

Sustainability in the Curriculum Survey

Thank you for taking part in this survey. The survey aims to examine Iowa State University students' perspectives on sustainability and their experiences with sustainability in their academic coursework at Iowa State. The survey should take about 5-10 minutes to complete. When you complete the survey, you will have the opportunity to enter a drawing for an iPad mini.

Your participation in this survey is entirely voluntary. You may refuse to participate or quit the survey at any time with no penalty to you, and you may also skip any questions that make you feel uncomfortable or do not wish to answer. Your answers to the survey will be anonymous, and the researchers will not have access to your name or other identifying information.

Introduction

Sustainability is often defined as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

Sustainability is commonly considered to be composed of three interrelated dimensions: social sustainability, economic sustainability, and environmental sustainability. As you complete the survey, feel free to draw from these definitions of sustainability to help guide your answers.

Perspectives on sustainability in general

1. The following are dimensions of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Please indicate how important you feel each item is to achieving a more sustainable future for all.

	<u>Not important at all</u>	<u>Slightly important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Important</u>	<u>Very important</u>
a. End all poverty in all its forms					
b. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture					
c. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being					
d. Ensure inclusive and equitable education					
e. Achieve gender equality and empower women and girls					
f. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation					
g. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy					
h. Promote sustainable economic activity and decent work					
i. Build resilient infrastructure					

j. Reduce inequality within and among countries					
k. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable					
l. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns					
m. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts					
n. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources					
o. Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and halt biodiversity loss					
p. Promote sustainable technology and foster innovation					

2. The following are some general statements about sustainability. Please indicate the extent that you agree or disagree with the statements.

	<u>Strongly disagree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>Uncertain</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Strongly agree</u>
a. I fully understand the meaning of the term sustainability					
b. I know how to determine whether a product or practice is sustainable					
c. Sustainability factors into my everyday decisions about how I live my life					
d. I often think about how to make certain products, practices, or processes more sustainable					
e. I am concerned that society is not on a sustainable path					
f. I am concerned about how climate change will affect my well-being in the future					
g. I am concerned about how climate change will affect the well-being of future generations					

Perspectives on sustainability at Iowa State

In this section of the survey, please reflect on your expectations about sustainability at Iowa State.

3. To what extent that you agree or disagree with the statements.

	<u>Strongly disagree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>Uncertain</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Strongly agree</u>
a. I would like ISU to place more emphasis on teaching about sustainability					
b. I am interested in learning more about how to apply sustainability to my field of study					
c. Sustainability-related knowledge and skills will be beneficial to my personal life					
d. Sustainability-related knowledge and skills will be beneficial to my intended career path					
e. I believe potential employers are interested in hiring students with sustainability-related knowledge and skills					
f. I would consider how sustainable a company's operations are when deciding where I want to work					
g. Regardless of their field of study, everyone should learn about sustainability					
h. Sustainability should be actively incorporated into all ISU courses					
i. Sustainability is something all ISU departments/colleges should actively incorporate and promote					
j. There should be required sustainability credit for all students					
k. ISU should have more majors related to sustainability					
l. Public universities should be leaders in sustainability					
m. Iowa State should do more to engage students in sustainability decision-making					

4. The following are coursework areas in which ISU could integrate sustainability themes. Thinking about the curriculum at ISU, where would you like to see sustainability decision-making themes integrated? Sustainability themes should be integrated into...

	<u>Strongly disagree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>Uncertain</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Strongly agree</u>
a. Courses for my major(s)					
b. Courses required for a minor					
c. Courses required by my college or ISU (outside of major and minor courses)					
d. Courses used to fulfill elective requirements					

Experiences with sustainability at Iowa State

5. The following sections asks you to reflect on your actual experiences with sustainability at Iowa State. Reflecting on your ISU coursework and experience with other ISU activities, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	<u>Strongly disagree</u>	<u>Disagree</u>	<u>Uncertain</u>	<u>Agree</u>	<u>Strongly agree</u>
a. I am well informed about my options to enroll or participate in sustainability courses, minors, majors, and other educational offerings at ISU					
b. I am aware of sustainability-related programs, organizations, and other on-campus learning opportunities outside of coursework					
c. I actively seek sustainability-related courses when enrolling in classes					
d. In my courses, I have learned how I can make lifestyle changes to be more sustainable					
e. I feel sustainability themes have been integrated into courses I have taken to meet university and college requirements					
f. In my courses I have learned how sustainability applies to my field of work					
g. The courses offered at ISU have adequately addressed my interest in sustainability					
h. If I had more room in my course schedule, I would take/have taken more courses focused on sustainability					
i. I have learned about major sustainability challenges such as climate change in my courses					
j. I have had the opportunity to learn about sustainability through project-based or experiential learning					

k. My courses have taught me problem-solving skills that I can apply to sustainability issues					
l. My courses have empowered me to make the world a better place					
m. My overall experiences at ISU have prepared me to address challenges in sustainability after graduating					
n. I am satisfied with the sustainability-related skills and knowledge I have gained through my coursework					
o. I am involved with sustainability-related activities, such as student organizations, outside my coursework					
p. I supplement my coursework with my own research about topics in sustainability					
q. Iowa State prioritizes sustainability education for its students					
r. Iowa State is committed to sustainability					
s. I feel that Iowa State adequately involves students in sustainability decision-making					
t. I view Iowa State as a leader in sustainability					
u. My experiences at ISU have changed the way I think about sustainability					

6. How many sustainability-related courses would be the ideal number to take as part of your undergraduate studies?

<u>None</u>	<u>One</u>	<u>Two</u>	<u>Three</u>	<u>Four</u>	<u>Five+</u>

7. How many sustainability-related courses have you taken throughout your undergraduate studies?

<u>None</u>	<u>One</u>	<u>Two</u>	<u>Three</u>	<u>Four</u>	<u>Five+</u>

8. How many sustainability-related organizations have you participated in while at ISU?

<u>None</u>	<u>One</u>	<u>Two</u>	<u>Three</u>	<u>Four</u>	<u>Five+</u>

9. How often do you participate in sustainability related activities or organizations at ISU?

<u>Never</u>	<u>Once or twice each semester</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Daily</u>

10. How often would you like to participate in sustainability related activities or organizations?

<u>Never</u>	<u>Once or twice each semester</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Daily</u>

11. How often do you participate in activities or organizations at ISU that are NOT sustainability related?

<u>Never</u>	<u>Once or twice each semester</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Daily</u>

12. What is your class standing? (n=1,117)

<u>Freshman</u>	<u>Sophomore</u>	<u>Junior</u>	<u>Senior</u>

13. What college(s) are you in at ISU?

- College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- College of Design
- College of Engineering
- College of Human Sciences
- College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- College of Veterinary Medicine
- Graduate College
- Ivy College of Business

14. What is your major(s)? (

15. What is your minor(s)?

16. What is your gender?

Male	
Female	
Non-binary or gender fluid	
Prefer to self-describe	
Prefer no to respond	

Please specify

17. With which race and ethnicity do you identify?

American Indian or Alaskan Native	
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Asian	
Black or African American	
Hispanic or Latino	
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	
White	
Prefer no to respond	

18. What is your political orientation?

<u>Very liberal</u>	<u>Liberal</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Conservative</u>	<u>Very conservative</u>

Thank you for completing the survey.