Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Sustainability: Economics and Management (SUST)

Sustainability, defined as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs,” affects nearly all enterprises, both public and private. The reasons why are significant and impactful—to reduce risk and environmental impacts, improve reputations, improve long-term viability and much more.

The interdisciplinary Bachelor of Science in Business Administration program focuses on sustainable organizations and economies, including studies in ecological, environmental and natural resource economics. Students learn management skills for sustainability and social responsibility with a wide range of applications. Other areas of study include organizational change management and global supply chain management. The sustainability program offers experiential learning elements such as field trips, practicums/internships and an integrative capstone with hands-on projects.

The Xavier Advantage

▸ Internships at leading companies and organizations in Cincinnati, home to three Fortune 100 companies, nine Fortune 500 companies and 15 Fortune 1000 companies.

▸ The Xavier Sustainability Committee and Economics, Management and Entrepreneurship Advisory Board create a network with top professionals in sustainability and related fields.

▸ Xavier’s Williams College of Business is recognized as a preeminent business school nationally and the best business school regionally.

▸ Study at the Stephen and Dolores Smith Hall, built to LEED silver standard, features 88,000 square feet of space, 17 high-tech classrooms and centers for entrepreneurship, applied finance and business ethics.

Xavier graduates in sustainability, economics and management can find exciting career opportunities as:

▸ Chief Sustainability Officer
▸ Environmental Vice President
▸ General and Operations Manager
▸ Industrial Production Manager
▸ Transportation, Storage and Distribution Managers
▸ Graduate programs in business and sustainability-related fields

Learn more
www.xavier.edu/williams/undergraduate/sustainability
Ask us xuadmit@xavier.edu
Visit campus www.xavier.edu/visit
THE PROGRAM

The Sustainability: Economics & Management BSBA will allow students to holistically investigate the complex sustainability challenges of our era, where the economy and the organizations associated with it are seen as a component of the ecosystem, not vice versa. Students will be encouraged to imagine and assist in creating new ways of thinking about sustainability in our economies and organizations.

Sustainable businesses have been shown to have lower enterprise risk, better reputations, improved long-term viability and the ability to attract more talented employees. Graduates of the Sustainability: Economics & Management BSBA will be knowledgeable about the dependence of human societies on the rest of the natural world, the demographic, economic, social and environmental challenges we face and the opportunities they create. They will be thoughtfully proactive and have the practical skills to help meet the unprecedented challenges of our era, including the ability to quantify environmental and resource problems and opportunities where possible and appropriate. In addition, graduates will have the skills necessary to inform and mobilize public opinion, as well as government and organizational policies, to facilitate sustainable economies and organizations.

The program capstone will be an Experiential Integrative Project, ideally linked to the summer practicums/internships, whereby students will work within an organization and help to design a new sustainability policy initiative; they will develop a project plan, assess the impact of current practices and policies compared to the new initiative, and create an implementation plan.

RESOURCES

The program’s three experiential learning elements (field trips, elective practicums/internships, and the program capstone) will seek to utilize resources from inside and outside the University, potentially including Xavier offices such as WCB’s Executive Mentor and Internship Programs, Xavier Leadership Center, Center for International Business, and the Sedler Center for Entrepreneurship; and the University’s Eigl Center, Brueggeman Center, Center for Faith and Justice, Community Building Institute, and our planned urban farm. In coordination with these Xavier offices, the program will also connect with organizations outside Xavier, including companies located or based in the area, from small companies to medium-sized to large companies, and public/non-profit organizations.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

The Williams College of Business (WCB) is nationally recognized for its outstanding educational experiences and the success of its students and faculty. The WCB is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), an international organization. Only 15 percent of business schools worldwide achieve this distinction. In 2010-11, the WCB was ranked:

► 11th in the U.S. in Entrepreneurship, undergraduate programs, by Entrepreneur Magazine
► 10th in the U.S., in Ethics, undergraduate programs, Bloomberg BusinessWeek

OUTCOMES

At least 3.1 million Americans are employed in green jobs, a sector that now accounts for about 2.4 percent of the nation’s total employment. A 2008 report for the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the Mayors Climate Protection Center projected 2.5 million new green jobs in the energy sector of the U.S. economy alone by 2018 (330% more than estimated to exist at the time the report was issued).

Total projected new jobs by 2028 was 3.5 million (+466% vs. 2008) with an additional 4.2 million new jobs by 2038 (+560%). For the metropolitan areas of Ohio, the projected growth was higher than the national average, an increase of 780% in new green jobs by 2038, and the Cincinnati metro region had almost 800% projected growth.

With respect to prospective careers for students majoring in economic sustainability, there is job growth potential in a variety of relevant job categories, such as Sustainability Coordinator, Sustainability Manager, Sustainability Consultant, Sustainability Consulting Analyst, and Environmental Analyst, as well as more general categories (Economist, Market Research Analyst, Survey Researcher, Economics Teacher, Consultant).

For WCB graduates overall, the average starting salary for the class of 2010: $41,057 and 90 percent were employed full-time or enrolled in graduate studies within 180 days of graduation; 72 percent secured a job prior to graduation. Eighty-one percent of WCB graduates completed internships during college.

► Stephen & Dolores Smith Hall provides a state-of-the-art setting for one of the nation’s top-ranked business schools. In addition to the Fifth Third Trading Center, the building includes 88,000 square feet, four floors, 17 high-tech classrooms and centers for entrepreneurship, applied finance, business ethics and academic advising. Additional features include space for executives-in-residence to work closely with students, plus a dedicated environment and programming for Fortune 500 companies to interact with, and employ, our students.
SUSTAINABILITY ON CAMPUS—
GOING GREEN FOR THE GREATER GOOD

Integrating sustainability into campus operations aligns with Xavier’s Jesuit tradition and promotes the ongoing welfare of our students, institution, our community and even our world. With a physical infrastructure that’s less costly to run and more resilient, the lower our carbon footprint, the more interdisciplinary and problem-focused our educational efforts.

The Hoff Academic Quad, Conaton Learning Commons, Smith Hall, Fenwick Hall and the Central Utility Plant are designed and constructed to meet or exceed US Green Building Council’s LEED silver standards. Plus provide practical benefits:

▲ Xavier’s energy consumption has decreased by 17.5 percent, water consumption by 20 percent.
▲ The first green roof on Xavier’s campus is both comfortable and sustainable.
▲ Reflective white roofs prevent 80 percent of sunlight mitigating the heat-island effect that cause urban regions to become warmer than their rural surroundings.

SUSTAINABLE CINCINNATI

Cincinnati is not just a great American city, but also takes pride in a shrinking carbon footprint. Here are just a few examples:

▲ 100 percent Renewable Electricity—By switching to renewable energy, Cincinnati’s carbon footprint was reduced by approximately 550,000 tons per year. That’s the equivalent of taking 104,000 cars off the road.
▲ Green Umbrella, a regional sustainability alliance, brings citizens, professionals, teachers, students and others team together to promote sustainability across the region in areas including energy, local food and outdoor recreation.
▲ Home Energy Retrofits—The Greater Cincinnati Energy Alliance completed energy retrofits on more than 1,000 buildings across the region saving its clients more than $500,000 per year on energy bills.
▲ In 2012, the League of American Bicyclists recognized Cincinnati as a bronze level bicycle friendly community.

CORE CURRICULUM

The foundation of Xavier’s success is its commitment to its Jesuit heritage. The Core Curriculum embodies Xavier’s mission and philosophy of education and serves as a foundation for undergraduate students. Within the Core, the four-course Ethics/Religion and Society (E/RS) Focus fosters students’ understanding of socially significant issues through study of the humanities, literature, philosophy and theology, as well as the social and natural sciences. Along with courses in their major, Xavier students also take Core courses in cultural diversity, English composition, fine arts, foreign language, history, literature, mathematics, philosophy, science, social science and theology. A number of sustainability-related sections of core courses are recommended for this major.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Core Curriculum: Minimum 64 credit hours

Major in Sustainability: Economics and Management: 21 hours of required courses in the BSBA in Sustainability major, and one business elective.