

Sustainability Criteria

	Criteria	Key Concepts
VALUES	<p>Human responsibility within the environment <i>Exploring the morality underlying how humans interact with natural surroundings, particularly through the lens of fairness and responsibility for future generations</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment-related Sustainable Development Goals • Environmental justice • Valuing eco-system services for future generations • Ecological citizenship in terms of protection of the public environmental good • Appreciation, empathy, and nurturing of environmental values
	<p>Human responsibility within society <i>Exploring the social factors that limit human thriving and global quality of life</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social justice and responsibility • Social-focused Sustainable Development Goals • Universal Declaration of Human Rights • Poverty reduction • Equity (e.g., income distribution, Gini coefficient) • Gender equality • Actions that degrade human well-being
	<p>Human behaviour <i>Exploring how culture, social networks, and personal identity can shape human behaviours in ways that impact our ability to act in sustainable ways</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional theory and dynamics of social change • Behaviour economics • Change management • Strategies for pro-environmental behaviors (e.g., Community-Based Social Marketing) • Environmental psychology • Reflecting upon diverse perspectives (e.g., moral relativism, social norms, identities)
KNOWLEDGE	<p>Natural limits <i>Exploring the finite capacity of natural ecosystems (including the global ecosystem) and their ability to support human needs</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Anthropocene • The biosphere, ecological risks, biodiversity • Understanding of planetary systems (air, water, or soil) • Food systems • Demographic trends • Natural capital and limits to growth
	<p>Business and economics <i>Exploring the market conditions that create “market failures” with respect to the environment or society, and examining business and economic strategies that can better maintain the integrity of ecosystems</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The circular economy • Sustainability business strategies (e.g., auditing, reporting, green finance) • Tragedy of the commons, externalities, or other market failures • Global patterns of production and consumption
	<p>Science and technology <i>Exploring the role of basic science and technology (broad and individual technologies) specifically in mitigating harmful impacts to humans and the natural world</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitions to renewable, zero-carbon energy • Green technologies to preserve oceans, forests, and agriculture • Technologies to generate efficiency, conservation, and productivity • Mitigating pollution, waste, and effluence • Smart cities strategies
	<p>Planning and design <i>Exploring concepts from local and regional planning, infrastructure development, and product design to mitigate harmful impacts to humans and the natural world</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable urban environments • Green building design • Product design for sustainability outcomes • Urban infrastructure (e.g. transport, waste management)

SKILLS	<p>Governance <i>Exploring how legal frameworks and government policies impact society and the natural world</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political and economic organisations • Policy for sustainability (e.g., codes, standards, and regulations) • Governing for public good (e.g., public investment, incentives, public relations campaigns) • Legal frameworks (e.g., property rights, trade agreements)
	<p>Systems thinking <i>Building a holistic perspective, recognising interconnectedness and interdependence across multiple scales</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resilience and robustness • System dynamics (e.g., feedback loops, tipping points) • Unanticipated consequences and trade-offs • Qualitative / quantitative systems analysis • Life-cycle thinking and whole-life cost analysis
	<p>Collaboration & communication <i>Building interdisciplinary thinking and a capacity to work with others to resolve sustainability problems</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicating for sustainability outcomes • Negotiation, mediation, or conflict resolution • Team-building for sustainability causes • On/off-site experiential learning • Stakeholder engagement
	<p>Futures thinking <i>Building an orientation to the long-term, with the ability to anticipate future challenges, risks, and opportunities</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessing sustainability-related risks • Forecasting / backcasting • Scenario planning • Simulation modelling • Strategic planning • Adaptation and mitigation strategies
	<p>Critical thinking and complex problem-solving <i>Building a foundation for evaluating the credibility of data and ideas, and the capacity to develop and implement meaningful solutions</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of news cycles and media depictions of events • Objective development of judgements and persuasive arguments • Principled reasoning • Multi-criteria assessment models • Impact assessment methods • Creativity and innovation • Critical data analysis and interpretation