Set in a student-centered learning community, the Pathways to Sustainability minor begins with an introductory two-course series focused on systems thinking across natural, social, and economic contexts. This is followed by elective courses in the domains of humanities, environmental science, and art and design, in addition to an integrative capstone course.

Students need an expansive, multi-college conceptualization of sustainability and complementary set of tools and strategies to empower them to lead in a diverse, interconnected and dynamic world. This minor integrates perspectives and tools from natural and social sciences with those from art, design, and humanities.

The primary audience for this minor includes STEM and professional majors. However, majors outside STEM fields will also benefit from the broad interdisciplinarity of this minor.

Pathways Core Concepts
2 - Critical Thinking in the Humanities
3 - Reasoning in the Social Sciences
4 - Reasoning in the Natural Sciences
6 - Critique and Practice in Design and the Arts

Pathways Integrative Concepts
Ethical Reasoning
Intercultural and Global Awareness
Requirements

The 18-credit hour minor in Pathways to Sustainability includes 9 hours of required courses and 9 hours of elective Pathways courses selected from a list.

Required courses

GEOG/NR 1115: Seeking Sustainability I
GEOG/NR 1116: Seeking Sustainability II
GEOG/NR 4444: Practicing Sustainability* (prerequisite: GEOG/NR 1116)

Elective courses

Students select 9 credit hours of elective Pathways courses in 3 categories (humanities, environment, and art & design). For a complete list of elective courses, consult the checksheet at https://registrar.vt.edu/graduation-multi-brief/index1.html.

Identify interconnections and dynamics between social institutions, environmental systems, and economic processes. Discover, comprehend, and analyze information from diverse sources within multiple historical, intellectual, and cultural contexts. Analyze the ways in which values and beliefs affect human behavior. Synthesize complex sources to create a cohesive narrative argument. Apply interpretative strategies or methodologies in design and/or the arts. Develop content appropriate to specific audiences and purposes.

www.pathways.prov.vt.edu/minors

Contact: Dr. Timothy Baird
tbaird8@vt.edu