Sustainability, Environmental and Natural Resources

ASU continues to lead sustainability, environmental and natural resources the way in sustainability research that aims to solve the world’s leading environmental, economic and social challenges. Students interested in sustainability, environmental and natural resources choose to study a variety of subjects including business, biological sciences, humanities, civil engineering, political science, and tourism. From tackling global and local water purification and preservation to partnerships that strengthen global biodiversity conservation efforts, sustainability is imbedded in the ASU community.

Individuals interested in sustainability, environmental and natural resources research new ways to reduce our carbon footprint, develop and test solutions to climate change, food insecurity and water shortages, and learn from Earth’s paleoclimate to predict the future of species and plant adaptability.

Tips for Success

Participate in research
Sustainability, environmental and natural resources careers rely heavily on research advancement. Resources are available for students to begin research as early as freshman year. Consider enrolling in ProMod, a project-based modular learning program open to students of all majors.

Complete an internship
Do you prefer to work out in the field, or in a traditional office setting? Interning is a great way to get hands-on experience in your field of interest and allow you to experience different work environments.

Get involved on campus
There are many student-led groups related to sustainability, environmental and natural resources. From harvesting and selling dates on campus to hosting rescued food festivals, these groups are dedicated to moving ASU’s sustainability initiatives forward.

Consider studying abroad
In many places around the world, access to natural resources is scarce or underdeveloped. Consider studying abroad to challenge yourself and gain a global perspective.

Possible Career Fields
- Agribusiness
- Agronomy/Plant Science
- Consulting
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Education
- Environmental Conservation
- Environmental Public Policy
- Environmental Resource Management
- Event Planning
- Fashion and Apparel
- Food Science
- Forestry
- Marketing
- Political Science
- Research and Development
- Waste and Recycling
Professional Associations
There are several local and national professional associations connected to this Career Interest Area. Joining a professional association will help you network with professionals already in your field of interest, as well as expose you to new opportunities you may not have considered. Some are free to join and others may offer student rates to become a member.

- Arizona Forward
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Greenpeace
- International Society of Sustainability Professionals
- National Association of Environmental Professionals
- National Association of Environmental Management
- Sustainable Food Trade Association
- Sustainability Management Association
- The Biomimicry Institute
- The Sustainability Consortium

Student Organizations @ ASU
Student organizations are another great way to get connected with fellow students with similar interests. Many student clubs bring potential employers to speak at meetings, host career-related events, and offer professional development opportunities. Check Sun Devil Sync for more information on joining student organizations.

- Business Sustainability Club
- Barrett Sustainability Club
- Campus Student Sustainability Initiatives
- Citizens’ Climate Lobby
- Enactus
- Environmental Advocacy, Restoration, and Technology for Humanity Club
- Garden Pool
- Honor Society for Sustainability
- Global Water Brigades
- Greenlight Solutions

Next Steps
Try searching for internships on Handshake or volunteer opportunities with VolunteerMatch.