

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

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# Preparing Students to be Environmentally Aware Citizens, Practitioners, and Leaders

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**Colleges and universities are taking on the challenge of educating the next generation to address the world's environmental problems – and we need your help.**

## The American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment:

*[This university will] develop an institutional action plan for becoming climate neutral, which will include:*

*...Actions to make climate neutrality and sustainability a part of the curriculum and other educational experience **for all students.***

## Three levels of training:

- 1) basic “sustainability literacy” for all students
- 2) professional knowledge
- 3) knowledge and skills to take leadership in sustainability

# 1) Sustainability Literacy

- the fundamental processes that drive climate change
- the interdependence of ecological systems
- the political, economic, social, and moral context of climate change and environmental disruptions
- proposed and potential remedies and solutions

## 2) Professional Applications of Sustainability

- Different for each discipline
- An expectation, not a requirement
- Offers room for creativity

### 3) Training Leaders in Sustainability

- SUNY-ESF Minors in
  - Renewable Energy
  - Sustainable Construction Management
- SU/SUNY-ESF/Syracuse CoE
  - Sustainable Enterprise Partnership

[www.partnersforsustainability.org](http://www.partnersforsustainability.org)

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## Your turn!

- What basic knowledge about sustainability do YOU want our graduates to have?
- What specific training is lacking? What areas of specialization would you like to see more of?
- What questions need to be answered? What research needs to be done?

## Further Information



Join our facebook group by visiting our website

## Links – Further Info

The Sustainable Enterprise Partnership  
(SU/SUNY-ESF/Syracuse Center of Excellence)  
[www.partnersforsustainability.org](http://www.partnersforsustainability.org)

SUNY College of Environmental Science and  
Forestry minors in renewable energy and  
sustainable construction management  
[www.esf.edu/catalog/programs.htm](http://www.esf.edu/catalog/programs.htm)

The Association for the Advancement of  
Sustainability in Higher Education  
[www.aashe.org](http://www.aashe.org)

# Some Sustainability Degree Programs

- Ph.D. in Sustainability at Arizona State University, focusing on the “dynamics of coupled socioecological systems”
- Ph.D. in Sustainability at Rochester Institute of Technology, focusing on sustainable production systems
- M.A. in Global Sustainability (University of South Florida),
- M.A. in Sustainable Communities (Northern Arizona University),
- M.A. in Earth Literacy (St. Mary-of-the-Woods College)