

- Sustainability minor

UMass Dartmouth is pleased to offer a minor in Sustainability. Sustainability is the ability of a community or socioeconomic system to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. In the Sustainability minor program, students will learn about the causes of unsustainable practices and explore solutions for creating more sustainable communities and businesses.

Overview of skills developed

Through interdisciplinary study, students will focus on the interaction of natural, economic, and social systems. Students will examine past and present philosophies and practices and consider sustainable, balanced, and ethical alternatives. Students will gain a sustainability knowledge base, including learning: the ability to identify unsustainable practices and to offer the latest science and technological solutions to reduce the impact of these practices; the capacity to affect policy implementation at the local, regional, national, and global levels; and a deeper understanding of the local and global challenges to sustainability from economic, environmental and social perspectives.

Curriculum outline

The Sustainability Minor is composed of courses that cut across all disciplines, meaning, most majors can benefit from adding a minor in Sustainability. As students develop knowledge and practical skills in sustainability, they will enhance their opportunities for employment in private businesses, public agencies, and nonprofit organizations. What's more, students can combine all or most of the requirements of the Sustainability minor with their University Studies, college, and major requirements. Courses cover the following three content areas: Sustainability in the Natural Sciences, Sustainability in the Arts, Thought, and Media, and Sustainability in Economy, Society, and Policy.

Course offerings include:

- Principles of Sustainability
- Ecology and Environmental Issues
- Energy Conversion
- Designing a Healthier Planet and its People
- Economics of Pollution
- Urban Economics
- Ocean Policy and Law
- Architecture and Sustainability in American Post-Industrial Cities
- Ecofeminism: Philosophy and Practice
- Population, Environment, and Culture

Top Jobs

- Environmental Scientists (median salary: \$62,920)
- Environmental Engineers (median salary: \$79,050)
- Wildlife Biologists (median salary: \$63,270)
- Lawyers (median salary: \$122,960)
- Civil Engineers (median salary: \$77,990)
- Community Health Advocates (median salary: \$46,910)
- Health and Safety Engineers (median salary: \$75,470)
- Conservation Scientists (median salary: \$67,040)
- Public Relations Specialists (median salary: \$61,150)

Internship sites

- Clean Energy Center
- Green Navigators
- City of New Bedford Office of Housing & Community Development
- Coalition for Social Justice
- NYC Department of Education
- Southeastern Environmental Education Alliance
- Aecom Environmental Group, Inc.
- National Marine Life Center
- Mass Audubon
- MassPirg
- Round the Bend Farm - Center for Restorative Community
- Dartmouth Natural Resource Trust
- Dartmouth YMCA Sharing The Harvest Community Farm
- Hope's Harvest - Food Recovery Project
- Farm Fresh of Rhode Island
- Habitat for Humanity
- Sunrise Movement
- New Bedford Resilience
- Whaling National Historical Park

Career placements

- MassDOT
- Harvard Bioscience
- GE Healthcare
- Engineers Without Borders USA
- Community Resources for Justice
- Suffolk County Sheriff's Department
- MassDEP
- Cambridge Associates
- Cape Cod Hospital
- WMC Consulting Engineers
- Environmental Field Tech, Pace Analytics Raleigh, NC
- Scott's MiracleGro Company

More info

- Study abroad
- Community engagement projects
- Field research on issues that matter to you
- Independent study on special topics
- Networking with professionals in the field