

HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY

SUSTAINABILITY MA Course Plan

Please refer to the grid below for a sample course plan. Do note, however, that your own course plan may vary from what is listed below. Some students choose to proceed through the program at a slower or quicker pace or may begin during the spring or summer session. 30 total credits and either a thesis or internship are required for the degree.

BOLD = Required (core) courses

FIRST YEAR

Fall (9 credits)	Spring (9 credits)	Summer Sessions (3 credits)
GEOL 251: Readings	SBLY 206: Sustainability Theory and Practice	SBLY 340 (Internship) or SBLY 301 (Thesis) – 3 credits
SBLY 201: Sustainable Development	Elective	
Elective	Elective	

SECOND YEAR

Fall (9 credits)	Spring	Summer Sessions
SBLY 340 (Internship) or SBLY 301 (Thesis) – 2 or 3 credits	SBLY 340 (Internship) or SBLY 301 (Thesis) – 1 credit, or 3 credits if not taken in Summer	Remaining SBLY 340/301 credits if not completed in spring
Elective	Elective (if not taken in Fall)	
Elective (or take in Spring)		

Graduation Timeline options

Typically, students complete the program in 1.5-2 years.

To complete in 1.5 years, the student should finish most of their coursework during their first two semesters, and then enroll in the first 3 credits of SBLY 340/301 over the summer. Then, in the fall, they can take the remaining 3 credits of SBLY 340/301 along with their last two elective courses. Sometimes, students may not quite finish up the thesis or internship during the fall semester. In that case, they may take 2 credits of SBLY 340/301 in the fall and 1 final credit in the spring. A student must be enrolled in at least one credit in the semester they graduate, so this model ensures that a student does not have to pay for extra credits if they do not quite finish up in the desired semester.

To complete in 2 years, the student need not take courses over the summer session. Instead, they can take the first 3 credits of SBLY 340/301 during fall of year two, and the remaining 3 credits during the spring. As above, they may opt to hold off on one credit of SBLY 340/301 until the summer session.

ELECTIVE COURSE OPTIONS

Given the highly interdisciplinary nature of sustainability, students take a number of different electives offered across Hofstra. There are no formal requirements for electives besides confirming with the Sustainability Director that it is appropriate for your degree program. There are several graduate level (i.e., 200- level) courses to choose from, however, graduate students are also allowed to take up to two undergraduate courses (typically 100-level) for graduate credit, as long as the instructor permits it. You should also check with the Sustainability Director to confirm an undergraduate class is appropriate for your program. Below is a non-exhaustive list of popular courses taken as electives by sustainability graduate students. Please note that not all classes are offered every semester, and other courses not on this list might be appropriate too. Moreover, students may choose to take an *independent study* with a sustainability faculty member in order to work on a special project or prepare for their thesis work.

Selected Elective Course Options

SBLY 251: Independent Study

GEOL 015: Global Climate Change (undergraduate class taken for graduate credit)

GEOG 160: Intermediate GIS (undergraduate class taken for graduate credit)

MPH 200: Introduction to Public Health

MKT 257A: Sustainability Marketing

MGT 228: Organizational Strategy for Sustainability

PHI 238: Ethics and Sustainability

SOC 145: Building Strong Communities (undergraduate class taken for graduate credit)

There are several other courses of interest in the Marketing (MKT), Management (MGT), Geography (GEOG), and Master of Public Health (MPH) departments which our students frequently take

