

SUSTAINABILITY MAJOR (B.S.)

Sustainability has become a defining force shaping markets, organizations, and the global economy. The Sustainability Major prepares students to understand the scientific foundations of sustainability and to apply that understanding in business and organizational contexts. As environmental change, resource constraints, and regulatory pressures increasingly influence decision making, leaders across all sectors must be able to interpret scientific evidence and consider its implications for strategy and performance.

Grounded in the science of sustainability, the major develops students' fluency in environmental data, systems thinking, and the interactions between human and natural systems. Students learn to critically evaluate sustainability claims, distinguish meaningful action from greenwashing, and analyze tradeoffs across environmental, social, and economic dimensions. By combining scientific insight with applied analysis, the Sustainability Major equips students to contribute informed perspectives to business decisions and to engage thoughtfully with the sustainability challenges shaping the future of organizations. Sustainability is not a passing trend, but an essential lens for understanding risk, opportunity, and long-term success.

For further information about degree requirement policies and guidelines, see the Degree Requirements (catalog.bentley.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/) page.

Major Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Required Courses:		
NAS 201	Science of Sustainability	3
NAS 202	Life on Earth: Biodiversity and Climate	3
NAS 203	Food, Energy, and Water	3
Capstone Experience:		3
NAS 414	Sustainability Capstone Seminar	
or NAS 405	Research in Natural and Applied Sciences	
or NAS 420	Internship in Natural and Applied Sciences	
Choose one of the following:		3
EC 346	Environmental Economics	
or LA 102	Environmental Law	
Select two science electives; one must be a field course:		6
NAS 318	Global Health Challenges	
NAS 320	Bugs in the System ¹	
NAS 330	Space Resource Exploration	
NAS 335	Energy Analytics	
NAS 336	Water and the Environment ¹	
NAS 338	Water Quality	
NAS 340	Oceanography	
NAS 344	Energy Alternatives	
NAS 346	Wind Energy	
NAS 348	Global Climate Change	
NAS 349	Plastics - Pollution and Possibilities	
NAS 350	Industrial Ecology	
NAS 352	Science of Environmental Policy	

NAS 354	Sustainable Food Systems	
NAS 444	Bentley Global Experience ¹	
Select one society elective:		3
EMS 336	Creative Writing: Climate Fiction	
EMS 343	American Landscapes	
GLS 101	Globalization	
GLS 228	Science, Technology & Society	
GLS 243	The Developing World	
GLS 330	Politics of Risk	
HI 355	American Environmental History	
PH 138	Environmental Ethics	
PSY 350	Environmental Psychology	
Select one of the following electives not otherwise used:		3
AC 225	Environmental, Social, and Governance Issues in Financial Reporting	
EC 346	Environmental Economics	
FI 316	Sustainable, Responsible, and Impact (SRI) Investing	
LA 102	Environmental Law	
MG 215	Supply Chain and Operations Fundamentals	
MG 345	Organizations, Society and Responsible Management	
Total Credits		27

¹ Field course.

General Degree Requirements Foundations for Success (15 Credits)

Course	Title	Credits
FDS 100	Falcon Discovery Seminar	3
Communications and Writing		
Select one from:		
EMS 101	Critical Reading and Writing	3
or EMS 101L	Critical Reading and Writing with Lab	
or EMS 102	Critical Reading and Writing for Multilingual Students	
or EMS 102L	Critical Reading and Writing for Multilingual Students with Lab	
And one from:		
EMS 104	Multimodal Communication	3
or EMS 105	Multimodal Communication for Multilingual Students	
Information Technology		
CS 100	Solving Business Problems with Information Technology	3
Mathematical Sciences		
Select one from:		
MA 105	Mathematical Foundations for Business	3
or MA 105L	Mathematical Foundations for Business with Lab	
or MA 105P	Mathematical Foundations for Business with Prep	
or MA 107	Applied Calculus for Business	
or MA 107L	Applied Calculus for Business with Lab	
or MA 131	Calculus I	

or MA 131L Calculus I with Lab

Total Credits 15**Total: 120 Credits****Context and Perspectives (18 Credits)**

Course	Title	Credits
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Students must take six courses, one in each category of Context and Perspectives:

Culture, Change, and Behavior (catalog.bentley.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/context-and-perspectives/#culturechangeandbehavior)		
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Globalization (catalog.bentley.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/context-and-perspectives/#globalization)		
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Institutions and Power (catalog.bentley.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/context-and-perspectives/#institutionsandpower)		
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Race, Gender, and Inequality (catalog.bentley.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/context-and-perspectives/#racegenderandinequality)		
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Scientific Inquiry (catalog.bentley.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/context-and-perspectives/#scientificinquiry)		
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Values, Ethics, and Society (catalog.bentley.edu/undergraduate/degree-requirements/context-and-perspectives/#valuesethicsandsociety)		
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Total Credits 18**Business Dynamics/Business Administration Minor (18 Credits)**

Course	Title	Credits
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All courses are required:

AC 115	Introduction to Financial Reporting and Analysis	3
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EC 111	Principles of Microeconomics	3
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FI 118	Introduction to Finance	3
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LA 100	Business Law	3
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MG 116	Human Dynamics in Organizations	3
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ST 113	Business Statistics	3
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Total Credits 18**Communication Intensive**

All students are required to take a three-credit course designated as a Communication Intensive. This requirement can be met within a variety of course subjects in both Arts & Sciences and Business. Communication Intensive courses are designated with a "Communication Intensive" course tag in Workday. *Transfer students with a minimum of 30 credits will be waived from the Communication Intensive requirement.*

Please note that certain majors have an additional three-credit Communication Intensive built into their major requirements, separate from the general CI requirement.

Additional Requirements**Unrestricted Electives (42 Credits)**

Course	Title	Credits
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Select forty-two elective credits		42
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Total Credits 42