Global Sustainability Minor

Open to all UCI Students!

About the Minor

The interdisciplinary Minor in Global Sustainability trains students to understand the changes necessary for human populations to live in sustainable relationships with the various ecological systems, resources, and communities of this planet. This Minor relies on sustainability as an organizing framework, encouraging students to consider the challenge of meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This program examines the causes and interrelationships of global problems and considers new approaches to solving them. Its goal is to provide broad, interdisciplinary training that will allow students to understand better and deal effectively with interrelated contemporary crises in our global environmental, social, and economic systems.

The Minor is open to all UC Irvine students. Together, the departments of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Earth System Sciences, and Planning, Policy and Design provide academic oversight for the Minor, with extensive course support from additional programs. The Minor is listed in the course catalogue within Interdisciplinary Studies. Dr. Peter Bowler is the faculty director of the Minor.

Requirements for the Minor

Students are required to complete three introductory courses (12 units), three electives (12 units), one methods course (4 units), and three quarters of a senior capstone sequence (8 units).

Introductory Courses: The University Studies 13 year-long sequence, Introduction to Global Sustainability, is designed to fulfill this requirement. Alternatively, students may select three courses from among a list of quarterly approved courses, with each introductory course addressing one of the below subjects.

- Introductory Course A: The Earth System
- Introductory Course B: The Living Planet
- Introductory Course C: Human Impacts

Electives: Students select three courses from among a list of quarterly approved courses, with each elective course drawn from a different category. Two of the three courses must be upper-division and none of the three courses may overlap with selected introductory courses.

- Category 1 - Social Practice *(Ethics, Identity, Culture, Wellness, Education Business)*
- Category 2 - Governance and Allocation *(Natural Resource Management, Economics, Development, Poverty Alleviation, Social Justice)*
- Category 3 - Physical Sciences *(Earth System Science, Engineering, Computing)*
- Category 4 - Biological Sciences *(Biology, Ecology, Evolutionary Sciences)*

Methods: Students must select one of several eligible methods courses

Senior Capstone Sequence: The Senior Capstone Sequence provides students with opportunities to participate in community engaged scholarship and sustainability team science. The sequence is comprised of three courses and includes an introductory seminar, a research team or internship project, and a final capstone seminar.

Read more about the Global Sustainability Minor at:
http://www.sustainability.uci.edu/Education/ForStudents.html

Global Sustainability Resource Center
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