



Interdisciplinary  
Studies

# ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

*Training the sustainability professionals of the future*

## Program Highlights

The Energy and Sustainability (EAS) concentration focuses on finding ways to meet present needs for energy and material goods without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. A sustainability education lies at the intersection of:

- environmental science
- engineering
- economics
- business
- public policy
- social justice

Energy required to fuel all of these endeavors is a crucial component of sustainability.

Experiential learning is required and opportunities can include internships, service-learning, consulting projects, and field studies or research (including overseas). The greater Washington, DC area gives unique opportunities to partner with public and private businesses, governmental agencies, environmental and conservation groups and environmental-focused companies.

George Mason University puts research and scholarship into action to support a just, prosperous, and sustainable world. Mason launched its Institute for a Sustainable Earth to lead this applied research, while the Patriot Green Fund provides grants to support students' sustainability-related scholarship.

For the most up-to-date application and degree requirements visit:

**[mais.gmu.edu/programs/la-mais-isin-eas](https://mais.gmu.edu/programs/la-mais-isin-eas)**

**website: [mais.gmu.edu](https://mais.gmu.edu)**  
**email: [mais@gmu.edu](mailto:mais@gmu.edu)**

## Degree Requirements – 36 Total Credits

**EVPP 533** Energy Policy – 3 Credits

**GGG 507** Geographic Approaches for Sustainable Development – 3 Credits

**PHYS 581** Topics in Renewable Energy or **GEOL 521** Geology of Energy Resources – 3 Credits

**Energy, Sustainability or Environmental Policy** – 6–9 Credits

**Humanities or Social Science Approaches to Sustainability & Environmental Issues** – 6–9 Credits

**Planning, Modeling, or Management** – 3–6 Credits

**Natural Science** – 3–6 Credits

**Research Methods Course** – 3 Credits

**MAIS 793** Integrated Research Experience – 3 credits

**Capstone Project or Thesis (Optional)**– 3 Credits

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## How to Apply

Along with the completed Application for Graduate Admission and application fee, applicants should submit:

- Official transcripts from previous institutions of higher education attended
- Goals statement
- Two letters of recommendation
- Resume
- Formal writing sample of at least 1,000 words

See [chss.gmu.edu/admissions](https://chss.gmu.edu/admissions) for complete details on the application process.

## MAIS: Design Your Own Degree

The Interdisciplinary Studies (MAIS) program in the College of Humanities & Social Sciences consists of multiple established degree paths that exist in partnership with academic units and faculty across the University. It offers a home for students with broad academic interests who seek a master's degree to help them to create a better world. While their degree paths may vary dramatically, our students share a desire to address critical problems facing the world today.

### Available Degree Paths

Computational Social Science  
Energy and Sustainability  
Individualized Studies  
Religious Studies  
Social Entrepreneurship  
Social Justice and Human Rights  
War and the Military in Society  
Women and Gender Studies