



Sustainable Business

"It is one world. And it's in our care. For the first time in the history of humanity, for the first time in 500 million years, one species has the future in the palm of its hands."

Sir David Attenborough

Be an agent for change.

Sustainability is becoming a crucial component of most organisations, and there is huge demand for graduates with specialised sustainability knowledge. The minor in Sustainable Business will give you an understanding of the social, ethical, and environmental implications of managing business organisations. You will develop the depth of knowledge needed to provide recommendations for sustainable operations and strategy, and ultimately make a difference in both New Zealand and the world.

The skills and knowledge you learn in this minor can be applied across a variety of industries such as energy, farming, education, health and government. Most larger organisations in Aotearoa New Zealand now have some form of sustainability role so you will have a great selection of career opportunities.

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Why study Sustainable Business?

This minor will appeal to students who are environmentally, ethically and societally minded and who want to do good in the world. The selection of papers focus on issues surrounding sustainable business, ethics and indigenous approaches to dealing with environmental pressures. These will provide you with a breadth and depth of knowledge to support good organisational citizenship and allow you to make a difference in both New Zealand and the world.

The call for businesses to become more sustainable is ever-increasing. Gain the sought-after skills and knowledge needed to help organisations tackle one of the key issues of our time – how to manage an organisation to maximise benefits to society, while minimising the impact on the natural environment. This minor will enhance your employability, by providing you with the opportunity to apply sustainability concepts to business, a skill highly sought after by graduate employers.

Background required

There are no required subjects for studying Sustainable Business at Otago. This minor is open to all students studying across the University.

Teaching style

Teaching is via a mix of lectures, labs and tutorials. The three required papers are delivered by active researchers who have an interest in managing sustainable enterprises, which means that the teaching and course work draw upon emerging research in the field. The elective papers are offered by

departments across the University which can further enhance and broaden your perspective of Sustainable Business.

Required papers

- BSNS 111 Business and Society
- MANT 252 Developing Responsible Leadership
- MANT 337 Organisations and Sustainability
- Plus two of:
 - MANT 331 Business Ethics
 - MANT 340 Indigenous Management and Organisation
 - ENVI 111 Environment and Society
 - ENVI 211 Environmental History of New Zealand
 - ENVI 311 Understanding Environmental Issues
 - ENVI 312 Interdisciplinary Aspects of Climate Change
 - ACCT 325 Corporate Sustainability Accounting and Reporting
 - FINC 320 Sustainable Investing
 - PHIL 235 Environmental Philosophy
 - MATS 204 Treasure or Trash: Sustainability of Materials
 - ECON 207 Environmental Economics
 - ECON 303 Economics of Developing Countries
 - ECON 317 Urban and Regional Economics
 - ECON 351 Special Topic: Economics of Households and Wellbeing
 - TOUR 306 Ecotourism and Sustainable Development

Career opportunities

The job opportunities in sustainable business are increasing fast, with a strong market for the skill set developed through this programme. The minor in Sustainable Business will prepare students for a variety of careers. Graduates will be well positioned to work as and with sustainability advisers, consultants, analysts, planners and managers for policy, change, development and strategy. These roles cut across industries such as energy, farming, education, health and government.

For questions about
Sustainable Business
otago.ac.nz/sustainablebusiness



ENDORSEMENTS

Adam Weller

Sustainability Manager, Waste Management New Zealand

"To meet our net zero target New Zealand needs to undergo a major transition to a low carbon economy which will impact heavily on our businesses and will require more business graduates to have a good basic understanding of sustainability. A minor in sustainability from the University of Otago would be an important initial part of this transition."

Dean Delaney

Director, Platinum Recruitment

"Sustainable development is critical for progressive organisations and most that I interact with want candidates to have a viewpoint on sustainability and how it impacts. This minor will only enhance a University of Otago graduate's ability to differentiate themselves within a competitive labour market."

