organized thoughts defining sustainability issues;
- Identify appropriate potential strategies to address sustainability issues using data and provide results of rudimentary analyses of data using novel metrics or statistics;
- Make recommendations, based on data analysis and interpretation, to advance sustainability of individuals or institutions.

Required Courses for a Minor in Sustainability

Students must earn a grade of ‘C’ or better for all courses used to fulfill requirements of the minor in Sustainability.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUST 1103</td>
<td>Foundations of Sustainability (Sp)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUST 2103</td>
<td>Applications of Sustainability (Fa)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Elective courses with sustainability focus selected from a broad menu of offerings in four thematic areas:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sustainability of Social Systems</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sustainability of Natural Systems</td>
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<td>Sustainability of Built Systems</td>
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<td>Sustainability of Managed Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUST 4103</td>
<td>Capstone Experience in Sustainability (Sp)</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
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Total Hours 18

List of Available Elective Courses: Students choose 9 hours from menus provided on the Sustainability website (http://sustainability.uark.edu/academics/minor/minor-courses.php); at least six hours must be chosen from Tier 1 courses (with prerequisites, if applicable).

Capstone Experience

All students participating in the minor in Sustainability must complete a capstone experience focused on service learning, research learning, or internship in sustainability. Student engagement in community service, research, or relevant work on sustainability through a summer internship provides opportunities for students to apply sustainability theories and principles learned from prior coursework toward advancing sustainability across society.

Students may formally petition the University of Arkansas Sustainability Curriculum Steering Committee to substitute sustainability-oriented senior design projects, Honors College research projects, other service learning courses, or equivalent internship experiences for SUST 4103 to satisfy the capstone element of minor in Sustainability. Details of the procedure to substitute alternative experiences for SUST 4103 can be found in the Foundations of Sustainability Program Handbook.

To qualify for SUST 4103 or other sustainability capstone experience, students must have successfully completed SUST 1103, SUST 2103, and 6 hours of elective course work toward the minor in Sustainability.
Courses

SUST 1103. Foundations of Sustainability (Sp). 3 Hours.
Foundations of Sustainability is an interdisciplinary course to introduce concepts and theories of sustainability at global, regional, and local levels. Emphasis is on four thematic areas of sustainability; social, natural, built and managed systems. The aim is to increase environmental literacy for engagement of sustainability into students’ own disciplines.

SUST 1103H. Honors Foundations of Sustainability (Sp). 3 Hours.
Foundations of Sustainability is an interdisciplinary course to introduce concepts and theories of sustainability at global, regional, and local levels. Emphasis is on four thematic areas of sustainability; social, natural, built and managed systems. The aim is to increase environmental literacy for engagement of sustainability into students’ own disciplines. Corequisite: Drill component. This course is equivalent to SUST 1103.

SUST 2103. Applications of Sustainability (Fa). 3 Hours.
Applications of Sustainability is an interdisciplinary course introducing data gathering, data analysis or interpretation, and synthesis of data applied to problems in sustainability. Students engage in hands-on, inquiry-based investigation of sustainability issues across four thematic areas: social systems, natural systems, built systems (Architecture & Engineering), and managed systems (Agriculture & Business). Prerequisite: SUST 1103 or instructor consent.

SUST 2103H. Honors Applications of Sustainability (Fa). 3 Hours.
Applications of Sustainability is an interdisciplinary course introducing data gathering, data analysis or interpretation, and synthesis of data applied to problems in sustainability. Students engage in hands-on, inquiry-based investigation of sustainability issues across four thematic areas: social systems, natural systems, built systems (Architecture & Engineering), and managed systems (Agriculture & Business). Corequisite: Drill component. Prerequisite: SUST 1103 or instructor consent. This course is equivalent to SUST 2103.

SUST 390V. Special Problems in Sustainability (Sp, Fa). 3-6 Hour.
Special Problems is intended to fulfill a need in the sustainability curriculum to offer one-time pilot course work in any semester prior to the formal curriculum approval process, offer seminars on unusual but timely topics in sustainability on a one-time basis, or independent study for students seeking additional expertise in sustainability research and scholarship. Prerequisite: SUST 1103 and SUST 2103 or instructor permission. May be repeated for up to 6 hours of degree credit.

SUST 4103. Capstone Experience in Sustainability (Sp). 3 Hours.
A capstone experience focused on service learning, research learning, or internship in sustainability. Student engagement in community service, research, or relevant work on sustainability through a summer internship or equivalent experience provides opportunities for students to apply sustainability theories and principles learned from prior course work toward advancing sustainability across society. Prerequisite: SUST 1103 and SUST 2103.

SUST 4603. Environmental Sociology. 3 Hours.
The course provides a social perspective on environmental issues. It examines the linkage between society, ecological systems and the physical environment. It provides conceptual framework(s) for analyzing environmental issues, considers the role of humans in environmental issues, and enhances understanding the complexity of the relationship between societal organization and environmental change. Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing. This course is cross-listed with HDFS 4603, SOCI 4603.

SUST 4693. Environmental Justice (Sp). 3 Hours.
This course deals with the ethical, environmental, legal, economic, and social implications of society’s treatment of the poor, the disenfranchised, and minorities who live in the less desirable, deteriorating neighborhoods, communities, and niches of our country. The class integrates science with philosophy, politics, economics, policy, and law, drawing on award-winning films, current news, and case studies. This course is cross-listed with GEOS 4693, GEOS 4693H.