

MASTER of Arts/Science in Interdisciplinary Studies: Concentration in SUSTAINABILITY

The Master of Arts/Sciences in Interdisciplinary Studies — Concentration in Sustainability program addresses complex regional, state, national and global challenges posed by the intersection of human exponential growth and increasingly limited resources that support society.

The exponentially rising demands that human populations make on natural resources and ecological systems that supply us with energy, food, water and many other ecosystem services will be further threatened by climate change and the pollution of air, soil and water.

Substantial changes in social contracts, economic systems, as well as individual and institutional behaviors will be needed to provide more sustainable, healthy and secure societies. National, regional and local experimentation is needed to find solutions to societal challenges.

Requirements

Intro to Sustainability	3 hours
Core courses	9 hours
Research methods	3 hours
Thesis or portfolio	6 hours
Guided electives	12 hours
TOTAL	33 hours

Students will work with their academic advisors to select the core and elective courses needed. Courses in each of the three blocks, such as Geographic Information Systems, are accepted for credit toward the degree.

Urban and Public Affairs UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE®

Core Courses (one course in each area required)

Sustainability and the Built Environment Core Courses

PLAN 670 Sustainable Development and Planning

UPA 679 Environmental Policy

Sustainability and the Natural Environment Core Courses

BIOL 644 Advanced Global Change Ecology

GEOS 663 Climate and Environmental Change

Sustainability and the Social Environment Core Courses

HIST 611 Advanced Environmental History

SOC 610 Environmental Sustainability and Social Change

Core Area: Sustainability and the Built Environment Electives

Transportation, Planning and Urban Development
Environmental Analysis of Transportation Systems
(Hybrid web-based class)
Green Engineering and Sustainable Design
Sustainable Transportation
Land Use and Planning Law
Sustainable Development and Planning
Land-Use Planning
Urban Design

Environmental Policy and Natural Hazards
Historic Preservation/ Sustainability Practice
Site Planning
Capstone Studio
Urban Demography
Housing and Community Development
Planning and Sustainability
Environmental Policy
Special Topics, The Ideal City

Core Area: Sustainability and the Natural Environment Electives

Animals and Humans
The Anthropology of Water
Topics in Nutritional Anthropology
Conservation Biology
Advanced Global Change Ecology

Ecology of Urban and Suburban Landscapes
Population and Community Ecology
Advanced Conservation Biology
Climate and Environmental Change
Land and Ecosystem Conservation

Core Area: Sustainability and the Social Environment Electives

Human Impacts on Past Environments
Health and Civilization
Food Justice
Art, Thinking and Social Change
Globalization Seminar
Historic Preservation
Advanced Environmental History
Health Promotion and Disease Prevention at the
Individual Level
Health Promotion and Disease Prevention at the
Social Level
Eating Well and Cooking Healthy
Environmental Law

Water Resources Law and Policy
Global Issues in Environmental and Occupational
Health
Advanced Environmental Health Sciences
Health Communication Campaigns: Theory and
Practice
Health Risk Communication
Behavioral Dimensions of Urban Sustainability
Sustainable Urbanism
Sustainable Social-Ecological Systems
International Relations Seminar
Environmental Sustainability and Social Change



Admission

The following credentials must be supplied BEFORE a candidate can be considered for admission:

1. A complete application form (available online at <http://louisville.edu/graduate/>)
2. Official transcripts from all previous undergraduate and graduate study. Must have earned a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution and have a minimum GPA of 3.00.
3. Standardized Tests. Generally requires a minimum Graduate Record Exam (GRE) score of 153 in Verbal and 144 in Quantitative. Those applicants whose native language is not English and who do not hold a degree from a university where the language of instruction is English, must complete the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a score of at least 79 on the internet-based test or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), with a minimum score of 6.5.
4. A Personal Statement of Interest to pursue the this degree program. This is the applicant's opportunity to state why they wish to pursue the degree and can include anything from their passions and interests in life to life experience to this point and perhaps what they would like to do after they finish the degree.
5. Three letters of recommendation, preferably at least one from an academic source.



Louisville: The Most Livable Large City*

Louisville, Kentucky is a dynamic city with a rich culture, vibrant history, and strong neighborhoods. Nestled on the banks of the Ohio River, Louisville is the cultural, economic, and population center of the state of Kentucky. The city of Louisville currently finds itself in the midst of an urban rejuvenation that makes it the perfect laboratory to study urban planning, design, and development.

The city features a quickly redeveloping downtown that is currently going through a renaissance. It also prides itself on a network of fantastic urban parks linked by an Olmsteadian planned parkway system. The city has a vibrant cultural scene where local musicians and artists are revered and thrive. Louisville is the home of the most famous horse race in the world, the Kentucky Derby and also many great music, culture and arts festivals that include: the St. James Art Fair, Forecastle Festival, Cherokee Art Fair, WorldFest, Bluegrass Festival, and Reggae Festival to name a few.

There is a strong sense of community felt in Louisville due to the many diverse neighborhoods that feature undying support for local business, development of community gardens and farmers markets, and redevelopment of the central business district. The program is closely linked to many community efforts and development projects as well as the Metropolitan government and thus is able to utilize local resources for research, publishing of academic articles, and planning and project development that has a direct impact on the quality of life of the city as a whole.

*Awarded by the US Conference of Mayors

Urban and Public Affairs

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