

SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES MINOR

The program provides an understanding of sustainability, a unifying approach to human and environmental problems. Sustainable businesses, communities, and other organizations seek to design systems in ways that optimize material and energy use to decrease environmental and health problems and to bolster economic vitality and social equity. A growing number of scholars are framing problems and solutions in the language of sustainability, which balances growth and development with justice and environmental stewardship in order to meet today's needs without undermining the ability of future generations to do the same.







Students who major in the B.A. or B.S. environmental degree programs are not allowed to minor in sustainability studies.






Requirements

In addition to the program requirements listed below, students must:

- take at least nine hours of their minor "core" requirements at UNC–Chapel Hill
- earn a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.000 in the minor core requirements. Some programs may require higher standards for minor or specific courses.

For more information, please consult the degree requirements section of the catalog (<https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/>).

Code	Title	Hours
Core Requirements		
ENEC/PLAN 330	Principles of Sustainability ¹	3
or ENEC 201	 Introduction to Environment and Society	
or ENEC 431	Sustainable Cities: Exploring Ways of Making Cities More Sustainable	
Four elective courses chosen from the following options:		12
BUSI 507	Sustainable Business and Social Enterprise ^H	
COMM 375	Environmental Advocacy	
or ENEC 375	Environmental Advocacy	
ENEC 201	 Introduction to Environment and Society ^{H, F}	
ENEC 202	 Introduction to the Environmental Sciences	
ENEC/EMES 220	North Carolina Estuaries: Environmental Processes and Problems	
ENEC/GEOG 264	Conservation of Biodiversity in Theory and Practice	
ENEC 305	Data Analysis and Visualization of Social and Environmental Interactions	
ENEC 307	Energy and Material Flows in the Environment and Society	
ENEC/EMES 324	 Water in Our World: Introduction to Hydrologic Science and Environmental Problems	
ENEC 325	 Water Resource Management and Human Rights ^H	
ENEC 350	 Environmental Law and Policy	

ENEC 351	Coastal Law and Policy
ENEC 370	Agriculture and the Environment ^H
ENEC/PLCY 372	Global Environment: Policy Analysis and Solutions
ENEC/PLCY 373	Confronting Climate Change in the Anthropocene
ENEC 405	Mountain Preservation
ENEC 407	Principles of Energy Conversion
ENEC/PLAN 420	Community Design and Green Architecture
ENEC 421	Textiles: Environmental Impacts, Issues, and Innovations
ENEC 432	Environmental Life Cycle Assessment
ENEC/EMES 448	Coastal and Estuarine Ecology
ENEC 462	Ecosystem Management
ENEC/BUSI 463	 Corporate Environmental Stewardship
ENEC/ENVR 470	Environmental Risk Assessment
ENEC/EMES 471	Human Impacts on Estuarine Ecosystems
ENEC 473	 Business and Finance Fundamentals for Change Makers
ENEC 474	Sustainable Coastal Management
ENEC 479	Landscape Analysis
ENEC 490	Special Topics in Environmental Science and Studies ^H
ENEC 510	Policy Analysis of Global Climate Change
ENEC/ENVR 522	Environmental Change and Human Health
ENEC 547	Energy, Transportation, and Land Use
ENEC/PLAN/ENVR 548	Sustainable Energy Systems
ENEC/MEJO 565	Environmental Storytelling
ENEC 567	Ecological Analyses and Application
ENEC/PLAN 641	Watershed Planning
ENEC 675	Environmental Communication and the Public Sphere
ENEC 698	Capstone: Analysis and Solution of Environmental Problems
ENVR 600	Environmental Health
GEOG 237	Natural Resources
GEOG 334	Human Ecology of Health and Disease
GEOG 370	 Introduction to Geographic Information
PHYS 131 & 131L	Energy: Physical Principles and the Quest for Alternatives to Dwindling Oil and Gas
PLAN 246	 Cities of the Past, Present, and Future: Introduction to Planning
PLAN 247	 Solving Urban Problems

PLAN 636	Urban Transportation Planning	
Total Hours		15

- H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.
- F FY-Launch class sections may be available. A FY-Launch section fulfills the same requirements as a standard section of that course, but also fulfills the FY-SEMINAR/FY-LAUNCH First-Year Foundations requirement. Students can search for FY-Launch sections in ConnectCarolina using the FY-LAUNCH attribute.

¹ If two of these courses are taken, the second course may satisfy the elective requirement.

The minor requires a minimum of 15 credit hours.

See the program page here (<https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/environmental-studies-major-ba/#opportunities>) for special opportunities.

Department Programs

Majors

- Environmental Studies Major, B.A. (<https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/environmental-studies-major-ba/>)
- Environmental Science Major, B.S. (<https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/environmental-science-bs/>)
- Dual Bachelor's-Master's Degree Programs (<https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/environmental-studies-major-ba/#dualdegreertext>)

Minors

- Environmental Science and Studies Minor (<https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/environmental-science-studies-minor/>)
- Food Studies Minor (<https://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/programs-study/food-studies-minor/>)
- Sustainability Studies Minor (p. 1)

Graduate Programs

- Doctor of Philosophy (<https://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/environment-ecology/#programstext>)
- Master of Science (<https://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/environment-ecology/#programstext>)
- Master of Arts (<https://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/schools-departments/environment-ecology/#programstext>)

Contact Information

Environment, Ecology, and Energy Program

Visit Program Website (<https://e3p.unc.edu/>)

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