

**DEGREE/PROGRAM CHANGE
FORM C**

Fields marked with * are required

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Initiator's Rank / Title* Professor of Biology

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Department* Sustainability Studies Program

Division Arts & Sciences

Program Sustainability Studies

Branch Main

Proposed effective term:

Semester Spring ▼ **Year** 2011 ▼

Course Information

Select Appropriate Program Undergraduate Degree Program ▼ **CIP Code**

Name of New or Existing Program * Sustainability Studies Minor

Catalog Page Number 314 **Select Category** Minor ▼ **Degree Type**

Select Action Revision ▼

Exact Title and Requirements as they should appear in the catalog.

See current catalog for format within the respective college (enter text below or upload a doc/pdf file)

[SUST.Requirements.modified.pdf](#)

☐ **This Change affects other departmental program/branch campuses**

Reason(s) for Request * (enter text below or upload a doc/pdf file)

Outreach and teaching activities of the Sustainability Studies Program are focused on development of New Mexico's local food system. Local, organic food strengthens the economy, promotes health through nutrition, addresses poverty, and protects the environment. Since 2007, we have led FoodPrintNM.org, an alliance of academic, private, and governmental agencies involving sustainable agriculture. In 2010, we are beginning a 2-year project called Collaborative for Foodshed Development, funded by the USDA Hispanic Serving Institutions program. The Collaborative involves faculty from four colleges to prepare students as entrepreneurs, managers, and leaders in local food systems all along the value chain, from farm to table. Since 2007, the Sustainability Studies Program has held the Lobo Growers Market (LGM), on campus. The proposed course will use the LGM as a laboratory to further our mission of experiential learning. Students who complete the course will be qualified to organize and manage any of the 60 growers markets around the state. Each market serves 10-50 vendors, thereby benefitting hundreds of local businesses and thousands of citizens. In the course, students will learn the history of local food movements and cooperatives. They will gain skills for enlisting vendors and the public, for marketing, and for abiding by health and safety requirements.

Statements to address budgetary and Faculty Load Implications and Long-range planning

* (enter text below or upload a doc/pdf file)

Impact on long-range planning for unit, school/college and university: The proposed course fits the long-range planning of the SSP. It will be part of the USDA HSI grant activities and follows from two phases of funding from the McCune Charitable Foundation. Because the course is geared to create benefits for campus and community, we will submit changes that allow it to substitute for an existing practicum course, SUST 334. SUST 334 and 364 could be offered simultaneously or in alternating semesters. From the university's standpoint, the proposed course will make it easier for students to complete the minor degree in Sustainability Studies, thereby accelerating graduation rates. Budgetary and faculty load implications: Sustainability Studies is self-supporting I&G. Under current circumstances, part-time teaching staff can be paid from the College of Arts and Sciences PTI budget or from funding from the McCune Charitable Foundation. Beginning in FY 12, funds will be available from earnings of the Kellogg Endowed Chair in Sustainable Environmental and Food Systems. At the request of President Schmidly, the endowed chair involves a 5-year plan to develop matching funds with help from the UNM Foundation. The course would be part of the load of a future lecturer, or assigned to a PTI.

Requirements

The minor in Sustainability Studies requires the successful completion of 21 credit hours: 9 hours of required core courses, SUST 134, 334 **or equivalently 364**, 434, and 499, and 9 remaining hours taken from three groups of electives. In the capstone independent study project, students apply lessons from the sustainability minor in the context of the major discipline or other arena. Ideally, students will design a project for one semester for 1 credit. During the second semester, the student will earn 2 more credits, for a total of 3 credits for SUST 499. Students are advised in the selection of a faculty mentor who oversees the project. An ad hoc committee evaluates the final product and recommends a grade accordingly.