

NMSU Faculty Senate

Proposition Number 19-14/15

Title A Proposition to create a Graduate Certificate Program in Sustainability

Sponsors Larry Blank (Business)

Committee Assignment TBD

Proposal: Creation of 'Sustainability Graduate Certificate Program' at New Mexico State University with the following 12 credits of REQUIRED COURSES AND RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE:

FIRST CLASS:  **MGT 548 Small Business Consulting** (3 credit hours) – prerequisite senior standing or consent of instructor;
Course Description: Study, analysis, and presentation of recommendations for solving significant problems confronting small businesses or other type of organization (public, non-profit, etc.) Note: Includes a final project, with at least ten hours spent with an organization doing environmental-sustainability consulting.

SECOND CLASS:  **ANTH 536 Anthropology of Development** (3 credit hours) – no prerequisites. Course Description: The study of global processes of social and economic change, and their impact on non-Western societies.

THIRD CLASS:  **ANTH 538 Plants, Culture, and Sustainable Development** (3 credit hours) – no prerequisites Course Description: Study of role of indigenous cultures and indigenous knowledge systems in plant domestication, ethnoecology, and preservation of traditional crop diversity. Examination of issues related to conserving cultural diversity, food systems, food security and biodiversity.

FINAL CLASS:  **BA 550 Special Topics (3 credit hours) - Interdisciplinary seminar in Sustainability Development** – no prerequisites. Course Description: Examines the principles of environmental assessment and management. Topics include global environmental concerns, industrial environmental management, life cycle assessment, system analysis, process improvement, and sustainable development, among others.

1) **Title:** *Sustainability Graduate Certificate Program*; Start Date Fall, 2015

2) **The purpose of program:** The primary purpose of the *Sustainability Graduate Certificate Program* is to provide post-baccalaureate students pursuing a career in sustainability specific skill training to enhance employability to quickly meet manpower needs within the state of New Mexico, the region, and the United States. Sustainability is a

multidisciplinary field and, therefore, students with educational backgrounds in disciplines across more than one department are usually well suited to pursue a green career and are encouraged to consider this certificate program. This certificate program will also enhance the interdisciplinary expertise in sustainability, transform careers through mastery of latest green topics and trends. Therefore the *Sustainability Graduate Certificate Program* is designed to serve two groups of individuals:

- Current graduate students from a variety of NMSU programs who wish to expand their primary area of study to include a focus in sustainability across more than one College; and
- Non-degree seeking students (such as professionals in sustainability-related careers) who have completed an undergraduate degree and wish to refresh update and extend their knowledge and skill set in sustainability.

3) Resources: This program uses existing courses and no additional resources will be needed.

ONE-PAGE SUMMARY: GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN SUSTAINABILITY

REQUIREMENTS: Must have 3.0 GPA to be accepted in the Program; Must be admitted to NMSU Graduate College; Must complete 12 credit hours with 3.0 or above grade in each course.

REQUIRED COURSES AND THEIR RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE:

FIRST CLASS:  **MGT 548 Small Business Consulting** (3 credit hours) – prerequisite senior standing or consent of instructor;
Course Description: Study, analysis, and presentation of recommendations for solving significant problems confronting small businesses or other type of organization (public, non-profit, etc.) Note: Includes a final project, with at least ten hours spent with an organization doing environmental-sustainability consulting.

SECOND CLASS:  **ANTH 536 Anthropology of Development** (3 credit hours) – no prerequisites. Course Description: The study of global processes of social and economic change, and their impact on non-Western societies.

THIRD CLASS:  **ANTH 538 Plants, Culture, and Sustainable Development** (3 credit hours) – no prerequisites Course Description: Study of role of indigenous cultures and indigenous knowledge systems in plant domestication, ethnoecology, and preservation of traditional crop diversity. Examination of issues related to conserving cultural diversity, food systems, food security and biodiversity.

FINAL CLASS:  **BA 550 Special Topics (3 credit hours) - Interdisciplinary seminar in Sustainability Development** – no prerequisites. Course Description: Examines the principles of environmental assessment and management. Topics include global environmental concerns, industrial environmental management, life cycle assessment, system analysis, process improvement, and sustainable development, among others.

For Graduate Certificate in Sustainability, must Complete MGT 548, ANTH 536, ANTH 538 and BA 550.

Summary: The *Sustainability Graduate Certificate* provides students with an initial Management Department course (MGT 548 Small Business Consulting, in which the graduate students conduct an environmental audit during a consulting project to a small business, or a public, or a non-profit organization), followed by two courses from the Anthropology Department (ANTH 536 Anthropology of Development; ANTH 538 Plants Culture and Sustainable Development; and concluding with a second Management Department course (BA 550 Seminar in Sustainability Development in the Green Economy) in which students do a special project course on environmental sustainability. The project includes at least two interventions that improve the sustainability of the organization (such as energy savings, reduction of use of natural resources, development of more sustainable relation to the ecosystem, and so forth).

**SIGNATURE SHEET FOR
GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN SUSTAINABILITY**

College of Arts and Sciences

Anthropology ^{RTA} Interim Department Head

Rani Alexander  Date 11-24-2014

College of Business

Associate Dean

Kathy Brook  Date 11-24-14

Management Department Head

Steve Elias  Date 11-24-14

ADAC

Beth Pollack  Date 11-24-2014

Academic Dean's Council

Dan Howard _____ Date _____

Graduate School

Loui Reyes  Date 11/24/14

Faculty Senate

Stuart Munson-McGee _____ Date _____

Provost

Dan Howard _____ Date _____