

Default Question Block

What is your primary American University affiliation?

- Student
- Staff
- Faculty

Which of the following is the most commonly used definition of **sustainable development**?

- Creating a government welfare system that ensures universal access to education, health care, and social services.
- Ensuring a city can withstand the impacts of climate change.
- Development that meets 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.
- Don't know.

Single-use plastics are touted as convenient, however there are significant negative impacts associated with them. What happens to plastic waste such as straws, disposable cutlery, plastic bags, water bottles, etc. after they are disposed?

- They slowly break down into smaller pieces of plastic, but it never goes away
- It is biodegradable and eventually turns into soil
- All plastic is recycled
- It is dumped into ocean landfills
- Don't know.

What is the meaning of **environmental justice**?

- Vulnerable communities are too often disproportionately burdened by the effects of environmental harms, including pollution, contamination, and climate change.
- The judicial system should enforce water quality inspections to check for lead contamination in cities.
- Wealthier communities should have cleaner air and water because they pay more in property taxes.
- The environment deserves fair and just treatment from all people and animals.
- Don't know.

Organized under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Paris Climate Conference (a.k.a. COP 21) gave rise to an agreement among nations, called the 'Paris Agreement'. What is the main action requested of all countries signatories of the Paris Agreement, in order to limit global temperature rise?

- Each country must get prepared for a global temperature rise of 4 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels.
- Each country must implement a global action plan, centrally defined by the UNFCCC
- Each country must define and implement its own action plan with quantified impacts, called "Nationally Determined Contribution" (NDC)
- Countries are not responsible for actions deriving from the 'Paris Agreement'
- Don't know.

Areas with limited access to a variety of healthy and affordable food, and a high concentration of fast foods make up 10% of Washington, DC. What are these areas called?

- Food security
- Food pits
- Food deserts
- Food bank
- Don't know

AU has a three-bin waste system: mixed recycling, trash, compost. Why is **composting** important?

- Composting food scraps in landfills along with trash ensures that all materials break down quicker.
- Composting plastic allows for old products to be made into new materials.
- Composting food scraps and compostable containers reduces the amount of greenhouse gas emissions released into the atmosphere from landfills.
- Composting is not important because all trash turns into soil when it is in a landfill for a long period of time.
- Don't know

100% of American University's electricity comes from renewable sources. What does it mean to use **renewable energy**?

- Energy that comes from fossil fuels
- Energy that comes from natural sources or processes that are never replenished.
- Energy that comes from natural sources or processes that are constantly replenished.
- Energy that comes from a source that is depleted once it is used.
- Don't know

AU has an array of strategic carbon offsets including efficient cook stoves in Kenya and tree planting in Washington, DC. Which of the following best describes what a carbon offset is?

- An action or activity that adds carbon monoxide to the atmosphere to balance the amount of carbon dioxide.
- A project that adds more carbon into the atmosphere to offset other emissions.
- An action or activity that compensates for the emission of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere.
- Don't know

AU minimizes the environmental impact of commuting by providing opportunities for the campus community to commute sustainably. Why is it environmentally beneficial to reduce the amount of single occupancy vehicles?

- Reducing the number of cars on the road reduces the amount of air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions
- Reducing the number of cars reduces the likelihood of traffic
- Using public transportation is better because your taxes are paying for it anyway
- Single occupancy vehicles create less emissions than other options of commuting
- Don't know

What is the difference between **weather** and **climate**?

- Climate is the day-to-day state of the atmosphere and weather is the long-term pattern of climate in a particular area.
- Climate is the long-term pattern of weather in a particular area and weather is the day-to-day state of the atmosphere.
- There is no difference between climate and weather, they both describe what is occurring in the atmosphere during a specific period of time.
- Climate is only used when talking about climate change, while weather is used to describe day to day precipitation events.
- Don't know

How often do you participate in the following activities?

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Usually	Always
Recycle (paper, plastic, aluminum)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Compost food waste or other organic matter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Turn off lights when leaving a room	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Air-dry laundry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Refrain from eating meat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Usually	Always
Use sustainable transportation (bikes, public transportation, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Turn off water while brushing teeth	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use a reusable mug/cup at coffee shops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participate in sustainability-related advocacy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Avoid single use plastics (plastic bags, straws, plastic forks, knives, spoons, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

I understand why the majority of the previously listed activities contributes to a more sustainable lifestyle and community.

- True
- False

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following points of view?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Globally, we are exceeding environmental limits that will cause severe harm to future generations.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have a responsibility to live sustainably.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Technological innovations will strongly benefit future generations.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The US should take aggressive action to limit climate change.	<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
AU is doing its part in promoting sustainability.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

How would you rate your awareness of AU’s sustainability efforts?

	I know this exists at AU		I know what this means	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Campus use of renewable energy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
AU’s carbon offsets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
AU reaching carbon neutrality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Campus-wide composting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Opt-in residence hall composting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are you aware of the following AU sustainability initiatives, activities, and programs: (select only those that you are aware of)

- The Office of Sustainability Website
- Campus Beautification Day
- AU Student Groups (i.e. Zero Waste Club, Beekeeping Society, Community Garden)
- The Green Office Program
- The Green Teaching Program
- The AU Sustainability Newsletter
- Campus Sustainability Tours
- Sustainable transportation (Bikeshare, U-Pass, etc.)
- The campus arboretum
- How to sort my waste
- None of the above

How do you gather your knowledge and form your opinions about sustainability? (Select the most important choice)

- Talking with friends, colleagues
- Clubs and volunteer activities
- Internet resources
- Social media
- Reading sustainability books or magazines
- Classes/classroom discussions
- Radio/podcasts/TV
- None of the Above

Select one from the following choices that you think is *the most important* sustainability priority for AU.

- Transportation
- Environmental justice
- Co-curricular education
- Sustainability research
- Green Buildings
- Air Quality
- Sustainable purchasing
- Waste
- Community service
- Human Resources
- Sustainable and responsible investing
- I don't know
- It's not important to me

Have you ever taken a course or are you currently taking a course that includes a sustainability and/or an environmental concept?

- Yes

- No
- Unsure

How important is it for you to have sustainability integrated into the American University education and research efforts?

- Extremely important
- Very important
- Moderately important
- Slightly important
- Not at all important

In which of the following, if any, would you like to see more sustainability related content at AU?

- Social media
- Academic majors
- Course integration
- Student projects
- Tabling on campus
- Energy/water reduction competitions
- None of the above

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