

STUDY THE FACTS

Fast-Track Program for Adults: Bachelor of Professional Studies (BPS) degree Major in Sustainability Studies

EVELYN T. STONE COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Roosevelt University's Sustainability Studies Program offers the first sustainability-themed bachelor's degree in the Chicago area. Students graduating with a Bachelor of Professional Studies degree with a major in Sustainability Studies will have an interdisciplinary understanding of the varied dimensions of sustainability, both from a local and global perspective. They will be fluent in articulating how sustainability issues relate to matters of the environment, the economy and social equity; and demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking, reading, writing and research skills.

About the Program

The Bachelor of Professional Studies degree with a major in Sustainability Studies is designed to combine a deep knowledge of the pressing environmental issues of the 21st century with the benefits of a fast-track general education curriculum geared for adults.

The program's goals include:

- Engaging students in the critical public policy debates surrounding consumption, energy usage and viable economic growth;
- Fostering students' environmental literacy using rigorous, scholarly based research in the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities; and
- Exploring social justice issues on a range of fronts, including environmental justice, resource allocation, urban development and social equity.

Each Sustainability Studies course is by design interdisciplinary. It combines the best of the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences to bring each of these methods to bear on sustainability questions.

Degree Requirements

The Bachelor of Professional Studies is a time-shortened, fast-track degree designed for working adults aged 24 years or older. Students can take a mix of on-campus and online classes to fulfill requirements.

Core Courses

- SUST 210 Sustainable Future (3)
- SUST 220 Water (3)
- SUST 230 Food (3)
- SUST 240 Waste (3)
- SUST 310 Energy and Climate Change (3)
- SUST 320 Sprawl, Transportation and Planning (3)
- SUST 330 Biodiversity (3)
- Six semester hours of relevant electives
Plus one of the following courses:
- SUST 340 Policy, Law and Ethics (3)
- SUST 350 Service-Learning (3)
- SUST 390 Special Topics (3)

Functional Area

18 semester hours (which may form a minor) in one concentrated area of study

Other Requirements

- University Writing Requirement
- BPS degree requirements: See "Fast-Track for Adults" Fact Sheet.

Double Major and Minor in Sustainability Studies

Students can combine the following College of Professional Studies majors with Sustainability Studies for a double major: Commerce and Enterprise, Criminal Justice, Hospitality and Tourism Management, Organizational Leadership and Paralegal Studies.

Or, students can choose to complement their major in another field with a minor in sustainability studies. The minor requires SUST 210: Sustainable Future plus five additional SUST courses. They can be taken on campus and online.

Career Opportunities

Students can earn credit while contributing to community organizations in meaningful ways. The Chicago region has numerous organizations engaged in sustainability, providing opportunities for students to begin their sustainability careers.

Graduates with training in sustainability and other environmental areas are well prepared for careers in a host of fields in natural science, social science, humanities, business and more. Sustainability is an issue that will grow in importance in the coming decades, and all sectors of the economy will continue to seek employees, professionals and leaders who are conversant in its many aspects and implications. A study by the Pew Charitable Trust released in June 2009 said that there are already 770,000 “green” jobs in the economy. A U.S. Conference of Mayors report from October 2008 estimated that rapid growth in “green jobs” could make it “the fastest growing segment of the U.S. economy over the next several decades.”

Faculty

The Sustainability Studies program is built around a core of full-time faculty members with a wide variety of interests and talents:

Michael A. Bryson, Associate Professor of Humanities
PhD, English, State University of New York at Stony Brook
Author of *Visions of the Land: Science, Literature, and the American Environment from the Era of Exploration to the Age of Ecology* (University of Virginia Press, 2002)

Gregory A. Buckley, Associate Professor of Natural Science
PhD, Geology, Rutgers University
Paleontologist and expert on fossil crocodiles in Madagascar

Maris Cooke, Adjunct Instructor
MA, History, University of Illinois at Chicago
Awarded Service-Learning Grant for Urban Farming at Cabrini-Green in Chicago

D. Bradford Hunt, Associate Professor of Social Science
PhD, History, University of California, Berkeley
Author of *Blueprint for Disaster: The Unraveling of Chicago Public Housing* (University of Chicago Press, 2009)

Julian Kerbis Peterhans, Professor of Natural Science and Adjunct Curator, Field Museum of Natural History
PhD, Anthropology, University of Chicago
Expert on biodiversity of mammals in Africa and author of *Small Mammals of Uganda* (Bonner Zoologische, 2009)

Carl Zimring, Assistant Professor of Social Science
PhD, History, Carnegie Mellon University
Author of *Cash for Your Trash: Scrap Recycling in America* (Rutgers University Press, 2005)

Full-Time Academic Advisors are available to answer your questions about the Sustainability Studies Program:

Michele Mika, Advisor/Recruiter
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