

SUSTAINABLE ENTERPRISE MINOR

Banner Code: SSTE

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Sustainable enterprises are businesses that are financially prosperous and seek to benefit the environment and society. They measure success in terms of a "triple bottom line" that focuses on three "P"s:

- Prosperity - Business profitability/value
- Planet - Ecological integrity
- People - Social equity

Sustainable enterprises balance all three P's simultaneously, and view solutions to environmental and social problems as investments and business opportunities. Therefore, developing sustainable business strategies requires innovation and the identification of solutions that frequently "leapfrog" existing products, technologies, and best management practices.

The minor emphasizes the private sector as a critical player in helping to solve pressing environmental and social problems, while capitalizing on market mechanisms and competitive opportunities. Students who obtain the sustainable enterprise minor will obtain a business understanding of sustainability innovation, ethical foundations, and regulatory framework to pursue private sector triple bottom line strategies.

This is a Green Leaf program (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/student-services/green-leaf-programs-courses/>).

Admissions & Policies

Policies

Eight credits of coursework must be unique to the minor. For policies governing all minors, see AP5.3.4 Minors (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate-policies/#ap-5-3-4>).

For policies governing all undergraduate programs, see AP5 Undergraduate Policies (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate-policies/>).

Requirements

Minor Requirements

Total credits: 17-20

This is a Green Leaf program.

Students should refer to the Admissions & Policies tab for specific policies related to this program.

Students must successfully complete the following courses with a minimum GPA of 2.00.

Core Courses

Code	Title	Credits
EVPP 322	Business and Sustainability	3
EVPP 480	Sustainability in Action (Mason Core) (https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	4
Total Credits		7

Electives

Code	Title	Credits
Environmental Policy and Economics		
Select at least 3 credits from the following:		3
EVPP 361	Introduction to Environmental Policy	
EVPP 362	Intermediate Environmental Policy	
EVPP 432	Energy Policy	
EVPP 490	Special Topics in Environmental Science and Policy (if the topic is applicable-consult an advisor for guidance)	
ECON 335	Environmental Economics	
Business and Innovation ¹		
Select at least 3-4 credits from the following:		3-4
MBUS 300	Accounting in a Global Economy	
MBUS 305	Introduction to International Business (Mason Core) (https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
MBUS 306	Managing Projects and Operations	
PSYC 335	Psychology of Creativity and Innovation	
Social Responsibility and Ethics		
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
PHIL 305	Business Ethics	
PHIL 343	Topics in Environmental Philosophy (Mason Core) (https://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) (if the topic is applicable-consult an advisor for guidance)	
Total Credits		9-10

¹ School of Business students should consult with their advisors regarding MBUS coursework.

Internship

The plan of work for this internship must be approved by the undergraduate coordinator.

Students who are currently employed may request that the internship requirement be waived on the basis of their job experience. Instead of the internship, these students will be required to complete a 3-credit independent study with the minor's director or another faculty member. This alternative will entail independent research by applying sustainable enterprise principles and practices in an analysis of the student's work place, and will culminate in a final project.

Code	Title	Credits
EVPP 395	Undergraduate Research in Environmental Science and Policy	1-3
or EVPP 494	Internship	
Total Credits		1-3