

PLANNING

[The purpose of these informational documents is to help GRS students choose courses that would be of interest for their resource. The UBC Sustainability website also offers good suggestions for courses for the sustainability specialization:](#)

For Forestry or Agriculture related courses, please see the “Environment” and “Sustainable Agriculture” resource specialization courses overviews.

** Undergraduate students are sometimes able to take graduate level courses with special permission. Please ask.

Last updated: June 15.2021

Course Number	Course Name	Description
ANTH 360	Introduction to Ecological Anthropology	Analysis of the relations between human societies and the ecological aspects of their environment (including technology, society, and ideology). Previously ANTH 460.
APSC 261	Technology and Society I	The course deals with the influence of technology on the social, political, economic, and environmental aspects of society. The specific subject matter varies from year to year. Examples of subjects considered include, resources, energy, nuclear power, technology, the effects of technology on the family, education, agriculture, international policy and others.
ARCH 405H	Topics in Architecture	History of architecture in the post-1900 time period. Technological, political, social, and economic changes which have influenced architecture and related fields. <i>This course is not eligible for Credit/D/Fail grading.</i>
ASIC 220	Introduction to Sustainability	Sustainability examined from scientific, economic, and societal perspectives.
COMM 484	Sustainability Marketing	Role of marketing in creating social value. Integration of marketing fundamentals with core social, environmental, and economic principles of sustainability. Analysis of current sustainability trends. Development of strategic and practical marketing recommendations for for-profit enterprises. Potential and pitfalls of sustainability marketing.
COMM 484	Social Entrepreneurship	An applied course that examines the innovative, growing, and rapidly evolving field of social entrepreneurship, which tackles social and environmental challenges through business perspectives and methods.
COMM 487	Environmental Management	Explores corporate environmental strategy by introducing economic principles underlying environmental policy, law, and technologies for pollution prevention and abatement, environmental management systems, ISO-14001, energy systems, eco-marketing, and life-cycle analysis. Credit will be granted for only one of COMM 487 or COMM 597.
CONS 330	Conservation Science and Sustainability	Fundamental concepts in conservation science. Different philosophies, perspectives, and disciplines used in setting priorities for managing biodiversity at all scales.
CONS 340	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems for Forestry and Conservation	Introduction to principles, practice and context of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) applied to forest management and natural resource conservation issues. Priority enrolment to students in the Faculty of Forestry.
CONS 425	Sustainable Energy: Policy and Governance	Energy as a policy problem; governance framework for energy policy; prominent controversies in Western Canadian energy policy; the politics and policy of energy alternatives.
CONS 481	Conservation Planning and Wildland Recreation	Theory and tools needed for the selection and design of protected areas, the designation of land use types, and the management and conservation of wildland recreation resources.
DES 220	Architecture and Urbanism in Context: Vancouver and its Region	The unfolding architecture and urbanism of Metro Vancouver. Using Vancouver as a laboratory to examine the historical transformation of the built environment, and how this has affected particular activities, land uses, and social groups within the region. Open enrolment course. Credit will be granted for only one of ENDS 220 or DES 220.
DES 230	Sustainability by Design	Interactions between human and natural urban systems using local and international examples of successful sustainable community designs. This course is open to all UBC students, regardless of prior experience. Credit will be granted for only one of ENDS 221 or DES 230.

DES 231	Site Analysis and Planning	Analysis and planning of relatively complex sites, emphasizing storm water management design. Credit will be given for only one of DES 231, LARC 440, or LARC 540.
EOSC 340	Global Climate Change	Mechanisms and processes of past and future global environmental and climate change.
FRST 443	Remote Sensing for Ecosystem Management	Basic biological concepts related to interpretation of remote sensing data for land management, including the use of films and filters, and interpretation of air photographs, and other imagery.
FRE 340	International Agricultural Development	Characteristics, processes and sources of economic growth, role of agricultural and resource sectors in economic growth, analysis of output and input markets in those sectors, policy failures, tools for empirical analysis of rural markets, growth, and the environment.
FRE 374	Land Economics	Economic analysis applied to problems of land use rent theory, land evaluation, and land conservation. Techniques for assessing economic efficiency of land use. Effects of institutions and public policies on land use.
GEOS 270	Geographic Information Science	Computer-based graphical methods of data input and analysis. Emphasis on data visualization techniques such as cartographic modelling and exploratory data analysis. Preclusion: Not available to those who completed GEOG 370 before September 2005.
GEOS 370	Advanced Geographical Information Science	Theoretical and practical aspects of Geographic Information Systems, including cartographic modeling, digital terrain models, management issues, and spatial interpolation.
GEOS 372	Introductory Remote Sensing	Aerial photography; measurement from aerial photographs; photo-interpretation in geographic analysis; remote sensing of the earth's surface and atmosphere.
GEOG 122	Geography, Modernity and Globalization II	The human geography of the modern world since 1945: global interdependence in economic geography, geopolitics, and cultural geography; consequences of modernization, including demography, urbanization and environmental effects; regional case studies; reactions to modernization. May be taken separately from GEOG 121.
GEOG 250	Cities	An interdisciplinary introduction to the city in the context of contemporary globalization. Analysis of urban patterns and processes from the theoretical perspectives of various disciplines and methodologies.
GEOG 310	Environment and Sustainability	Concepts of environment, resources and sustainability; the roles of physical and human geography in understanding the interaction of humans and the environment; introduction to management of environment-resource systems.
GEOG 311	Urban Environments	The impact of urban development on the natural environment and vice versa. Study of the ecology and metabolism of cities and green urban design, using global and local case studies.
GEOG 312	Climate Change: Science and Society	Climates over the geological, historical and instrument periods. Theories of climatic change. Monitoring and modelling the climate system. Impacts of change on environmental and socio-economic systems.
GEOG 318	Sustainability in a Changing Environment	Biophysical and human causes of short- and long-term environmental change at various spatial scales, including measurement, interpretation, and policy.
GEOG 319	Environmental Impact Assessment	The role of environmental impact assessment within the context of environmental management. Institutional arrangements for EIA in Canada and BC will be examined through the use of evaluative criteria and critical case studies. Will alternate with GEOG 318.
GEOG 321	Historical Geography of Urbanization: Cities, Space, and Power	From the origins of urbanism to the modern era.
GEOG 350	Urban Worlds	City systems and theories of urban location; internal spatial structure of the city; commercial and industrial location; social areas; neighbourhood and land use change; urban trends and public policy.
GEOG 352	Urbanization of the Global South	Urbanization in the developing countries of Latin America, Africa, and Asia; the role of cities in the development process and the features and problems of rapid urbanization.

GEOG 353	Geographies of Migration and Settlement	International regimes regulating migration, changes in global demographics, immigration policies of nation states, international migration patterns, settlement policies and outcomes.
HIST 106	Global Environmental History	The impact humans have had on the environment, and the ways in which the physical environment has shaped human history: climate, agriculture, energy use, and urbanization.
LARC 444	Green Network Planning	Theory and methods of long-range green space planning for urban areas.
PHIL 332	Environmental Ethics	Moral problems arising in the context of human relationships to nature and to non-human living things, considered in terms of both general moral theory and policy formation. Topics include moral standing, animal rights, obligations to future generations, pollution, hazardous materials, the depletion of natural resources and the treatment of non-human living things. Credit will be granted for only one of PHIL 332 or PHIL 435.
PLAN 211	City Making: A Global Perspective	Contemporary city development trends, policies, and practices across the globe as explored against the backdrop of culture and technology. Includes hands-on learning.
PLAN 221	City Visual	An exploratory journey through the vast world of visualizing the city and ways of representing the built environment, including how to both interpret and use visualizations to read the city.
PLAN 321	Indigeneity and the City	North American cities were built upon Indigenous lands, and the violent dispossession and attempted erasure of the pre-existing Indigenous societies--and their laws, governance, knowledge systems, languages,
PLAN 331	The Just City in a Divided World	Considers the city as a terrain for the manifestation and mediation of social justice. Explores how the allocation of land, goods, and services in cities (re)produces social stratification, and how institutions and civil society negotiate just and unjust outcomes.
PLAN 341	Smart Cities: Concepts, Methods & Design	
PLAN 425	Urban Planning Issues and Concepts	Evolution, practice and future of urban planning and development, with emphasis on institutional arrangements, housing, transportation, urban design and development control. For third- and fourth-year undergraduate students interested in urban planning.
POLI 351	Environmental Politics and Policy	Domestic and international determinants of environmental policy; alternative approaches to environmental protection. The sustainable development paradigm; public opinion and interest group pressures; risk assessment; mandatory, voluntary and market-based policy instruments.
POLI 375A	Global Environmental Politics	Ecological consequences of the global political economy.
SOCI 303	Sociology of Migration	Sociological approaches to the movement of peoples and its impact over time.
SOCI 360A	Sociology and Natural Resources	Sociological perspectives on property, resource industries (such as agriculture, fishing, forestry and mining), resource development, and resource communities. May also include examination of social aspects of resource development in the Third World.
SOCI 364	Built Environments	Physical, social, and economic aspects of built environments, including housing and community planning.
SOCI 425	Urban Sociology	Demographic, behavioural, and organizational aspects of urban structures and of urbanization in different societies and periods.
UFOR 330	Environmental Justice and Urban Green Equity	Theory, concepts and applications of urban green equity and urban environmental justice with particular focus on implications for urban forest policy, planning, management, and design.
UFOR 402	Urban Forestry Administration, Policy and Law	The administrative, legal, policy, and business environments for urban forestry governance, management, and planning.
UFOR 420	Ecology of Urban Green Infrastructure	The nature and dynamics of urban ecosystems with emphasis on urban forests and greenspaces. The role of green infrastructure in urban sustainability with particular focus on the ecological impact of urban forest management, design, and policy decisions. Credit may be granted for only one of UFOR 420 or UFOR 520.

UFOR 495	Biodiversity in Urban Areas	Urban centres can be designed and managed to contribute to biodiversity conservation commitments. Topics include designing human-dominated landscapes to promote biodiversity, the tools required, assessing outcomes, and the benefits and negatives of nature in the city.
URST 200	Cities	An interdisciplinary introduction to the city in the context of contemporary globalization. Analysis of urban patterns and processes from the theoretical of various disciplines and methodologies. Equivalent to GEOG 250
URST 400	Seminar in Urban Studies	A seminar for senior students who wish to explore some common topics of importance to urban studies from the viewpoints of several disciplines.
WOOD 461	Globalization and Sustainability	Examination of globalization and its impact on sustainability, including social, economic, and environmental aspects.

Can't find what you want?

[Every year, there are different student directed seminars offered on various topics. If there is none for your very specific interests, you can make your own course! For more information, please see: http://leap.ubc.ca/get-conscious/study-global-issues/student-directed-seminars/](http://leap.ubc.ca/get-conscious/study-global-issues/student-directed-seminars/)