

FACULTY AGENDA ITEM

Date: 3/18/2024

Submitted by: Maria Stover, x. 1802

Subject: New Sustainability and Environmental Studies Certificate

Description: This interdisciplinary certificate explores the relationship between humans and the environment. The program integrates knowledge and methods from the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities to gain a holistic understanding of the environmental challenges of the 21st century. Students earning a certificate in Sustainability and Environmental Studies will be better prepared to understand and communicate a host of complex issues confronting our species and our planet, including climate change, energy, pollution, waste, biodiversity loss, population growth, food production, environmental racism, and the moral standing of nonhuman animals and future generations.

Rationale: This interdisciplinary certificate seeks to explore the scientific, social, political, cultural, and ethical relationship between humans and the environment. Through a combination of core courses and electives, this program enables students to integrate knowledge and methods from the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities to gain a holistic understanding of the environmental challenges of the 21st century. Students earning a certificate in Sustainability and Environmental Studies will be better equipped to address a host of complex issues confronting our species and our planet, including climate change, energy, pollution, waste, biodiversity loss, population growth, food production, environmental racism, and the moral standing of nonhuman animals and future generations. The knowledge and skills students build in this program will enable them to work more effectively toward sustainability and environmental justice in their personal and professional lives and communities. The occupational outlook for careers related to sustainability and environmental studies is bright: (Data from O*Net, which is updated regularly and is developed under the sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration).

Financial Implications: None indicated.

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2024

Request for Action: Approval by AAC/FS/ Gen Fac/WUBOR

Approved by: AAC on 3/18/2024

Faculty Senate on date

Attachments: **Yes X** No

New Program Proposal

Date Submitted: 02/14/24 10:55 am

Viewing: : Sustainability and Environmental Studies Certificate

Last edit: 03/19/24 9:04 am

Changes proposed by: Maria Stover (maria.stover)

Catalog Pages Using this Program [Sustainability and Environmental Studies, Certificate](#)

In Workflow

- 1. AA Committee
- 2. Faculty Senate
- 3. General Faculty
- 4. WUBOR
- 5. Final Acad Ops
- 6. Registrar

Approval Path

- 1. 03/19/24 9:04 am
Holly Broxterman
(holly.broxterman):
Approved for AA
Committee

General Information

Effective Catalog Edition	2024-2025
Department	College of Arts and Sciences
College	College of Arts and Sciences
Division	
Degree Level	Undergraduate
Program Title	Sustainability and Environmental Studies Certificate
Degree to be Offered	Certificate (CERT)
Is this program offered completely online?	No
Does this program lead to a teaching certification?	No
Program Code	
Is this program an interdisciplinary program?	No
CIP Code	303301 - Sustainability Studies.
Modality	

New Program Header

Statement of Justification/Rationale for Offering the Program	<p>This interdisciplinary certificate seeks to explore the scientific, social, political, cultural, and ethical relationship between humans and the environment. Through a combination of core courses and electives, this program enables students to integrate knowledge and methods from the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities to gain a holistic understanding of the environmental challenges of the 21st century. Students earning a certificate in Sustainability and Environmental Studies will be better equipped to address a host of complex issues confronting our species and our planet, including climate change, energy, pollution, waste, biodiversity loss, population growth, food production, environmental racism, and the moral standing of nonhuman animals and future generations. The knowledge and skills students build in this program will enable them to work more effectively toward sustainability and environmental justice in their personal and professional lives and communities.</p>
Program Demand	<p>The occupational outlook for careers related to sustainability and environmental studies is bright: (Data from O*Net, which is updated regularly and is developed under the sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration).</p>

Projected Enrollment for the Initial Three Years of the Program

Implementation

Year 2

Full-Time Headcount Per Year	-	Part-Time Headcount Per Year	-
Full-Time Sem Credit Hrs Per Year	-	Part-Time Sem Credit Hrs Per Year	-

Year 3

Full-Time Headcount Per Year	-	Part-Time Headcount Per Year	-
Full-Time Sem Credit Hrs Per Year	-	Part-Time Sem Credit Hrs Per Year	-

Employment

Employment Opportunity Information

Admission and Curriculum

Admission Criteria

Total Number of Semester Credit Hours for the Degree Curriculum

This certificate requires 9 credit hours of required courses. Students must have a grade of “C” or better in each course. A minimum of six hours used to meet the certificate requirements must be earned in residence at Washburn University. Students may request alternate coursework be accepted toward the minor. Students should make these requests prior to completing coursework.

Required Courses

BI 203	Human Impact on the Environment	3
CN 353	Environmental Communication	3
Select one course from the following options:		3
PH 300	General Topics in Philosophy (Section Name: Climate Change Ethics)	
PH 317	Ethics of Genetic Technologies	
PH 319	Midwestern Environmental Ethics	
Total Hours		9
Pathway		

Core Faculty

Faculty Workload Analysis

Faculty Workload Analysis (describe how the course offering schedule and anticipated enrollments correlate to faculty lines)

Supplemental Files Interdisciplinary Minor Division Vote.pdf

Reviewer Comments	<p>Holly Broxterman (holly.broxterman) (02/20/24 11:56 am): To streamline division voting process and to meet governance deadlines (unable to run parallel voting in CourseLeaf), Maria Stover coordinated the process via paper. Attached are the division voting results - all divisions have voted to approve.</p> <p>Holly Broxterman (holly.broxterman) (03/07/24 9:27 am): 3/7/2024 - Approved in CFCCC, CFC and 3/5/24 CAS Meeting via paper process. Approved by Dr. Erby to move to AAC queue for 3/18 AAC meeting.</p> <p>Holly Broxterman (holly.broxterman) (03/19/24 9:04 am): Approved in 3/18/24 Academic Affairs Committee Meeting.</p>
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