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MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION Senate **DATE** January 15, 2025
FROM Dilson Rassier, Provost and Vice-President Academic, and Chair, SCUP **PAGES** 1/8
RE: Termination of the Development and Sustainability Graduate Certificate (SCUP 26-04)

At its meeting on January 14, 2026, SCUP reviewed and approved the termination of the Development and Sustainability Graduate Certificate in the School of Resource and Environmental Management within the Faculty of Environment.

Motion: That Senate approve and recommend to Board of Governors the termination of the Development and Sustainability Graduate Certificate in the School of Resource and Environmental Management within the Faculty of Environment.

C: Christian Giovas, Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, FENV



To: Senate Graduate Studies Committee

From: Christina Giovas

Date: November 1, 2025

Re: Course Change REM 699; Termination of Sustainable Development Grad Certificate

Dear Senate Graduate Studies Committee,

The following course and program changes from the School of Resource Management have been approved by the Faculty of Environment and are forwarded to the Senate Graduate Studies Committee for approval. The proposed changes are intended for Fall 2026 implementation. Please include these materials on the next SGSC meeting agenda.

- ~~REM 699: Research Project – change from 6 to 10 units~~
- ~~Calendar Entry Change for Master of Resource Management (Project and Planning streams) to reflect changes in REM 699 units~~
- Termination of Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Development

REM 699 is the final project for the Project and Planning (per-term fee) streams in the MRM program. The project is defended like a thesis and is archived in the Library. The change to 10 units brings this completion option into alignment with revisions to GGR 1.7.2a taking effect Summer 2026.

The Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Development was suspended in 2020 due to insufficient student interest. There are no students remaining in the program, and deletion will not impact any students or other programs. REM reports that there are no remaining program resources to be re-allocated.

Additional details may be found in the attached memo from REM Graduate Program Chair, Frank Gobas. Thank you for the committee's consideration.

Sincerely,

Christina Giovas
Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies
Faculty of Environment
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MEMO

TEL: 778.782.4659

rem.sfu.ca

To: Senate Graduate Studies Committee
From: Frank Gobas, Graduate Program Chair, Resource and Environmental Management
Re: Curriculum changes for Resource and Environmental Management
Date: 27 October 2025

The following course and program changes have been approved by the School of Resource and Environmental Management on 27 October 2025 and are being forwarded to the Faculty of Environment Associate Dean of Graduate Studies for approval. These curriculum items should be effective for Fall 2026. Please include them on the next SGSC agenda.

- ~~1.a) REM 699—6: change to a 10-unit course to reflect the change in examination process from GGR 1.7.2 c to 1.7.2 a. REM Projects have always been submitted to the library and meet the expectations of academic rigor, so this simply reflects a change to how they are examined.~~
- ~~1.b) Master of Resource Management, Project stream, and Master of Resource Management (Planning): change the number of units for the program to reflect the change to REM 699. The Master's Thesis program is unchanged.~~
2. Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Development: this program was suspended in 2020. There are no students in the program and it can be deleted without impacts to any students or other programs.

Frank Gobas, Graduate Chair, REM

Program Termination: Development and Sustainability Graduate Certificate

Sustainable Development Program, Faculty of Environment

Appended attachments: Calendar description of program and associated courses.

Anticipated final dissolution date: no students remain in the program, can be deleted any time.

Reasons for termination of the program:

- Changing departmental priorities

All steps for phasing out the program are completed. No enrollment, no students remain.

REM Departmental Contact

Vanessa Cowley, Graduate Program Assistant, rem_gradasst@sfu.ca

Approved by:



Frank Gobas, Graduate Program Chair



Pascal Haegeli, Program Director



STUDENT SERVICES
Fall Calendar

Please note:

To view the current Academic Calendar, go to www.sfu.ca/students/calendar.html.

Sustainable Development Program | Faculty of Environment
Simon Fraser University Calendar | Fall 2024

Development and Sustainability

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Admission to this program has been suspended effective Summer 2020.

Development and sustainability examines the problems, processes, and prospects for the sustainable transformation of human, natural, and material resources that occur in various contexts and at various levels of social interaction, from local, national, and regional levels to the international/global level. To study development and sustainability is to study the changes that affect the quality of life of individuals and groups globally, within the broader context of environmental change.

The problems of development and sustainability are urgent and complex, and often transcend the boundaries of conventional academic disciplines. One must draw upon many disciplines in order to obtain a balanced understanding of historical and contemporary processes. These disciplines include, but are not limited to: anthropology, business, communications, economics, gender studies, geography, health, political science, resource and environmental management, and sociology.

The graduate certificate in development and sustainability links faculty teaching support and research across the university. This enables students to coordinate their graduate studies by concentrating on development issues using a multidisciplinary approach. Students move through their programs in their departments while also being in regular contact with those with common interests in development across the university.

Admission Requirements

Admission to this program has been suspended effective Summer 2020.

Applicants must satisfy the University admission requirements as stated in [Graduate General Regulations 1.3](#) in the SFU Calendar. This graduate certificate program is exclusively - and only - completed during enrollment in a master's or doctoral program. Students are not permitted to complete this graduate certificate program on its own. For information, and to be admitted, students should contact the Sustainable Development Program Advisor.

Program Requirements

This program consists of a required seminar and elective course work for a minimum of 14 units.

Students must complete

SD 801 - Issues, Concepts & Cases in Development and Sustainability (5) *

and three courses from at least two academic units

CMNS 840 - Political Economy of Communications (5)

ECON 855 - Theories of Economic Development (4)

GEOG 620 - Selected Topics: Economy, Environment and Development (4)

GSWS 830 - Selected Topics Graduate Seminar I (5)

GSWS 831 - Selected Topics Graduate Seminar II (5)

HSCI 821 - Introduction to Global Health (3)

HSCI 870 - Global Health and International Affairs (3)

IS 801 - Politics, Institutions and Development (4)

IS 809 - Selected Topics - Economic and Social Development of Selected Regions (4)

IS 835 - Social and Political Change in Latin America (4)

PLCY 812 - Selected Topics in Public Policy (5)

POL 837 - Issues in Comparative Politics (5)

POL 842 - International Law and Organizations (5)

POL 844 - International Political Economy (5)

POL 856 - Issues in Social and Economic Policy (5)

REM 621 - Ecological Economics (5)

REM 643 - Public Engagement, Environmental Conflict and Dispute Resolution (5)

REM 650 - Energy Management for a Sustainable Climate and Society (5)

REM 658 - Research Methods and Models for Sustainability (5)

REM 660 - Special Topics in Natural Resources Management (5)

REM 662 - Special Topics in Resource Management (5)

SD 802 - Selected Topics in Sustainable Development (5)

SD 803 - Directed Studies in Sustainable Development (5)

* Students are advised to complete this course in the first half of their graduate studies.

Program Length

Students are expected to complete the program requirements within the first nine terms of their master's or doctoral program.

Other Information

Students will receive their certificate of development and sustainability upon completion of their primary degree.

Course Work

Students should plan course choices leading to the certificate well ahead of time in consultation with their supervisory committees and the Sustainable Development Program Advisor.

Academic Requirements within the Graduate General Regulations

All graduate students must satisfy the academic requirements that are specified in the [Graduate General Regulations](#), as well as the specific requirements for the program in which they are enrolled.

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