Pathways through the Sustainability Certificate

The Sustainability Certificate at MIT Sloan is the only offering of its kind among our peer institutions. It provides students with an opportunity to engage in a dialogue around organizational challenges and choices, and to develop a mindset for encouraging sustainability strategies that lead to impact in our communities and environments.

The certificate has been part of the MIT Sloan experience since 2010 and graduates approximately 40 students a year. We take a cross-disciplinary approach, welcoming students from all schools at MIT. The basic requirements are the same, however, program-by-program and based on the unique requirements of each, we do offer exceptions and alternative pathways.

The Certificate is only available to students in degree-granting programs at MIT who are eligible to take graduate-level classes at MIT Sloan. Once you have been accepted and are enrolled in a degree-granting program, please register your interest by emailing us at sustainability@sloan.mit.edu and request a meeting with one of our program staff to review the requirements and discuss pathways for completion that meet your academic and career goals. The certificate is awarded based on a review of the transcript near graduation.

Please note that before taking Sloan (Course 15) classes, students should familiarize themselves with the Sloan academic calendar (where each semester is divided into H1, SIP, and H2), and with the unique bidding process for classes. See http://sloanbid.mit.edu for details.

Required Courses for All Programs (24 credits total)

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<th>Course Name</th>
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<td>Required</td>
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<td>15.871 System Dynamics</td>
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<td>H1</td>
<td>H3</td>
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<td>15.915 Sustainability Lab (S-Lab)</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>H1</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>15.878 Capstone</td>
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Elective Courses (12-24 credits total)
Select TWO classes from the list of approved electives, available at http://mitsloan.mit.edu/sustainability/courses. There are dozens of Sustainability Certificate electives in departments and schools across MIT, providing an important bridge to the strengths of the wider Institute. On a case-by-case basis, we do allow students to take electives at affiliate institutions where students are eligible to take classes for credit, such as the Harvard Kennedy School. Electives are chosen and approved based on:

a) Match to the overall curricular goals of the Certificate
b) Complementarity with the required classes in the Certificate
c) A good balance of theoretical and applied content

Program Sequence
The exact sequence of classes can be customized depending on students’ interests and the constraints of their program in terms of schedule and credits. The following descriptions of pathways through the Sustainability Certificate are based on official policy and past student experience. We provide guidelines for MBA, Sloan Fellows, HKS/Sloan dual degree, SDM, M.Fin, MSMS, LGO, EMBA, SCM, TPP, DUSP and MIT undergraduates. Students in other programs around MIT are welcome to pursue the Certificate if they can complete the required classes. Anyone interested in pursuing the Certificate should reach out to sustainability@sloan.mit.edu

Undergraduate Sequence
Undergraduates have more flexibility than most masters-level students because they are on campus for 8 semesters, and therefore can complete the Certificate classes through a variety of pathways. The critical constraint for undergraduates is that all of the required classes and most of the elective classes in the Certificate are designed for graduate students with some degree of professional experience. Admission to classes is possible, however, with instructor permission. Therefore, the Certificate is technically available to MIT undergraduates but not actively encouraged. We may develop a more undergraduate-friendly version of the Certificate in the future, contingent on demand. If you are interested, please reach out the Sustainability Initiative.

Contact Us
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