Welcome to SEAS!
Admitted Student Visit Day

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01 Specialization Overview
Program mission, goals, and overview

02 Faculty
Core and affiliate faculty members

03 Curriculum
Courses, dual degrees, master's projects/thesis

04 Careers and Employment
Alumni outcomes, data

05 SEAS, Ann Arbor, and U-M
Rankings, community, culture

06 Questions
At the University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability (SEAS), we are at the forefront of building a more sustainable and just world for all by transforming the impact of higher education and reimagining the future. We are advancing action through innovation, research, education and engagement in society, and developing leaders who are empowered to halt the climate crisis and create an environmentally sound future for generations to come.

Situated within the nation’s top public research university, the University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability (SEAS) has been a pioneer in environmental education, research, and activism for more than a century.
By completing the Sustainability and Development specialization, you become uniquely prepared to meet the rapidly growing need for trained professionals and researchers across the spectrum of sustainability and development sectors at local, national, and global scales.
The world needs you!

Sustainability and development pose **unprecedented** challenges for people and the planet. The world needs professionals with the **insights and training** to tackle those challenges!

Sustainable development treats sustainability as a **qualifier for development**, we want to place sustainability on **equal footing** with development.
Core Faculty

Arun Agrawal  
Professor

Bilal Butt  
Associate Professor

Rajiv Ghimire  
Lecturer

Keenan Gibbons  
Intermittent Lecturer

Pamela Jagger  
Professor, PhD/Postdoc  
Program Director

Maria Carmen Lemos  
Professor

Andy White  
Professor of Practice and  
Engagement
Further Support

**Affiliate Faculty**
Jennifer Blesh
Ivette Perfecto
Rebecca Hardin
Ines Ibanez
Meha Jain
Shelie Miller
Samuel Stolper

**Staff**
Cristy Watkins

**Networks**
A large network of domestic and international collaborators, colleagues and friends

**Student Track Leaders**
Parker Wise, Simrin Dhillon, and Olivia Downey
SusDev is unique among our peers

We are tackling grand challenges using:

- Development theory and practice
- Sustainability science
- Trade-off science
- Synthesis science
- Transition science
- Implementation science
Objectives

• Develop expertise in conceptual, theoretical, and methodological issues associated with sustainability and development

• Understand the real-world practices that have helped improve the well-being and have supported major sustainability transitions through new institutions, policies, and behaviors

• Learn the methods and skills necessary to implement new visions and practices for greater sustainability and well-being

  • Core methods: impact evaluation, cost benefit/life cycle/statistical analyses, geospatial analyses

  • Professional skills: negotiations, gender and diversity, conflict resolution, program management

• Commitment to diversity
Pillars of SusDev

Sample Courses
- Foundations in SusDev: Theories and Frameworks
- Cross Cutting issues on SusDev
- Conservation and Development
- Energy Justice
- Wildlife and Society
- Social Welfare Policy

Master's Project or Thesis
- 16-month group project
- Real client
- Real problem
- Professional learning
- Giveback to society

Core
- SEAS + SusDev Core
- Electives, Analytics
- Project, practicum, extra courses
- Michigan Sustainability Cases
- Conferences & engagement opportunities

Dual Degrees
- Other U-M schools
  - Law
  - Public Policy
  - Business
  - Engineering
  - Education
Multiple SusDev Initiatives: NSS

NSS National Conference
Innovation, Implementation, and Workforce Development for Sustainability
Seattle 2024
Multiple SusDev Initiatives: PACT

Pathways Alliance for Change and Transformation (PACT)

Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, and Trade in Terrestrial Carbon Markets: Time to Recognize Their Rights, Support Their Organizations, and Impose a Moratorium on Terrestrial Carbon Trade
Tailoring your Degree Beyond your Specialization

Certificates
• Environmental Justice
• Industrial Ecology
• Spatial Analysis
• Sustainability
• Climate Change Solutions
Example 1: ESM student focusing on Mobility + Built Environment

Example 2: EPP student focusing on both Conservation + Restoration and Climate + Energy

Example 3: SusDev student focusing on Water

Specializations
Dual Degrees

- Master of science in engineering (MSE)
- Master of business administration (MBA)
- Master of urban and regional planning (MURP)
- Master of science in public policy (MPP)
- Juris doctor (JD)
- Self-initiated dual degrees
Job Prospects

All Sectors

- Appx. 170K jobs advertised in sustainability, conservation, and international development last year (min. salary 75K, min. educational qualification = MS degree)
- Key skills employers are looking for: project management, data analysis, machine learning, negotiations, conflict management
- SEAS has a Careers Services Office to support and facilitate successful outcomes on the job market (employer relations, job customization and career services)
Career Outcomes

- 95% Satisfied with post-grad position
- 96% Job seekers found full-time jobs
- 90% Found position within 6 months
The world needs you...

Sustainability and development pose unprecedented challenges for people and the planet. The world needs professionals with the insights and training to tackle those challenges! Sustainability and Development at U-M will empower you to make change.
Supportive Community

Largest living alumni body of any university

- 12,600+ total alumni, the largest graduate population of any environmental degree program
- 33% of SEAS alumni have received a dual degree from another one of U-M’s nationally ranked top 10 programs
- Alumni are represented in all 50 states and 80+ countries
Big Decisions

- Take your time
- Talk to your faculty and current SEAS students
- Talk to other admitted students at Visit Day
- Find your community
- Find your purpose

Enrollment deadline April 15
Come join us!
Questions?

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