

Sustainability



University of St Andrews
Scotland's first university – 1413

Sustainability

Sustainability is a key interdisciplinary research interest at St Andrews and the University is committed to sustainable practices. This theme highlights the wealth of expertise offered in this area available for undergraduate study. Some suggested module choices:

The modules listed may be subject to change (see Curriculum Development below).

Biology – Ecosystems and Conservation: This module will examine how ecosystems function and how they provide services for humans: information which is essential for ecologists, conservationists and land managers. The module will consider examples of natural systems being altered by man to demonstrate how ecosystems function and the consequences of anthropogenic change. Disturbance and regulation in ecosystems, atmospheric and hydrological regulation, (including the green house effect and acidification), soil ecology, conservation and management of natural resources, agricultural and grazed ecosystems (including GMOs), urban ecosystems and aspects of sustainable development will also be discussed.

Geography – A World in Crisis?: Contemporary global problems such as pollution, biodiversity loss and population growth are critical issues for the planet's future and demonstrate the interdependence of social and environmental systems. This module unpacks the complexity of these challenges by analyzing different manifestations of 'a world in crisis' as questions of geography – shaped by geographic processes operating at a range of scales (from the global to the local). The module thus explores how Geography works as a 'world discipline' that is equipped to examine global problems from a range of human, environmental and physical geography perspectives. Teaching comprises a mix of lecture learning and project work on selected global problems.

Management – Sustainable Development and Management: This module examines the origin of the concept of sustainable development in public policy discourses with particular focus on the implications this concept has for the operation of business organisations. The module will examine the difficulties of applying notions of sustainable development to single organisations as well as the challenges which conventional economic systems present to sustainable development. The module will examine the theory and practice of managing for sustainable development, drawing on examples which are found in business. In addition, selected topics in managing for sustainable development will be examined.

Biology – Fisheries Research: This module will provide an introduction to the utilisation of fish stocks in a sustainable way. It will focus on how the status of these stocks can be assessed, the problems associated with determining catch limits, and how advice from fisheries scientists is communicated to managers. There will be a mixture of dedicated lectures (including talks from outside experts), student-led seminars, tutorials and practical computer sessions.

For further details, please contact: Exchanges & Study Abroad, University of St Andrews
E: studyabroad@st-andrews.ac.uk or visit our website:

www.st-andrews.ac.uk/studyabroad/incomingstudents

Curriculum Development

As a research intensive institution, the University ensures that its teaching references the research interests of its staff, which may change from time to time. As a result, programmes are regularly reviewed with the aim of enhancing students' learning experience. Our approach to course revision is described at: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/media/teaching-and-learning/policies/course-revision-protocol.pdf

For the latest information on modules see: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/coursecatalogue/ug

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