

degree programs

Bachelor of Arts (BA)
Bachelor of Science (BS)

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
Master of Arts (MA)
Master of Science (MS)
Master of Sustainable Solutions (MSUS)
Executive Master's in Sustainability Leadership (EMSL)



School of Sustainability

Arizona State University
Wrigley Hall | 800 S. Cady Mall
PO Box 875502 | Tempe, AZ 85287-5502

schoolofsustainability.asu.edu | sustainability.asu.edu

apply online
click here

dean's welcome



Welcome to Arizona State University and the nation's first School of Sustainability where faculty, staff, and students are embarking upon one of the boldest, most comprehensive approaches to sustainability attempted at any university. *We are engaged in a global-survival experiment, in a time when sustainable solutions must be envisioned and implemented.*

Complex Problems

Sustainability reframes the debate about how humans relate to the environment. It is a critical conversation to ensure the quality of life for future generations. Can our planet's life-support systems – our air, water, land, plants, and animals – continue to support us indefinitely, or are we changing the world in radical ways that will lead to new, undesirable states for people and the planet?

In the past, the conversation has sometimes been polarizing – either development or the environment. Now the debate about is how humankind can transform its economic growth system into a sustainable approach that does not threaten Earth's life-supporting systems. The grand challenge of sustainability is to simultaneously maintain or improve our ecological integrity, human well-being, and social justice for present and future generations.

Integrated Solutions

Sustainability uses an integrated, interdisciplinary approach to understand interactions between people and the environment. That means bringing together people with diverse expertise – scientists, scholars, and practitioners – to get a broad, holistic perspective.

This system-wide approach is fundamental for designing effective solutions to sustainability challenges. With this in mind, the School of Sustainability emphasizes experiential learning, research with faculty, corporate and K-12 work, community service, and leadership development.

The knowledge and solutions that are created today will shape the quality of life for present and future generations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Boone". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chris" and the last name "Boone" clearly distinguishable.

Christopher Boone
Dean, School of Sustainability

areas of study



Business Practices and Economics

Find ways for business to improve people's lives while benefitting or reducing damage to the environment. Learn how to assign monetary values to precious resources like biodiversity and clean air.



Climate Change and Adaptation

Understand and address the challenges that people face due to climate change. Develop ways to thrive despite long-term drought, crop failures, rising sea levels and the urban heat island.



Ecosystem Alteration and Biodiversity

Learn how human actions and decisions affect ecosystems, understand the services that ecosystems provide to us, and find ways to balance resource use with conservation.



Energy, Materials and Technology

Examine how energy solutions can take advantage of abundant resources like sunlight and curb negative impacts. Explore the promise of renewable energy technologies and materials for tomorrow.



Food Systems

Learn to feed the world in a sustainable way. Examine food systems that provide suitable nutrition, while also providing wildlife habitat, ecosystem services and a sense of community.



Future Scenarios and Systems Thinking

Understand the interconnected systems of sustainability—social, political, economic and environmental. Learn about path dependency, theories of social change and the limits of prediction.



International Development

Find creative ways to address global sustainable development issues like access to clean air and water, sanitation, health care, food, livelihoods and education.



Policy and Governance

Gain a better understanding of public policy, decision-making, and learn how international, national, state and local policies affect sustainability.



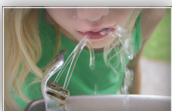
Social and Behavioral Change, Ethics

Investigate the connection between people and the environment. Explore how we can sustainably use our resources without creating social injustice or environmental destruction.



Urbanization

Understand how rapid urbanization can impact natural systems, human livelihoods and infrastructure. Learn how cities can accommodate increasing populations and grow sustainably.



Water Quality, Use, and Supply

Use the urban desert of Phoenix as a laboratory. Learn about water policy, decision-making and water management strategies in the Southwest and beyond.

application and scholarship deadlines

Undergraduate Programs

Freshman and transfer applications are accepted year-round, but it's best to try and meet the following deadlines for financial aid and scholarship consideration.

VIP Admission Deadline	November 1, 2013
Priority Application and General Scholarship Deadline (for Fall 2014)	February 1, 2014
Financial Aid (FAFSA) Deadline	March 1, 2014
Freshman Enrollment Deposit Deadline	May 1, 2014

Graduate Programs

Complete applications must be submitted by the deadline indicated – late applications are not accepted.

MSUS Application Deadline (for Spring 2014)	October 31, 2013
EMSL Application Deadline (for Spring 2014)	November 15, 2013
MSUS, MA, MS, PhD Application Deadline (for Fall 2014)	December 15, 2013
Financial Aid (FAFSA) Deadline	March 1, 2014

academic calendar

Requirements vary for freshmen, transfer students, re-enrolling students, and international students. Deadlines may differ for each academic session (e.g., shorter 7 1/2 week sessions) and for certain programs (e.g., the EMSL). Please contact the School of Sustainability's advising office if you have any questions.

Fall 2013 Courses

Registration Begins	February 28, 2013
Tuition Fee Deadline	August 13, 2013
Classes	August 22 – December 6, 2013
Final Exams	December 9 – 14, 2013

Spring 2014 Courses

Registration Begins	October 21, 2013
Tuition Fee Deadline	TBD
Classes	January 13 – May 2, 2014
Final Exams	May 5 – 10, 2014

Summer 2014 Courses

Registration Begins	February 12, 2014
Tuition Fee Deadline	TBD
Classes	May 19 – July 11, 2014

School of Sustainability Academic Advising Center
Wrigley Hall (WGHL), Suite 108
schoolofsustainability@asu.edu
(480) 727-6963

internships

School of Sustainability students are encouraged to pursue at least one approved internship during their academic career.

What is an Internship?

An internship is a planned learning experience that allows students to take the knowledge and skills learned in the classroom and apply them in a professional work setting. Internships offer students the opportunity to learn from professionals and explore potential career options.

Objectives of the Internship Program

At the School of Sustainability, internships for credit are combined with academic coursework that encourages critical reflection on the internship experience. The School of Sustainability screens each internship carefully to monitor for a rich experience that directly focuses on an area of sustainability. Internships are intended to:

- Enhance academic learning in a professional environment.
- Build communication, teamwork, and leadership skills necessary for a successful career in sustainability.
- Provide networking opportunities with industry professionals.
- Assist students in determining a post-graduation career path.

Sada Gilbert, Internship Coordinator
sada.gilbert@asu.edu
(480) 727-6963



study abroad

Sustainability is a global issue. Experiencing it in another culture not only breaks physical borders, it also expands intellect and understanding. The ASU Study Abroad Office administers more than 300 study abroad programs in over 60 countries around the world. Sustainability-related study abroad programs may include:

Australia: Human Dimensions of Sustainability

Explore human dimensions of sustainability—past, present and future.

Ecuador: Diversity and Sustainability in the Andes

Study issues of sustainable development in a socially and physically diverse environment.

Guatemala: Sustainable Communities, Tourism, and Development

Learn about Guatemalan culture, tourism, and sustainable development.

Hong Kong: Sustainability Challenges and Solutions in Hong Kong and Southern China

Examine solutions to sustainability challenges in urban Hong Kong and rural Southern China.

London, U.K. and Washington D.C.: Comparing Sustainability across Cultures and Governments

Explore the different ways that Europe and the U.S. have handled sustainability issues.

Netherlands and Germany: Sustainable Solutions in Urban Mobility

Examine solutions to urban mobility issues in four European cities.

Spain and Morocco: Energy, Sustainability, and Development across the Mediterranean

Study Desertec, a complex cross-continental social, engineering, and environmental experiment.

Thailand: Urban Sustainability and Planning

Address key sustainability and urban planning issues facing Thailand.

United Arab Emirates: Sustainability, Tourism, and Culture in Dubai

Explore recent efforts to infuse Dubai's monumental ambitions with sustainability.



careers in sustainability

Students who graduate from Arizona State University's School of Sustainability are the future leaders in the struggle to achieve sustainability in the face of challenging environmental, economic, and societal needs. Our undergraduate and graduate alumni have worked for a variety of companies, including:

Government

Energy and Environmental Analyst, Argonne National Laboratory

Senior Sustainability Policy Adviser, City of Phoenix

Project Manager, Gila River Indian Community

Sustainability and Energy Efficiency Specialist, Mendocino County Community Development Commission

Fish Biologist, National Marine Fisheries Service

Community Urban Forest Coordinator, Portland Bureau of Environmental Services

Education

Project Lead, ASU Sustainability Solutions Extension Service

Assistant Director, Furman University, Shi Center for Sustainability

Assistant Professor, Illinois State University

Adjunct Faculty, Mesa Community College

Program Coordinator, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension

Recycling and Waste

Hazardous Waste Compliance Officer, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Healthcare Sustainability Specialist, Stericycle

Program Manager for Healthcare Solutions Sustainability, Waste Management

Total Recycling Program Manager, Waste Management

Nonprofits and NGOs

Ecology Explorer, Environment Arizona

Development Coordinator, Sustainable Seattle

Lead Night Camp Instructor, The Phoenix Zoo

Business and Industry

Sustainability Consultant, Alpin Limited

Environmental Compliance Coordinator, American Tower

Marketing Coordinator, Dixie Chemical Company Inc.

Member Services Coordinator, Sustainable Apparel Coalition

Sustainability Consultant, U-Haul International

Sustainability Coordinator, VF Sportswear

Senior Manager for Sustainability, Walmart

Energy and Environmental Design

Greenhouse Gas Engineer, Abeinsa EPC

Performance Engineer, First Solar

Field Operator, Heliae Development LLC

Associate, Partners for Economic Solutions

Home Performance Analyst, REEis Inc.

Solar Incentive Program Administrator, Salt River Project

Project Manager, Solar Alternatives

Solar Consultant, Solar City

Food and Farming

Sustainability Consultant, Atlasta Catering

Project Coordinator, EcoScraps

Manager of Research and Development, Green Harvest Group

Development Assistant, La Semilla Food Center

Grants and Partnerships Assistant, REAL School Gardens

Finance

Operations Analyst, Goldman Sachs

Analyst, OSF Merchant Banking