

Double Major B.A in Sustainability and Government

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Introduction

The 21st century has already seen major changes caused by the interaction between human societies and the natural world. Humanity occupies but a fraction of the planet's surface, yet it has altered its atmosphere, oceans, and the climate system, and severely harmed the biodiversity of living species. Resource depletion, greenhouse gas emissions, plastic pollution, and toxic waste are but a few examples of man's adverse impact on our planet. In recent years it has become clear that the transition to sustainability is the only viable option for survival on planet Earth.

The role of institutions – national and supranational, governmental and nongovernmental – in enabling this transition to sustainability cannot be understated. Institutions, and the decision-makers governing them, determine the sort of resources to allocate to meet different ends.

The Sustainability & Government program at Reichman University (RUNI), Israel's first-ever program of its kind, equips students with a deep understanding of these issues and provides them with the skills needed to analyze options and alternatives, shape strategies and policies, and advocate in this field.

Our students learn about energy systems and renewables, water systems and water resources management, and food security and food-tech challenges in the era of climate change, rapid technological advancements in the field of sustainability and climate-tech, green entrepreneurship, and domestic and international environmental regulation and governance - all of which are crucial for pursuing meaningful vocations in this domain.

The School of Sustainability further offers unique courses, classes and seminars in the areas of Generative Artificial Intelligence (Gen AI), Technology, Big Data and Sustainability, Information Systems, and Sustainable Production and Industrial Ecology.

The Sustainability & Government Program provides graduates with a competitive advantage in a broad range of fields in the public and private sectors, which show increased demand for expertise in sustainability and in fields such as climate-tech, agro-tech, food-tech, energy-tech, water-tech, environmental diplomacy, smart and sustainable cities and transportation planning, corporate social responsibility, and ESG.

The Sustainability & Government double major BA program consists of 120 credits. The program is designed to be completed over a period of 3 years (6 semesters). In their senior year, students conduct and lead a Capstone Project (practicum) on a sustainability topic of their choice. This is a chance to showcase entrepreneurial skills and spirits. Several student teams in the past have spun-off their Capstone Projects into real-life ventures, raising substantial investments, and generating income.

The program places a strong emphasis on practical experience through internships and the practicum, enabling graduates to get jobs at entrepreneurial startups in the areas of sustainability and cleantech, or to become sustainability experts in the private sector. The curriculum includes sustainability courses taught in collaboration with leading figures from Israeli academia, and its government and business sectors.

The study program has 3 components:

Foundation courses

The students take mandatory courses offered by the School of Sustainability covering topics from earth sciences, ecology, sustainable development, energy and water systems, urban sustainability and the intricate relationships between man-made and natural systems (for example: air pollution, climate change; urbanism).

Advanced courses

With the solid background of the Foundation courses, Sustainability students are offered a variety of advanced courses including environmental economics, and environmental regulation, green entrepreneurship, smart cities, geopolitics of energy, mobility and transportation; global urbanism, water resource management, food systems management, and marketing for sustainable products.

Capstone project

In their final year of study, students are required to choose a topic from the wide domain of sustainability as their Capstone Project. Throughout this project, students work together in small teams and face real-life issues, in accordance with their personal interests and passions.

The goal of the project is to offer students practical experience in the field of sustainability, with an emphasis on entrepreneurship and contributing to society.

Projects will be run in small groups, with the assistance of the team tutor(s) and mentors.

Together they will outline a plan of action for the project's implementation and carry it out.

Guidance and mentorship will be offered to students by the program's faculty and by Reichman University lecturers whose fields of expertise are relevant to the project (i.e., government, communications, business administration), and with the guidance of practitioners from relevant fields of practice.

Second Year /Double Major Sustainability and Government

Course Code		Lecture Hours	Recitation Hours	Total Credits	Prerequisites
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Government Mandatory Courses

Fall Semester Courses

3106	Conflict Resolution	2		2	
4950	History of the Modern Era	2		2	
4951	Society, Religion and Politics in Israel	2		2	
5611	The Arab-Israeli Conflict and the Peace	2		2	

Spring Semester Courses

803	International Law	4		4	
Total Semester Hours				12	

Terrorism and Homeland Security Track

Fall Semester Courses

4962	Human Security	2		2	
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Spring Semester Courses

4961	Introduction to Intelligence	2		2	
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Total Credit Hours: 4

Global Affairs and Conflict Resolution Track

Fall Semester Courses

5181	Antisemitism and the Far Right	2		2	
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Spring Semester Courses

4913	Transnational and Multinational Corporations	2		2	
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Total Credit Hours: 4

Sustainability Mandatory Courses

Course Code	Course Name		Lecture Hours	Credit Hours
Fall Semester Courses				
4952	Foundations of Economics	2		2
5938	Air, Water and Soil Pollution	2		2
3192	Smart Mobility	2		2
5217	Introduction to Geographic information Systems (GIS)	2	2	4
4907	Urban policies in times of climate change	2		2
5036	Sustainability and Water Resource Management	2	1	2
Spring Semester Courses				
2422	Environmental Economics	2	1	2
3286	Information and Communication Technologies for SDGs	2		2
2425	Urban Worlds	2		2
5915	Energy, climate Change and society	2		2
5035	Sustainability in Food Systems	2		2
Total Semester Hours				24

Third Year /Dual Major Sustainability and Government

Government Mandatory Courses

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Recitation Hours	Total Credits	Prerequisites	Final Course Assignment
Fall Semester Courses						
4794	Public Speaking	2		1		
5178	Democratic Backsliding	2		2		
Spring Semester Courses						
4957	Strategic Planning and Policy Analysis	2		2		
	Total Semester Hours			5		

Terrorism and Homeland Security Track

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Credit Hours
Mandatory courses - Spring Semester			
5183	Marketplace and Practitioners Workshop	2	1
Choose one seminar:			
Fall Semester Seminar			
5612	Terror and Profiling	4	4
Spring Semester Seminar			
5613	Contemporary Iran: Between Security and Insecurity	4	4
Choose 3 elective courses:			
Fall Semester Seminar			
4502	Law and Terrorism	2	2
4515	Global Terrorism: ISIS, Al Qaeda and Hezbollah	2	2
5184	Israel's C.T. Policy	2	2

Spring Semester Seminar

4733	Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism Innovations	2	2
6960	New Trends in Online Terrorism and Extre	2	2
5185	Middle Eastern Wars in Theory and Practice	2	2

Total Credit Hours: 11

Global Affairs and Conflict Resolution Track

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Credit Hours
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Mandatory courses- Spring Semester

5183	Marketplace and Practitioners Workshop	2	1
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Choose one seminar:

Fall Semester Seminars

5615	Understanding Foreign Policy Making	4	4
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Spring Semester Seminars

5616	Globalization from East to West	4	4
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Choose 3 elective course:

Fall Semester

4345	China: Society and Politics	2	2
4556	Nationalism, Fascism and Populism	2	2

Spring Semester

3922	Russia	2	2
4595	Strategy and Negotiations in the Nuclear Realm	2	2
4732	Diplomacy, Governance and Law in a Global World	2	2
5614	Africa: Between Domestic and Global Perspectives	2	2

Total Credit Hours: 11

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Recitation Hours	Total Credits	Prerequisites	Final Course Assignment
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Sustainability Mandatory Courses

Year Long Courses

5969	Practicum- capstone project	4		4		
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Fall Semester Courses

5061	Selected Issues in Marketing for Sustainable products	3		3		
5385	Advanced Course in Social Entrepreneurship	1		1		

Spring Semester Courses

5040	Industrial Ecology and Life Cycle Analysis (LCA)	2		2		
3648	Advanced Urban Analytics and Smart Cities	2		2		
3877	Oil ,gas and renewable energy: economics, geopolitics, policy and security	2		2		

Total Semester Hours				14		
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Third Year Public Diplomacy Program

Course Code	Course Name	Lecture Hours	Recitation Hours	Total Credit Points	Prerequisites
Year-long Courses					
7674	Seminar: Public diplomacy during conflicts	6		6	
7550	Internship in Digital Public Diplomacy	2		2	
5689	The Brandon Korff Digital Influencers Workshop	4		3	
Fall Semester Courses					
7890	A Multidisciplinary Perspective on Public Diplomacy	1		1	
3453	Digital diplomacy #war	1		1	
7736	Intelligence, Diplomacy and National Security	2		2	
Spring Semester Courses					
7681	War of narratives: Israel in the arena of public diplomacy	2		2	
7761	U.S. & Us: A journey to the keystone of Israel's foreign relations	2		2	
Total Credits				19	

2025/2026

Exam Schedule

The dates of the examinations can be found on the Reichman University website under **Students → Course Catalogue, student regulations and Syllabi → Search Exams**

A personal examinations schedule for each student appears on the Student's information website (My IDC).