

Black Hills State University

Degree Programs and Sustainability Learning Outcomes

Undergraduate

- **American Indian Studies**
Demonstrate their awareness of international connections in issues such as ecology, business, esthetics, politics, immigration, literature, technology, economics, etc. Relate non-western perspectives and experiences to those of the west so that both the awareness of their interrelatedness and the breaking down of barriers between them is evident. Identify and compare western knowledge with non-western paradigms to clarify the cultural constructs inherent in intellectual and aesthetic expressions.
- **Environmental Physical Science**
Environmental Physical Science majors and Earth Science minors will master basic concepts of the identification, study, and treatment of a variety of environmental problems. The program addresses ground and surface water quality and management, waste treatment, land-use planning, soil testing, containment chemistry and monitoring, hazardous waste disposal, land reclamation and energy management and production.
- **History**
The student will demonstrate awareness of international connections in issues such as ecology, business, aesthetics, politics, immigration, literature technology, and economics.
- **Outdoor Education**
The student will demonstrate environmental literacy through questioning, analysis, and interpretation skills, and knowledge of environmental processes and systems.
- **Political Science**
Students will have a demonstrable ability to apply the principles and knowledge of government and politics to issues/conditions/situations of modern life. In addition, as a result of taking courses meeting this goal, students will be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of at least one of the following: 1d. The origin and evolution of human institutions; 1e. The allocation of human or natural resources within societies.
- **Sociology**
The student will demonstrate awareness of international connections in issues such as ecology, business, aesthetics, politics, immigration, literature, technology, economics, and so on. Offers concentration in social resilience. Offers certificate in social resiliency.

Graduate

- M.S. in Sustainability

Program goals include:

1. Graduate will recognize and analyze interconnections within and between social, environmental/ecological, and economic systems pertaining to sustainability.
2. Graduates will demonstrate an understanding of how social, environmental, and economic systems work cohesively and interdependently to foster or impede sustainability.
3. Graduates will implement and evaluate performance matrices and methodologies to demonstrate economic value and environmental impact of sustainability initiatives.
4. Graduates will analyze the role of human attitudes and values in fostering and impeding sustainability.
5. Graduates will recognize environmental conflicts in the context of human values, economic inequities, power, globalization, and political interests.
6. Graduates will analyze statutory approaches such as federal disclosures, corporate disclosures, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, “Cradle to Grave” regulation, remedial liability for toxic cleanup.
7. Graduates will demonstrate an understanding of power balance between federal and state governments in environmental regulation and regulatory issues.
8. Graduates will demonstrate an understanding of interconnections between nature, matter, and energy.
9. Graduates will evaluate various sources of energy and their limitation and implications.
10. Graduates will analyze and explain economics-environment interaction, supply & demand in context of sustainability, and economic models of sustainable development.
11. Graduates will develop creative, adaptive solutions to sustainability challenges; evaluate challenges and real-world solutions using a broad range of methods of inquiry and analyses.