

AC2-Learning Outcomes

Program-level sustainability learning outcomes

VWU Programs included with Rationale

1. Business BA

Catalog description: *Through a firm commitment to the liberal arts, global perspectives, and ethical decision-making, the Management, Business, and Economics Department develops leaders committed to creating sustainable social, environmental, and economic value through effective and responsible business practices. The business major combines a practical business education with a commitment to the Principles of Responsible Management Education (PRME) as developed by the United Nations in support of its Global Compact, a framework of universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labor, the environment, and anti-corruption. The MBE Department is firmly committed to the interdisciplinary nature of successful management education; thus the business major integrates its core curriculum with allied coursework in a variety of disciplines while providing opportunities for career-based specialization through coursework and internships.*

The Business Department is a Communicating Signatory of the The Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME), a United Nations-supported initiative. “Working through Six Principles, PRME engages business and management schools to ensure they provide future leaders with the skills needed to balance economic and sustainability goals, while drawing attention to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and aligning academic institutions with the work of the UN Global Compact.” (<https://www.unprme.org/about>)

Majors are required to take a minimum of one course from the following list. All include a significant percentage of the course devoted to topics of sustainability.

Environment / One of the following:

BIO 150: Intro to Marine Ecology

BIO 435: Tropical Ecology

EES 132: Environmental Geology without Lab

EES 133: Environmental Geology with Lab

EES 200: Oceanography

EES 210: Meteorology

EES 250: Field Experiences in Earth & Environmental Sciences

EES 320: Energy and the Environment

ENG 306: Eco-poetry

ENG 410: Environmental Writings

ENVS 106: Humans, the Environment, and Sustainability

ENVS 107: Environmental Biology

ENVS 304: Environmental Ethics
ENVS 306: Ecopoetry
ENVS 326: Environmental Policy Analysis
ENVS 410: Environmental Writings
HON 110: Complex Global Challenge
MBE 207: Economics and the Environment
PHIL 304: Environmental Ethics
POLS 326: Environmental Policy Analysis

2. Earth & Environmental Sciences BA & BS

Catalog description: *Earth and environmental sciences (EES) is a multidisciplinary field that addresses the interactions between humans and the environment. Study in this field includes an understanding of the basic principles that govern geological, biological, and chemical interactions, as well as the applied context of developing solutions to current environmental problems.*

All majors are required to take EES 133: Environmental Geology with Laboratory, a sustainability-focused course.

3. Environmental Studies BA

Catalog description: *The environmental studies major is designed to teach students how to understand their physical and social environments as the intersection of a variety of overlapping forces, including constraints of biology and climate, as well as the influence of law and public policy, literature and philosophy. In addition to practicing scientific, social science, and humanities approaches to the study of the environment, students will learn to understand the interrelationships among science, society, technology, culture, and nature. Through an interdisciplinary approach, the major prepares students to recognize and address such challenges as resource depletion, habitat loss, environmental degradation, pollution, and loss of biodiversity, with the ultimate goal of fostering a sustainable human society.*

All majors are required to take ENVS 106: Humans, the Environment, & Sustainability, ENVS 304: Environmental Ethics, and ENVS 326: Environmental Policy Analysis, all of which are sustainability-focused courses.

4. Sustainability Management BA & BS

Catalog description: *The Sustainability Management major prepares students to utilize their knowledge of the functional areas of business and management to help organizations both adopt and achieve the goals of environmental sustainability and social responsibility. The major employs a multi-disciplinary approach whereby students will learn not only the scientific principles underlying sustainable business practices but also the philosophical underpinnings of the global need for sustainability and the various regulatory approaches for achieving it. In addition to significant coursework in a variety of academic disciplines, students will synthesize their studies through a senior-level experience entailing either further coursework with an internship or a sustainability-focused study away experience.*

All majors are required to take the following sustainability-focused courses

- ENVS 106: Humans, the Environment, & Sustainability or EES 133: Environmental Geology with Laboratory
- PHIL/ENVS 304: Environmental Ethics
- ENVS 326: Environmental Policy Analysis
- ENVS 420: Topics in Sustainability

5. Batten Honors College

The Batten Honors College of Virginia Wesleyan recruits high-achieving students and equips them to be problem solvers who are environmentally-conscious, strategic-thinking global citizens, ethically-bound to bettering their community and the world.

All Batten Honors College students are required to take HON 110: Contemporary Environmental Issues, a course focused on sustainability.

6. Master's in Business Administration (MBA)

All MBA students are required to take MBE 520 Ethical Management in a Global Environment, a sustainability focused course. The Business Department is a Communicating Signatory of the The Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME), a United Nations-supported initiative that ensures programs “provide future leaders with the skills needed to balance economic and sustainability goals, while drawing attention to the Sustainable Development Goals”.

Website URLs with more information:

Information on undergraduate majors: <https://www.vwu.edu/academics/majors/>

Information on the Batten Honors College:

<https://www.vwu.edu/academics/batten-honors-college/honors-courses.php>

Information on the MBA:

<https://www.vwu.edu/academics/graduate-programs/master-of-business-administration/course-requirements.php>

VWU's page on the PRIME website:

<https://www.unprme.org/virginia-wesleyan-university>

Graduates from degree programs that require an understanding of the concept of sustainability

Program	2021-2022
Business BA	32
Earth & Environmental Sciences BA & BS	13
Environmental Studies BA	11
Sustainability Management BA & BS	1
Batten Honors College (majors not included above)	22
MBA	28
Total graduates: Programs w/ Sustainability	107
Total Undergraduate Degrees Awarded	215
Total Graduate Degrees Awarded	35
Total All Degrees Awarded	250