

Default Question Block

Sustainability Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices

Everyone who completes this survey will be entered into a **drawing to win one of six \$25 gift cards (your choice: Amazon, REI or Farmers on the Square)**. Your responses will help us to understand students' engagement in sustainability programs at Dickinson and will be used to evaluate and improve our programs.

All responses will be confidential. Your identity will not be provided to staff who analyze the data and your identity will not be included in any publicly available survey database or report.

The survey includes questions about sustainability-related knowledge, attitudes and practices. Some or many of the knowledge questions may be unfamiliar to you. Answer each as best you can. Your responses will help us measure and compare the knowledge of different class years and identify possible gaps in our programs. At the end of the survey you will be taken to a webpage with answers to the knowledge questions and links to additional sources of information.

Participating in the survey is voluntary and you must be at least 18 years old to participate. The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

Thank you for participating!

Click the arrow below to begin the survey.

Attitudes

Which of the issues listed below do you associate with creating a sustainable society? Check all that apply.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strengthening the economy | <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing income inequality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advancing innovative technologies | <input type="checkbox"/> Ending discrimination |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Investing in infrastructure | <input type="checkbox"/> Improving access to healthcare, nutritious foods and good housing. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Protecting the environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Decreasing crime |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conserving resources for future generations | <input type="checkbox"/> Keeping taxes low |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing consumption and waste | <input type="checkbox"/> Limiting government |

What other issues do you associate with creating a sustainable society?

Knowledge

Select the best answer.

The United Nations definition of sustainable development calls for:

- Maintaining current incomes and quality of life forever.
- Increasing consumption at a constant rate.
- Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
- Setting aside resources for preservation, never to be used.

A systems-thinking approach to understanding sustainability problems emphasizes:

- Examining interactions and feedback loops within and between systems.
- Using information systematically to evaluate problems and potential solutions.
- Using mathematical computer models to simulate the behavior of systems.
- Identifying components of a system and examining how each component functions in isolation.

Many economists argue that electricity prices in the U.S. are too low because:

- The prices do not reflect costs of pollution from generating electricity.
- Profits of electric utilities are too low.
- Higher electricity prices would stimulate economic growth.
- Low electricity prices make the U.S. less competitive in international markets.

Engagement

Have you engaged in any of the following activities as part of your academic courses within the past year?
Check all that apply.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used a campus resource (e.g. a "green" building, the college farm or campus recycling program) to learn about sustainability. | <input type="checkbox"/> Examined civic responsibilities, ethical questions or personal values in relation to sustainability. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interacted with residents of Carlisle or other off-campus community to learn about community issues. | <input type="checkbox"/> Examined sustainability perspectives, approaches or issues in a non-U.S. context. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Went on a field trip to learn about local resources. | <input type="checkbox"/> Created an artistic work to explore or communicate sustainability concepts. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conducted experiments in a lab to examine sustainability-related concepts. | <input type="checkbox"/> Gave a presentation on a sustainability-related topic. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Applied sustainability concepts to evaluate a behavior, product, process, community, business or system. | <input type="checkbox"/> Worked on a group project with a sustainability-related topic. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Developed a solution to a sustainability problem on campus, in Carlisle or in another community. | <input type="checkbox"/> Conducted a substantial research project on a sustainability-related topic. |

Have you engaged in any of the following activities within the past year that were not part of your academic coursework? Check all that apply.

Made conscious efforts to create an inclusive and welcoming

Advocated for action by elected or other public officials on a

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> campus community. | <input type="checkbox"/> sustainability-related issue. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Taken steps to reduce your energy use, water use or consumption of other resources. | <input type="checkbox"/> Been an active member of a Dickinson organization that works on sustainability-related issues. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Participated in a workshop that gave you hands-on experience with sustainability-related skills. | <input type="checkbox"/> Been an active member of an off-campus organization that works on sustainability-related issues. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Informed yourself about a sustainability-related issue of importance to you. | <input type="checkbox"/> Worked monthly or more frequently on sustainability-related issues as a volunteer or paid worker. |

Knowledge

Select the best answer.

How has the percentage of the world's population living in extreme poverty, defined as living on \$1.90 or less per day, changed in the last 30 years?

- Increased substantially
- Increased slightly
- Decreased slightly
- Decreased substantially

How has the income gap between the richest and poorest households in the United States changed over the last 30 years?

- Increased
- Decreased
- Neither increased or decreased.
- Changed volatily from year to year.

How has air quality changed on average in the United States since 1990?

- Improved substantially
- Remained stable
- Degraded slightly
- Degraded substantially

Practices

How often do you practice the following behaviors?

	Always or almost always	Often	Occasionally	Never or almost never

	Always or almost always	Often	Occasionally	Never or almost never
Walk, bike or skateboard to get around Carlisle.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Buy bottled water.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Take care of belongings so they last a long time.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Turn off lights, computers and other electronics when not in use.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Recycle	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Eat meals with little or no meat.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Consider environmental, social justice or economic impacts when buying products.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Attend public lectures and events that have sustainability themes.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Engage in outdoor activities to experience nature.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Encourage others to live sustainably.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Attitudes

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I take pride in Dickinson's commitment to sustainability.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dickinson's sustainability efforts have enriched my education and college experience.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Too much emphasis is given to sustainability at Dickinson.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sustainability was an important factor in my decision to come to Dickinson.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Knowledge

Select the best answer.

What does the precautionary principle call for when an activity has the potential to cause unacceptable harm, but the harm is uncertain?

- Proceed but notify people who may be harmed.
- Proceed but purchase insurance that would pay potential victims.

- Take actions to avoid or reduce the potential harm.
- Prohibit the activity.

A life-cycle analysis of a product assesses the:

- Accumulation of toxins from the product in at-risk species at different life stages.
- Environmental impacts of the production, transport, use and disposal of the product.
- Probability that the product will harm human life.
- Time it takes for the product to decompose.

Stormwater runoff from Dickinson's campus can carry pollutants into which water bodies as water flows through the watershed?

- Letort Spring Run, Conodoguinet Creek, Delaware River and Delaware Bay.
- Letort Spring Run, Conodoguinet Creek, Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Bay.
- Yellow Breeches Creek, Ohio River, Mississippi River and Gulf of Mexico.
- Yellow Breeches Creek, Conodoguinet Creek, Ohio River and the Great Lakes.

Attitudes

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Humans are seriously abusing the environment.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If things continue on their present course, we will soon experience major ecological crises.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environmental regulations have gone too far.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The U.S. should take strong and prompt action to combat climate change.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Technological innovations can generate economic benefits and advance sustainability goals.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Economic growth is not limited by finite natural resources.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
More should be done to support strong and sustainable local economies.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced substantially without causing harm to the U.S. economy.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Actions are needed to end injustices that arise from bias and discrimination.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
It is not the responsibility of governments to help people rise out of poverty.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The rights of future generations must be given significant weight in present day decisions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The U.S. should aid poor countries that are negatively impacted by climate change.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Attitudes

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Since coming to Dickinson I have . . .

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Become more sustainable in my personal lifestyle.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gained knowledge and skills related to sustainability that I can apply in my future professional work.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Become more motivated to promote sustainability in the communities of which I am a member.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gained confidence in my abilities to create positive change in the world.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Knowledge

Select the best answer.

How have the costs of electricity generated with renewable solar energy changed in recent years?

- Increased substantially
- Increased slightly
- Decreased slightly
- Decreased substantially

The greenhouse effect warms the Earth's climate because greenhouse gases:

- Cause chemical reactions in the atmosphere that generate heat.
- Absorb heat that is radiated from the Earth's surface.
- Absorb visible solar radiation from the Sun.
- Reflect visible solar radiation from the Sun.

If warming of the Earth's climate is to be held below 2°C, the world's annual emissions of carbon dioxide must be:

- Limited to grow by only a very small percentage each year through 2100.
- Held constant at the present level through 2100.
- Reduced 20 percent from the present level by 2100.
- Reduced 80 percent or more from the present level by 2100.

How might Dickinson improve its sustainability efforts with respect to campus operations, community engagement, co-curricular programs, academic programs or research?

Do you want to be included in the prize drawing for gift cards? Note: only those who respond "yes" will be entered in the prize drawing.

- Yes
- No