EP.26.097_FINAL
Approved by EP 02/02/2026

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 12/12/25 12:40 pm

Viewing: **10KL6147BS : Sustainability in Food & Environmental Systems, BS**

Last approved: 05/01/25 9:44 am

Last edit: 02/05/26 9:49 am

Changes proposed by: Brianna Gregg

Catalog Pages Using this Program

Sustainability in Food & Environmental Systems, BS

Proposal Type:
    Major (ex. Special Education)

This proposal is for a:
    Revision

In Workflow

1. **U Program Review**
2. **Gen Ed Review**
3. **1483-ACES_A Head**
4. **KL Committee Chair**
5. **KL Dean**
6. **University Librarian**
7. **COTE Programs**
8. **Provost**
9. **Senate EPC**
10. Senate
11. U Senate Conf
12. Board of Trustees
13. IBHE
14. HLC
15. Catalog Editor
16. DMI

Approval Path

1. 12/17/25 8:50 am
   Brianna Vargas-Gonzalez (bv4):
   Approved for U Program Review
2. 12/18/25 2:08 pm
   Melissa Steinkoenig (menewell):
   Approved for Gen Ed Review
3. 12/19/25 7:19 am
   Debra Korte (dskorte): Approved for 1483-ACES_A Head
4. 12/19/25 8:46 am

Brianna Gregg (bjgray2): Approved for KL Committee Chair

5. 12/19/25 9:53 am Anna Ball (aball): Approved for KL Dean

6. 12/19/25 12:39 pm Tom Teper (tteper): Approved for University Librarian

7. 12/19/25 1:38 pm Suzanne Lee (suzannel): Approved for COTE Programs

8. 01/05/26 9:43 am Brooke Newell (bsnewell): Rollback to KL Committee Chair for Provost

9. 01/05/26 2:20 pm Brianna Gregg (bjgray2): Approved for KL Committee Chair

10. 01/05/26 2:22 pm Anna Ball (aball): Approved for KL Dean

11. 01/05/26 3:25 pm Tom Teper (tteper): Approved for University Librarian

12. 01/05/26 3:34 pm Suzanne Lee (suzannel): Approved for COTE Programs

13. 01/07/26 12:47 pm
    Brooke Newell
    (bsnewell):
    Approved for
    Provost

History

1. May 18, 2020 by
   Megan Dailey
   (mdailey5)
2. Jan 6, 2022 by
   Megan Dailey
   (mdailey5)
3. Apr 21, 2022 by
   Megan Dailey
   (mdailey5)
4. Mar 1, 2023 by
   Debra Korte
   (dskorte)
5. May 1, 2025 by
   Brianna Gregg
   (bjgray2)

Administration Details

Official Program Name	Sustainability in Food & Environmental Systems, BS
Diploma Title	Bachelor of Science in Sustainability in Food and Environmental Systems
Sponsor College	Agr, Consumer, & Env Sciences
Sponsor Department	ACES Admin
Sponsor Name	Jack McCoy
Sponsor Email	jemccoy@illinois.edu
College Contact	Brianna Gregg	College Contact Email

bjgray2@illinois.edu

| College Budget Officer | Nick Unser |
| College Budget Officer Email | nicku@illinois.edu |

If additional stakeholders other than the Sponsor and College Contacts listed above should be contacted if questions during the review process arise, please list them here.

Brianna Gregg (bjgray2@illinois.edu); Jack McCoy (jemccoy@illinois.edu)

Does this program have inter-departmental administration?

No

Effective Catalog Term

| Effective Catalog Term | Fall 2026 |
| Effective Catalog | 2026-2027 |

Proposal Title

Proposal Title (either Establish/Revise/Eliminate the Degree Name in Program Name in the College of XXXX, i.e., Establish the Bachelor of Science in Entomology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, include the Graduate College for Grad Programs)

Revise the Bachelor of Science in Sustainability in Food & Environmental Systems in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

Does this proposal have any related proposals that will also be revised at this time and the programs depend on each other? Consider Majors, Minors, Concentrations & Joint Programs in your department. Please know that this information is used administratively to move related proposals through workflow efficiently and together as needed. Format your response like the following "This BS proposal (key 567) is related to the Concentration A proposal (key 145)"

Program Justification

Provide a brief description, using a numbered item list, of the proposed changes to the program.

1. Removed ACES 101.

2. Replaced ACES 101 with "ACES 123 or ACES 200".

3. Added ECON 102 as an OR option for ACE 100.

4. Added more elective options for the specialization courses.

5. We reduced the total amount of hours needed to complete the degree from 126 to 120.

Did the program content change 25% or more in relation to the total credit hours, since the most recent university accreditation visit? See the italicized text below for more details.

No

Provide the reasoning for why each change was necessary, using a corresponding numbered item list as it relates to the brief description numbered list above.

1. ACES 101 has been deactivated. The departments within ACES will be taking over the orientation course for new students. This allows the departments to build the course in Banner, assign instructors, and manage enrollment and overrides.

2. ACES 123 will replaces ACES 101 for first-year SFES students, and ACES 200 will replace it for transfer students.

3. Adding this option will give students more flexibility in fulfilling the requirement, especially since it's offered over the summer.

4. SFES is meant to be an exploratory program so we wanted to expand the list of courses that could count towards fulfilling a student's "Specialization" requirement.

5. Unless it is an extremely rigorous curriculum, we've found that most other program on campus, on average, are only 120 credit hours. Reducing the total to 120 credit hours will better reflect the academic demands of the program, bring it in line with the campus standard for most undergraduate degrees, and provide students with greater flexibility without diminishing the program's educational value. We reduced the total hours by reducing the hours of "Free Elective Courses" (see changes reflected in sample sequence).

Instructional Resources

Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a resul of this new program/proposed change?

No

Does this new program/proposed change result in the replacement of another program?

No

Does the program include other courses/subjects outside of the sponsoring department impacted by the creation/revision of this program? If Yes is selected, indicate the appropriate courses and attach the letter of support/acknowledgement.

Yes

Courses outside of the sponsoring department/interdisciplinary departments:

ECON 102 - Microeconomic Principles
ACES 123 - ACES Orientation to Illinois
ACES 200 - ACES Transfer Orientation
ACE 100 - Intro to Applied Micro

Please attach any letters of support/ acknowledgement for any Instructional Resources. Consider faculty, students, and/or other impacted units as appropriate.	ECON 102_Letter of Support_SFES Curriculum.pdf
	CPSC_Letter of Support_SFES Curriculum.pdf
	ACES 200_Letter-of-Support.pdf
	ACES 123_Letter-of-Support.pdf
	ACE_Letter of Support_SFES Curriculum.pdf
	NRES_Letter of Support_SFES Curriculum.pdf

Program Features

Academic Level	Undergraduate
Does this major	No

have transcripted
concentrations?

What is the longest/maximum time to completion of this program?

4 years

What are the minimum Total Credit Hours required for this program?

120 hours 126

CIP Code   010000 - Agriculture, General.

Is this program part of an ISBE approved licensure program?

No

Will specialized accreditation be sought for this program?

No

Does this program prepare graduates for entry into a career or profession that is regulated by the State of Illinois?

No

Program of Study

Provide detailed information (course rubrics, numbers, and credit hours) of how a student could obtain 40 credit hours of upper-division coursework.

40 hours of advanced level or courses with two or more prerequisites coursework within the degree program:

a) Required Upper-division Courses:
N/A

b) "Choose from:" Upper-division Courses:
Advanced Composition - Select one of the following:
ANSC 205
ETMA 311 - 3 hours
PLPA 200

c) Elective Upper-division Courses:
N/A

Total upper-level hours: 3

The remaining 37 upper-level hours will come from upper-level specialization courses and free upper-level elective courses.

| Revised programs | [Side by Side_Sustainability in Food & Environmental Systems, BS_11_14_25.xlsx](#) |
| | [Sample Sequence_Sustainability in Food & Environmental Systems, BS_11_14_25.docx](#) |

Catalog Page Text - Overview Tab

Catalog Page Overview Text

Students pursuing a degree in the Sustainability in Food and Environmental Systems (SFES) program will analyze, investigate, and propose solutions for issues of sustainability, security, and justice within food and environmental systems. Using an interdisciplinary approach, students will examine the science and practice of food production systems, evaluate policies and laws associated with food security across urban, environmental, economic, social, and health contexts, and analyze the ways resources and influence impact food production and environmental sustainability.

Students in this program can customize their experience by delving deeper into a specialization area of interest, including (but not limited to): policy and law, climate change and society, food production systems, or resources and influence. Within each of these specialization areas, students will examine behaviors and decision-making practices of people, communities, and the economy. Graduates of this program will be prepared for jobs that require skills in critical thinking, problem-solving, scientific literacy, communication, and leadership.

A minimum of 120 ~~126~~ credit hours are required for graduation, including General Education Requirements and the SFES Core Curriculum.

Is the overview text above correct?

Yes

Statement for
Programs of Study
Catalog

Graduation Requirements

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 ~~126~~ hours.

University Requirements

Minimum of 40 hours of upper-division coursework, generally at the 300 and 400 level. These hours can be drawn from all elements of the degree. Students should consult their academic advisor for additional guidance in fulfilling this requirement.

The university and residency requirements can be found in the Student Code (§ 3-801) and in the Academic Catalog.

General Education Requirements

Follows the campus General Education (Gen Ed) requirements. Some Gen Ed requirements may be met by courses required and/or electives in the program.

Composition I	4-6
Advanced Composition	3
fulfilled by ANSC 205, ETMA 311, or PLPA 200	
Humanities & the Arts (6 hours)	6
Natural Sciences & Technology (6 hours)	6
fulfilled by ACES 102, and FSHN 101 or FSHN 120	
Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 hours)	6
fulfilled by ACE 100 or ECON 102, ACE 255, and LEAD 260	
Cultural Studies: Non-Western Cultures (1 course)	3
Cultural Studies: US Minority Cultures (1 course)	3
fulfilled by ACE 255	
Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Cultures (1 course)	3
Quantitative Reasoning (2 courses, at least one course must be Quantitative Reasoning I)	6-10
fulfilled by STAT 100, ACE 262, or CPSC 241 and one other course approved as Quantitative Reasoning	
Language Requirement (Completion of the third semester or equivalent of a language other than English is required)	0-15
College Foundation	
~~ACES 101~~	~~Contemporary Issues in ACES~~	~~2~~
ACES 123	ACES Orientation to Illinois	1
or ACES 200	ACES Transfer Orientation	
Communication Option:		3 or 6
CMN 101	Public Speaking	
ALEC 115	Let's Talk about Food, Agriculture, and the Environment	
CMN 111 & CMN 112	Oral & Written Comm I and Oral & Written Comm II	

Major Core

ACE 100	Introduction to Applied Microeconomics	3 or 4
or ECON 102	Microeconomic Principles	
ACES 102	Intro Sustainable Food Systems	3
Statistics Option - Select one of the following:		3
STAT 100	Statistics	
ACE 262	Applied Statistical Methods and Data Analytics I	
CPSC 241	Intro to Applied Statistics	
FSHN 101	The Science of Food and How it Relates to You	3
or FSHN 120	Contemporary Nutrition	
HORT 100	Introduction to Horticulture	3 or 4
or CPSC 112	Introduction to Crop Sciences	
NRES 100	Fundamentals of Env Sci	3
or NRES 102	Introduction to NRES	
ACE 255	Economics of Food and Environmental Justice	3
LEAD 260	Foundations of Leadership	3
Advanced Composition Option - Select one of the following:		3
ANSC 205	World Animal Resources	
ETMA 311	Humanity in the Food Web	
PLPA 200	Plants, Pathogens, and People	
ACES 199	Undergraduate Open Seminar	3
Specializations		**30**

Students are encouraged to complete a minimum of 30 hours of coursework within one or more of the specializations. Students are not required to select a specialization; rather, students have the flexibility to customize their experience by choosing courses within or across specializations to best meet their personal interests and career needs.

Policy and Law		**18**
[ACE 203](#)	Introduction to Public Policy and Law	3
[ACE 306](#)	Food Law	3
[ACE 403](#)	Agricultural Law	3 to 4
[ACE 406](#)	Environmental Law	3 or 4
[NRES 325](#)	Natural Resource Policy Mgmt	3
[NRES 434](#)	Environment, Policy, and Conflict	3
Climate Change and Society		**24**
[ABE 232](#)	Context in International Interventions	3
[ACE 210](#)	Environmental Economics & Policy	3
[CPSC 431](#)	Plants and Global Change	3
[HDFS 220](#)	Families in Global Perspective	3
[LEAD 340](#)	Leadership Ethics & Society: Addressing Contemporary Challenges	3
[NRES 105](#)	Climate Change Impacts on Ecological Systems	3
[NRES 224](#)	Environmental and Climate Justice	3
[NRES 287](#)	Environment and Society	3
Food Production Systems		**53**
[ABE 152](#)	Water in the Global Environment	3
[ANSC 100](#)	Intro to Animal Sciences	4
[ANSC 101](#)	Contemporary Animal Issues	3
[ANSC 110](#)	Animal Exploration: A Global Perspective	3
[ANSC 205](#)	World Animal Resources	3
[ANSC 251](#)	Epidemics and Infectious Diseases	3
[ANSC 255](#)	Animal Ethics	3
[ANSC 305](#)	Human Animal Interactions	3

CPSC 116	The Global Food Production Web	3
CPSC 416	Native Plants, Pollinators, & Food Ecosystems	3
ETMA 430	Project Management	2
FSHN 175	Science of Fermented Foods	3
FSHN 231	Food Systems: Cacao & Chocolate	2
FSHN 232	Science of Food Preparation	3
FSHN 465	Principles of Food Technology	3
HORT 205	Local Food Systems	3
HORT 435	Urban Food Production	3
PLPA 200	Plants, Pathogens, and People	3
Resources and Influence		**38**
ACE 251	The World Food Economy	3
ACE 310	Natural Resource Economics	3
ACE 335	Food Marketing and Behavior	3
ACE 476	Behavioral Economics and Financial Decision Making	3 or 4
AGCM 330	Environmental Communications	3
CPSC 444	Introduction to Spatial Analytics	4
ETMA 311	Humanity in the Food Web	3
FSHN 193	Edible Entrepreneurialism - Feeding Ideas for the Future	3
FSHN 320	Food Security: Service Learning in the Community	3
FSHN 425	Corporate Food Marketing	3
HDFS 330	Statistical Reasoning for Everyday Life	3
NRES 472	Environmental Psychology	4
Additional Specialization Options		
Any 300- or 400-level rubric (e.g., ACE, CPSC, NRES, etc.) within the College of ACES		
Total Hours		**120**

Corresponding   BS Bachelor of Science
Degree

Program Regulation and Assessment

Plan to Assess and Improve Student Learning

Illinois Administrative Code: 1050.30(b)(1)(D) Provision is made for guidance and counseling of students, evaluations of student performance, continuous monitoring of progress of students toward their degree objectives and appropriate academic record keeping.

Are the learning outcomes for the program listed in the Academic Catalog?

Yes

Student Learning Outcomes

Students in this program will:
1. Examine the purposes, functions, and operations of food production systems across local, national, and global societies.
2. Investigate policies and laws of food security, sustainability, and justice.
3. Describe the impacts of resources and influence on food and environmental sustainability, and design creative solutions for these critical real-world issues.
4. Apply theories of communication and leadership within a team to analyze problems, collaborate with team members, prioritize and delegate tasks, establish objectives, and propose a solution for an identified challenge related to sustainability in food and environmental systems.
5. Analyze the scientific, social, political, and economic impacts of climate change within and across diverse cultural perspectives and identities.

The interdisciplinary nature of this degree, in combination with the variety of focus areas by which students can pursue to customize their experience, enables students to strive toward and attain the program's learning objectives throughout their academic experience. The SFES required core curriculum courses are pre-requisites for many of the 300- and 400-level courses within the specialization areas of Policy and Law, Climate Change and Society, Food Production Systems, and Resource and Influence. Formative and summative assessments, designed by academic experts within each specialization path across ACES (e.g., ABE, ACE, ALEC, ANSC, CPSC, ETMA, FSHN, HDFS, HORT, NRES) will ensure students achieve the intended objectives. To further assess student achievement for the program, each graduate will be asked to complete an exit survey. The results of the survey will evaluate students' cognitive, affective, and behavioral aptitudes toward the learning objectives and the intent of the degree program.

Did you make any revisions to the learning outcomes you copied and pasted from the current academic catalog?

No

Describe how, when, and where these learning outcomes will be assessed.

Describe here:

Identify faculty expectations for students' achievement of each of the stated student learning outcomes. What score, rating, or level of expertise will signify that students have met each outcome? Provide rating rubrics as necessary.

Explain the process that will be implemented to ensure that assessment results are used to improve student learning.

Program Description and Requirements Attach Documents

Delivery Method

This program is available:

On Campus - Students are required to be on campus, they may take some online courses.

Admission Requirements

Desired Effective Admissions Term

Is this revision a change to the admission status of the program?

No

Provide a brief narrative description of the admission requirements for this program. Where relevant, include information about licensure requirements, student background checks, GRE and TOEFL scores, and admission requirements for transfer students.

For incoming freshman, admission into the program requires 1) an interest in improving society through food and environmental systems, 2) leadership experience and commitment to activities. There are no minimum required test scores.

Transfer student admission requires a minimum GPA of 2.5.

Completion of equivalent transfer courses to University of Illinois courses that satisfy General Education requirements on this campus is highly recommended prior to the term of entry. Transfer course articulation information is available at the following website: https://www.transferology.com.

General Education Courses by Category
Composition I
Cultural Studies: Non-Western Culture(s)
Cultural Studies: U.S. Minority Cultures
Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Culture(s)
Humanities & the Arts
Language Requirement
Natural Sciences & Technology
Quantitative Reasoning
Social & Behavioral Sciences

Completion of transfer coursework equivalents to the following University of Illinois courses is highly recommended:

ACE 100, Intro to Applied Economics or ECON 102, Microeconomics
CMN 101, Public Speaking
FSHN 101, The Science of Food or FSHN 120, Contemporary Nutrition
HORT 100, Intro to Horticulture or CPSC 112, Intro to Crop Sciences
NRES 100, Fundamentals of Environmental Sciences or NRES 102, Intro to NRES

Enrollment

Describe how this revision or phase down/elimination will impact enrollment and degrees awarded. If this is an elimination/phase down proposal include the plans for the students left in the program.

This revision won't impact enrollment or degrees awarded.

Estimated Annual Number of Degrees Awarded

Year One Estimate	0	5th Year Estimate (or when fully implemented)
		50

What is the matriculation term for this program?
  Fall

Budget

Are there budgetary implications for this revision?   No

Will the program or revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.) beyond what is currently available?

No

Additional Budget Information

The College of ACES received funding from UIUC's Investment for Growth Program to develop the MFST degree program and hire the Director, specialized faculty, and graduate teaching assistants. By 2022, the program was projected to be funded solely by tuition and instructional unit revenue. However, due to low enrollment (0 admitted in 2022 and only 4 students in the program) and faculty attrition (e.g., MFST Director resigned from the University of Illinois and accepted a new appointment at a different university), the ACES leadership team is proposing revisions to the program name and degree requirements. (The former MFST Director was the only employee hired specifically for this program. No other staff or faculty were hired to support the MFST program.) The existing College of ACES Academic Programs staff will manage student advising, recruitment, and any other responsibilities associated with this program.

Attach File(s)

Financial Resources

How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

The College of ACES received funding from UIUC's Investment for Growth Program to develop and initiate the MFST degree program. By 2022, the program was projected to be funded solely by tuition and instructional unit revenue (i.e., projected enrollment of 75 students for the program by Fall 2022). Several MFST courses were created to support students in the degree. One specialized faculty member was hired to serve as Director for the program and teach the MFST-specific courses. Budget assumptions were that additional specialized faculty and teaching assistants would be funded by this financial support, but low enrollment has not supported new hires or additional expenditures. Furthermore, the specialized faculty who was serving as the Director for the program left the university in spring 2022 and accepted an appointment at a different institution.

The MFST program has consistently fallen short of enrollment targets. To that end, only 4 students are currently enrolled in the program and 0 enrolled for Fall 2022. In hopes of keeping the degree alive while also maintaining the original integrity and overall objectives of the degree, the ACES leadership team is proposing a revised organization of courses and specializations, in addition to a slightly modified degree name, to increase enrollment. While the revisions may seem numerous, the revisions and objectives remain within the intent and parameters of the originally proposed degree and prospective target audience.

Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No

Attach letters of
support

What tuition rate do you expect to charge for this program? e.g, Undergraduate Base Tuition, or Engineering Differential, or Social Work Online (no dollar amounts necessary)

Undergraduate Base Tuition

Are you seeking a change in the tuition rate or differential for this program?

No

Faculty Resources

Please address the impact on faculty resources including any changes in numbers of faculty, class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc.

There will be no impact on faculty resources.

Library Resources

Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

There will be no impact on library resources, collections, or services.

EP Documentation

EP Control Number   EP.26.097

Attach Rollback/
Approval Notices

Non-EP Documentation

U Program Review
Comments

Rollback
Documentation and
Attachment

DMI Documentation

Attach Final
Approval Notices

Banner/Codebook
Name
  BS:Sustain Food&EnviroSys-UIUC

Program Code: 10KL6147BS

Minor	Conc		Degree	BS
Code	Code		Code	Major
				Code
6147				

Senate Approval

Date

Senate Conference
Approval Date

BOT Approval Date

IBHE Approval Date

HLC Approval Date

DOE Approval Date   NA

Effective Date:

Program Reviewer
Comments

Melissa Steinkoenig (menewell) (12/18/25 2:08 pm): Gen Ed Table: Good (addition of ECON 102 as "or" to Social & Behavioral Sciences in table)

Brooke Newell (bsnewell) (01/05/26 9:43 am): Rollback: Per Email conversation with Brianna G.

Key: 777