Taking the Lead in Going Green

The first South Dakota university to join the American College and University President’s Climate Commitment, BHSU is furthering its commitment to sustainability as it seeks accreditation from the Sustainability Tracking and Assessment Rating System (STARS) through the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

Degree Requirements

33 credit hours are needed to graduate with the Master of Science in Sustainability degree. The entire degree is offered online and can be completed in 2 years.

Required Core Courses (27 cr.)

- SUST 510 Fundamentals of Sustainability (3 cr.)
- SUST 520 Science for Sustainability (3 cr.)
- SUST 530 Environmental Economics (3 cr.)
- SUST 710 Human Dimensions of Sustainability (3 cr.)
- SUST 720 Communication and Change (3 cr.)
- SUST 730 Environmental Law & Policy (3 cr.)
- SUST 750 Quantitative Methods in Sustainability (3 cr.)
- SUST 785 Capstone (6 cr.)
- Elective Courses (6 cr.)

Notes

Contact:

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Master of Science in Sustainability

Black Hills State University’s Master of Science in Sustainability (MSS) prepares students for exciting careers in the wide-ranging field of sustainability. By incorporating a multidisciplinary approach to complex human and environmental issues students will acquire the scientific, economic, social, and environmental knowledge they need to become change agents leading businesses, communities and the world to a sustainable future.

Career Opportunities

An analysis of job openings available on various websites shows workforce demand for individuals with sustainability knowledge.

Business & Industry

The Peterson Graduate Directory notes “sustainability coincides with such industries as computer networking and system technology, communications, energy, environmental management, architecture, engineering, planning, design, construction, media, marketing, parks and recreation, horticulture, agriculture, hospitality, travel and tourism, transportation, and more.”

Public Sector & Non-profit

In addition to industry, sustainability jobs exist in higher education, governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and social entrepreneurship ventures.

Application Guidelines

To be eligible to apply to the Master of Science in Sustainability program you must hold a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution of higher education. To apply for admission, please submit the following to:

BHSU Office of Graduate Studies
1200 University Street Unit 9501
Spearfish, SD 57799-9501

- BHSU online graduate application at www.BHSU.edu/Apply
- Official BS/BA transcript from an accredited college/university with evidence of a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above on a 4.0 scale
- Official GRE scores
- Three letters of recommendation that demonstrate the applicant’s potential for academic success in the program
- A brief personal essay outlining interest in and preparation for the program
- Minimum paper-based TOEFL score of 550 (for international students only)

Applications for the MSS program are accepted at any time.

Internships

Internships are available to eligible students. An internship is an experientially based course that enables a student to apply what they have learned in a supervised environment. Students can take 3 or 6 credit hours of internship, which can be applied towards required electives. For more information on internship requirements contact Dr. Sandra Marker or visit the Sustainability website. www.BHSU.edu/Sustainability

Program Highlights

The emphasis of the program will be on:
- Encouraging academic excellence
- Understanding and undertaking scholarly research
- Recognizing interdisciplinary connections
- Learning to communicate with different stakeholders
- Gaining practical experience
- Acquiring professional training
- Attaining personal fulfillment
- Making a difference to the quality of life shared by all...