The graduate certificate in sustainability provides students with the opportunity to customize their graduate experience, adding sustainability training to any graduate degree program offered at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Graduate students can complete the sustainability certificate by selecting courses that meet both their degree and Sustainability requirements. As such, most students can add the sustainability certificate on to a degree without any additional time or cost. PhD students may use the sustainability certificate to fulfill their doctoral breadth requirement (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200/), though in this case courses may not be double-counted for major requirements.

The certificate’s interdisciplinary curriculum considers environmental, economic, and social factors of sustainability. Through coursework and co-curricular activities focused on solving sustainability challenges across the state, students deepen their understanding of the complexities and solutions involved in addressing today’s most pressing challenges. Students may wish to add this certificate as they prepare for a sustainability-related career pathway in industry, academia, NGOs, government agencies, or consulting. The certificate includes coursework across three thematic areas:

1. Economics & Development (Economy)
2. Systems Analysis, Planning & Engineering (Systems)
3. Environmental Policy, Health & Social Studies (Environment, Culture and Society)