SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES, BA

Roosevelt University's Sustainability Studies (SUST) program is an interdisciplinary and environmentally-focused undergraduate degree, with major and minor options. Founded in 2010, it is the first such sustainability-themed bachelor's degree program in the Chicago area. Its overall goals include:

- Engaging students in the pressing public policy concerns surrounding consumption, energy usage, and viable economic growth.
- Fostering students' environmental literacy using rigorous, scholarly-based research in the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities.
- Exploring social justice issues on a range of fronts, including environmental justice, resource allocation, urban development, and social equity.
- Positioning Roosevelt University as a leader in sustainability education, particularly in relation to social justice and sustainable urban development.

Students graduating with a major in Sustainability Studies will have an interdisciplinary understanding of the varied dimensions of sustainability, both from a local and global perspective; will be fluent in articulating how sustainability issues relate to a matter of the environment, the economy, and social equity; and will demonstrate proficiency in critical thinking, reading, writing, and research skills. **More specifically, students will learn how to:**

- Identify and explain the central sustainability problems of the 21st century in multiple arenas, including energy, transportation, food production, waste management, water availability, conservation, and general consumption.
- Draw on a foundation of scientific, environmental, and quantitative literacy in order to understand and assess the science behind major sustainability problems, such as climate change, loss of biodiversity, and the threats to natural resources.
- Apply the scientific method and quantitative literacy skills to the study of natural and social ecosystems.
- Recognize the local, national, and global social justice implications of resource allocation, food production, energy consumption, and waste production.
- Understand the political processes and policy actors central to progress in sustainability.
- Understand the importance of leadership as central to social change and technical innovation with respect to creating more sustainable communities.
- Apply knowledge about sustainability to their areas of personal interest and/or work professions.

Requirements

The overall requirements for the BA in Sustainability Studies include seven core Sustainability courses, one Sustainability elective, two relevant electives in an appropriate subject area, an 18-credit hour functional area (which may also be a minor) in a related discipline or interdisciplinary area, selected general education courses, and general electives. Grades of C- or higher are required in all major courses.

Core requirements: ENG 101 COMPOSITION I: CRITICAL READING & WRITING is a pre-requisite for all 200-level SUST courses; the university writing requirement is a pre-requisite for all 300-level SUST courses.

Core		
SUST 210	SUSTAINABLE FUTURE	3
SUST 220	WATER	3
SUST 230	FOOD	3
SUST 240	WASTE	3
SUST 310	ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE	3
SUST 320	SPRAWL, TRANSPORT, PLANNING	3
SUST 330	BIODIVERSITY	3
SUST Elective		
Select one of the following:		3
SUST 340	POLICY, LAW, ETHICS	
SUST 350	SERVICE AND SUSTAINABILITY	
SUST 390	SPECIAL TOPICS IN SUSTAINABILITY	
SUST 395	SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES INTERNSHIP	
Functional Area		
Related courses in a discipline or interdisciplinary area selected in consultation with an advisor		18
Other Requirements		
Relevant electives [1]		6
General Education, University Writing Requirement, and Electives		
Courses to total 120		72
Total Credit Hours		120

[1] Two electives, chosen in consultation with an advisor, from these subject areas: SUST, BCHM, BIOL, CHEM, CJL, ECON, ENVS, HOSM, MATH, OLED, PHSC, POS, or SOC. These courses may be in the same subject as the Functional Area and in some cases may be used to complete a double-major.

General Education Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Academic Communities of Practice		
ACP 101	FIRST YEAR SEMINAR [1]	3
ACP 110	PRIMARY TEXTS	3
ACP 250	GROUNDS FOR CHANGE	3
English Composition [2]		
ENG 101	COMPOSITION I: CRITICAL READING & WRITING	3
ENG 102	COMPOSITION II: INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMIC RESEARCH	3
Humanities		
Select 9 credits from the following subject areas: African-American Studies, Art History, English (excluding ENG 101 and ENG 102), History, Languages, Music, Philosophy, Theatre, Speech and Women's and Gender Studies		9
Mathematics		
MATH 110	QUANTITATIVE LITERACY (or above) [3]	3
Non-Western requirement		

Non-Western course (can be used for Humanities or Social Sciences general education requirements)		3
RU mission-related course [2]		
LIBS 201	WRITING SOCIAL JUSTICE	3
Science		
One biological science and one physical science required (at least one must be a four-hour lab (not applicable for science majors)		7-8
Social Sciences		
Select 9 credits from the following subject areas: African-American Studies, Anthropology, Economics, History, Journalism, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology and Women's and Gender Studies		9
Total Credit Hours		49-50

1 Required for students who enter RU with fewer than 12 credit hours

2 Minimum grade of C- required

3 Math, Computer Science & Technology, and Science majors have different requirements--see advisor

These quantitative requirements also apply to degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences:

- Students may apply no more than 60 credit hours of 100-level courses toward the degree.
- Students must apply no fewer than 60 credit hours of 200- and 300-level courses toward the degree.
- Students must have at least 18 credit hours (of the 60 credit hours above) at the 300 level.
- Students may transfer in no more than 66 credit hours from community colleges.
- Students must take their final 30 hours at Roosevelt University. Note that some majors have additional requirements for RU hours.
- Students must have a grade point average of 2.0 or higher to graduate. Note that some majors have additional GPA requirements.
- Students must have a minimum of 90 hours in Arts and Sciences.
- Students may apply no more than 51 hours in the major (BA) or 57 hours in the major (BS)

Your degree map is a general guide suggesting courses to complete each term on the academic pathway to your degree. It is based on the most current scheduling information from your academic program. Your program's degree map is reviewed annually and updated as schedules change (although you retain the same course requirements as long as you are continuously enrolled in your degree program).

Always work closely with your academic advisor to understand curriculum requirements and scheduling, as each student's academic plan can look slightly different.

Year 1

Fall	Credit Hours	Spring	Credit Hours
ACP 101	3	ACP 110	3
ENG 101	3	ENG 102	3
MATH 110	3	SUST 210	3
Humanities #1	3	Humanities #2	3
Social Science #1	3	BIOL 111 or 112[5]	4
	15		16

Year 2

Fall	Credit Hours	Spring	Credit Hours
ACP 250 or LIBS 201	3	ACP 250 or LIBS 201	3
SUST 220, 230, or 240 (All are required)	3	SUST 310, 320, or 330 (All are required)	3
SUST 230, 220, or 240 (All are required)	3	SUST 240, 220, or 230 (All are required)	3
Humanities #2	3	Social Science #2	3
Physical Science[5]	3	Functional Area[6]	3
	15		15

Year 3

Fall	Credit Hours	Spring	Credit Hours
SUST 310, 320, or 330 (All are required)	3	SUST 340, 350, 390, or 395	3
SUST 320, 310, or 330 (All are required)	3	Relevant Elective	3
Relevant Elective	3	Functional Area[6]	3
Social Science #3	3	General Elective[1]	3
Functional Area[6]	3	General Elective[1]	3
	15		15

Year 4

Fall	Credit Hours	Spring	Credit Hours
Functional Area[6]	3	Functional Area[6]	3
Functional Area[6]	3	General Elective[1]	3
General Elective[1]	3	General Elective[1]	3
General Elective[1]	3	General Elective[1]	3
General Elective[1]	3	General Elective[1]	3
	15		15

Total Credit Hours 121

1 Or course towards an optional Minor.

2 Any course at the 200 level within the discipline.

3 Any course at the 300 level within the discipline.

4 This requirement can be fulfilled by other requirements.

5 One Natural Science course must have a lab.

6 See Advisor for Coursework. A minor is suggested.