GW has been educating students in environmental policy for more than three decades, and sustainability-related research, curricular, and outreach programs are still expanding. The University’s national rankings are a testament to the quality of the curriculum and its forward momentum in making sustainability a core value in the community.

Institutes & Research

- **Energy Institute** explores new approaches to energy science and technology directed toward developing new sources of renewable energy and increasing energy efficiency to ensure a sustainable energy future.

- **Environmental Law Program** is one of the oldest programs in existence and ranked 16th in the nation – it provides tools needed to address climate change, fisheries depletion, air pollution, water scarcity and developing new sources of energy.

- **Institute for Corporate Responsibility** has four program areas including Peace through Commerce, Environmental Sustainability, Corporate Governance, and Global Stakeholder Strategies.

- **Institute for International Economic Policy** of GW’s Elliott School supports high-quality research that addresses critical issues surrounding the emerging global economy, in the fields of international trade, international finance, and international economic development and poverty reduction.

- **Institute for Sustainability Research, Education & Policy** advances the quality and quantity of sustainability-related research conducted, education delivered, and policy considered throughout and beyond the University and its stakeholders.

- **Solar Institute** focuses on the economic, technical and public policy issues associated with deployment of solar energy to meet global energy needs and environmental challenges.

Degree Programs

GW’s current academic offerings include more than 100 courses covering a diverse set of sustainability topics and issues as well as the 14 academic programs listed below which relate to sustainability:

- JD in Environmental Law, School of Law
- MBA in Environmental Policy and Management, School of Business
- Certificate Program in Responsible Management, School of Business
- MS in Environmental and Energy Management, School of Engineering and Applied Science
- MA in Environmental and Resource Policy, Columbian College of Arts and Sciences
- MA in International Development (Sustainable Development Focus), Elliott School of International Affairs
- MPH in Environmental and Occupational Health, School of Public Health and Health Sciences
- MPH in Environmental Health Science and Policy, School of Public Health and Health Policy
- MS in Environmental Engineering, School of Engineering and Applied Science
- BA in Environmental Studies, Columbian College of Arts and Sciences
- BS in Environmental Science, Columbian College of Arts and Sciences
- MPP, MPA in Environmental Policy, Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration
- MPS in Sustainable Urban Planning, College of Professional Studies
- Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Landscapes
Dialogue

- **Planet Forward** in GW’s Center for Innovative Media is led by Emmy-award winning journalist Frank Sesno and serves as a virtual public square for students, scientists, activists and entrepreneurs to make their case about the nation’s energy future. Students and citizens submit videos and opinions while experts and the Planet Forward community engage online to promote a new “bottom up” type of citizen conversation, flowing from web to television and back again. It explores the feasibility of moving rapidly away from fossil fuels. Its 2009 PBS broadcast was followed by a new online edition in 2010.

- **Sustainability Ideation Sessions** provide a valuable forum for stakeholder input on how to shape both GW and DC’s sustainability efforts.

  — **The DC Policy Greenhouse** in summer 2009 featured citizens throughout the region who “pitched” their sustainable ideas to GW and DC policymakers, including providing a bike to every elementary student, giving homeowners a tool to assess tree planting potential, and initiating a program to bring a garden to every DC school.

  — **The GW Greenhouse** in winter 2010 allowed more than 100 GW staff and students to submit ideas for making the GW campus more sustainable. Ideas presented included a proposal for a living wall, linking sustainability and service-learning and reducing the use of classroom paper print-outs.

- **Environmental Governance at the Leading Edge of Technology** was the theme of the 2011 J.B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Environmental Law Conference cosponsored by GW Law School, the Environmental Law Institute, the GW Environmental Law Association, and the Journal of Energy and Environmental Law. It featured world renowned energy, environment, and policy experts.

- **Taking Environmental and Human Health Protection to the Next Level** was hosted by the GW Institute for Sustainability and the University Seminar Series and featured a talk by Paul Anastas, assistant administrator at the EPA. A panel discussion followed featuring Lynn Goldman, dean of GW’s School of Public Health and Health Services; Mark Starik, department chair and professor of strategic management and public policy and director of the GW Institute for Corporate Responsibility Environmental Sustainability; and John Carruthers, director of the sustainable urban planning program at GW’s College of Professional Studies.

- **Business Response to Climate Change** was a student-run, student-organized conference that explored how forward thinking businesses have innovated and created opportunity from the climate change challenge. GW’s Business School student groups convened DC entrepreneurs, consultants, policy experts, corporate officials and non-profit leaders to discuss a vision for a renewable and sustainable future.

- **Solar Energy: A Critical Component of Meeting the Clean Energy Challenge** hosted by the GW Solar Institute Symposium, brought together major figures in the energy arena to develop a consensus vision for the growing role of solar energy in the United States.

GW’s Office of Sustainability was formed in 2008 to provide a home for sustainability and environmental projects at GW in partnership with its many existing staff and offices. The Office of Sustainability advances GW’s mission to create systems that are healthy and thriving for all, long into the future by setting sustainability strategy, inviting participation, and nurturing the GW culture. For more details on progress, partners, and GW resources visit [www.sustainability.gwu.edu](http://www.sustainability.gwu.edu) or email sustain@gwu.edu

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