



**RIDER**  
UNIVERSITY

## **SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES PROGRAM**

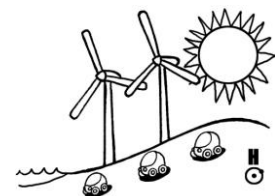
Environmental sustainability is clearly a defining issue of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Alarming patterns of environmental degradation have emerged since the beginning of the industrial revolution. Creating social, systematic, and commercial structures that reverse this trend by explicitly acknowledging and nurturing the interconnectedness of the natural and human environment is the main challenge facing Rider's graduates. Educators, entrepreneurs, chemists, journalists, psychologists and analysts will all need to understand the ways that our economic, natural and social systems work together to sustain the collective human enterprise.

Our program provides students with opportunities to get under the hood, exploring what "going green" really means. Coursework is application-intensive. The introductory course will expose you to a wide range of issues, from food to packaging, from natural lands preservation to building sustainable communities. Other coursework complements your exploration of these issues. We have a broad range of internship and independent study opportunities for interested students. The capstone course brings together a team of Sustainability Studies Minors to address a real problem on our campus, hopefully making significant changes along the way.

These experiences will give you a leg up in the marketplace, regardless of your major course of study. Calculating carbon footprints, familiarizing yourself with triple bottom line accounting, connecting social, environmental and economic systems will all serve you well in the coming century.

Choose a Sustainability Studies minor and study the major issues of our time.

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## **SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES MINOR**

Requirements for the Minor

(23-24 semester hours)

### **Foundation Courses (11 credits)<sup>1</sup>**

SUS 100	Introduction to Sustainability Studies (4 credits – course plus lab)
ENV 100	Introduction to Environmental Sciences (4 credits – course plus lab)
PHL 215	Environmental Ethics

### **Economics and Business (select one – 3 credits)**

CIS 411	Green Computing
ENT 444	Green Entrepreneurialism
GSC 115	Introduction to Global Supply Chain Management
ECO 335	Economics of the Public Sector <sup>2</sup>

### **Experiential Learning (Must earn a total of 3 credits)<sup>3</sup>**

SUS 490	Independent Research and Study (1-4 credits)
SUS 491	Internship in Sustainability (1-4 credits)

### **Disciplinary Explorations at 200 level or above (select one; 3-4 credits)**

AMS 304	Technology and Science in America
BHP 231	Natural Adventures: Journeys in American Ecology and History
BHP 232	Issues at the New Jersey Shoreline – Science and Politics
BHP 259	The Environment: A Conflict of Interest
BIO 350	General Ecology (4 credits)
ENG 218	Literature and the Environment
ENG 318	Food Writing
ENG 322	Workplace Writing: Grant Proposals, Fundraising and Development
ENV 200	Statistical and Computer Applications in the Natural Sciences (4 credits)
ENV 205	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
ENV 220	Weather and Climate Change
HIS 224	American Environmental History
POL 215	Global Politics
POL 328	Environmental Policy and Politics
POL 329	Comparative Environmental Policy
SOC 225	Population Study
SOC 340	Power & Politics
SOC 350	Social Policy & Industrial Society

Or other special topics courses, as initiated by departments and reviewed by a quorum of the program faculty.

### **Capstone Course (3 credits)**

SUS 400	Seminar in Sustainability Studies
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<sup>1</sup> These courses may satisfy general education requirements for most Rider University students. PHL 202 Social Philosophy or PHL 360 Contemporary Ethics may be substituted with permission of director.

<sup>2</sup>ECO 335 has a pre-requisite of ECO 201 and may only be appropriate for business majors.

<sup>3</sup>Students must earn 3 credits total from SUS 490, SUS 491, or a combination of these two courses. SUS 491 may only be taken twice.

## **COURSES OFFERED**

### **SUS 100 and 100L: Introduction to Sustainability Studies \***

**4 Credits**

Sustainability is an idea that will shape the lives of all in the 21st century. Students will explore how we arrived at our current precarious environmental situation and investigate cutting-edge methods that support human development and protect the natural ecosystems on which we all depend. By exploring principles of sustainability (whole-systems approaches, resource limitations, stewardship) through many different lenses, students will appreciate the interdisciplinarity of the sustainability enterprise.

*\* This course fulfills gen. education requirements for CLAS, CBA, CCS, SFPA, & some education students.*

### **SUS 490: Independent Research and Study**

**1-4 Credits**

Immerses the student in applying sustainability principles in a field setting. Students are expected to assess the outcomes of their projects and communicate their results verbally and in writing to interested audiences.

Prerequisite(s): SUS 100 and SUS 100L or as corequisite.

### **SUS 491: Internship in Sustainability**

**1-4 Credits**

A supervised work/service experience in an approved organization where students gain understanding and experience with applying sustainability principles. Placements may be in private, public, educational, non-profit or governmental organizations. Students are expected to include measurement and documentation of the environmental, social, and economic impact of their work. A minimum of 50 hours of work is required for one credit. At least 150 hours are required to earn 3 credits.

Prerequisite(s): SUS 100 and SUS 100L or as corequisite.

### **SUS-400: Sustainability Studies Seminar**

**3 Credits**

To synthesize sustainability studies coursework and internship experiences, students will collaboratively develop and implement a sustainability project on the Rider campus, aiming to simultaneously reduce both depletable resource use and environmental impact while improving social and economic capital. Seminar sessions will explore the historical development of current systems and innovative thinking related to sustainability planning related to the focal issue. Specific topic at discretion of the instructor.

Prerequisites: SUS-100 and SUS 300 as co- or pre-requisite or POI

## Sustainability Studies Program Faculty

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