

## Global Sustainable Development Certificate

**Contacts:** Schedule an appointment with Elaine Linn, Global Studies Center [www.ucis.pitt.edu/global/adving](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/global/adving) and a SPIA Academic Advisor: (Last names A-L) Julie Korade, [korade@pitt.edu](mailto:korade@pitt.edu) or (Last names M-Z) Kelly McDevitt, [mcdevitt@pitt.edu](mailto:mcdevitt@pitt.edu)

This certificate is co-sponsored by the SPIA and the Global Studies Center, linking SPIA expertise in global sustainable development, with UCIS expertise offering interdisciplinary credentials across schools, departments, and fields of study.

The Certificate provides graduate students with tools to engage with complex challenges of global sustainable development. Global sustainable development involves the pursuit of a better world for all through the elimination of chronic poverty, discrimination & injustice, and environmental degradation, in order to ensure a sustainable future of well-being for the earth and its peoples. Worldwide, a common framework used to pursue sustainable development is found in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which promotes 17 inter-related, comprehensive, and universally applicable sustainability goals spanning economic, social, political, and environmental issues. This Certificate provides theoretical knowledge, interdisciplinary approaches, and practical skills needed to tackle chronic problems and achieve sustainable development goals on issues including poverty, hunger, health, inequality, gender empowerment, the environment, peace and justice, governance, NGO and civil society participation, and global cooperation. Learn how to solve global problems in comprehensive, sustainable, and ethical ways appropriate to diverse national and regional realities, capacities, and priorities.

The curriculum provides in-depth theoretical understanding of global sustainable development as well as practical skills to engage with complex challenges targeted through the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development, which encompasses the “5 P’s”: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnership. Certificate courses address a wide range of SDG topics including poverty, hunger, health, education, gender inequality, the environment and natural resources, water and sanitation, energy, employment, development planning and management, global inequalities, peace/inclusion/and justice, governance and global partnerships.

*Students complete 12 credits (6 credits in GSD foundation courses, and 6 credits of approved GSD electives), as well as a Digital Portfolio* which can be shared with future employers and graduate schools. See the detailed Plan of Study and course list below.

Students may take up to 2 approved Certificate courses (6 credits) that *simultaneously* fulfill other Degree requirements. Students may take up to 2 *approved* courses outside of SPIA.

Please note that not all elective courses listed are offered every year. Students may propose a course for review as an approved elective course.

Minimum grade of C or higher required for all Certificate courses. Certificate courses may not be taken on S/NC basis.

### PLAN OF STUDY - GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

#### **Two of the following Foundation Courses (6 credits):**

PIA 2501 Development Policy & Administration (3 cr.)

PIA 2510 Economics of Development (3 cr.)

PIA 2448 Political Economy of Development (3 cr.)

**Digital Portfolio:** Meet with Elaine Linn to create your Digital Portfolio using the Digication platform, due the semester of graduation.

**AND**

**Two approved elective courses (6 credits):**

**SPIA:**

PIA 2115 Environmental Economics  
PIA 2117 Program Evaluation (offered online)  
PIA 2125 City & Regions: Theory & Practice  
PIA 2164 Natural Resources Governance  
PIA 2307 Human Security  
PIA 2310 Markets & States  
PIA 2448 Political Economy of Development (if not taken as Foundation Course)  
PIA 2473 Strategies of Global Inquiry (with approved research topic in GSD)  
PIA 2476 Nonviolent Resistance Movements  
PIA 2478 Asylum Policy & Politics  
PIA 2496 Governing Technology  
PIA 2501 Development Policy & Administration (if not taken as Foundation Course)  
PIA 2502 Environmental Policy Local to Global  
PIA 2507 Human Rights & Social Change  
PIA 2508 NGO Advocacy & International Coalitions  
PIA 2510 Economics of Development (if not taken as a Foundation Course)  
PIA 2512 Poverty & Inequality  
PIA 2519 Comparative Governance (offered online)  
PIA 2522 Climate Policy Local to Global  
PIA 2526 Micropolitics: NGOs, Civil Society & Development  
PIA 2529 Political Economy Analysis (offered online)  
PIA 2531 Human Rights & UN Sustainable Development Goals  
PIA 2551 Gender & Development  
PIA 2552 Managing Organizations in Development  
PIA 2553 Global Health Policy  
PIA 2590 Local & Global Food Policy & Sustainability  
PIA 2715 GIS for Public Policy  
PIA 2740 Planning & Analysis for Sustainable Regions

**Other schools (up to two approved elective courses may be taken outside SPIA):**

CEE 2610 Engineering & Sustainable Development  
ENG 2007 Sustainability Capstone (with permission & approved topic)  
ENG 2905 Current Issues in Sustainability  
PUBHLTH 2025 Concepts & Methods in Global Health (2 cr.)  
PUBHLTH 2033 Managing the Natural Environment  
PUBHLTH 2173 Transforming Global Health Education into Action  
BFIN 2043 International Financial Management  
BSEO Managing the Natural Environment (1.5 cr.)  
BSEO 2578 Sustainable Business Strategy (1.5 cr.)  
BSPP 2328 The Business of Humanity – Strategic Management