



CENTRE FOR GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

MASTERS IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE

HANDBOOK

Academic Session
2024/2025



This handbook is prepared by the Centre for Global Sustainability Studies for registered students of the Masters in Sustainability Development Practice (MSDP) Programme.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Masters in Sustainable Development Practice (MSDP) is a globally recognised, multi and interdisciplinary graduate degree program designed to equip students with the skills and knowledge needed to effectively identify and address the complex challenges of sustainable development. This comprehensive program spans two years and encompasses coursework in four key disciplines: health, natural, social, and management sciences. Practical, cross-sectoral field training further enhances students' understanding and application of sustainable development principles.

The multi and interdisciplinary nature of the MSDP program enables development practitioners to communicate across various disciplines, including health, agronomy, and economics. This proficiency allows them to delve deeper into understanding the root causes of extreme poverty and effectively tackle the multifaceted challenges of sustainable development. Oversight of the program is provided by the Global Association Board of Master's in Development Practice (MDP).

Presently, the MSDP program is offered in 32 universities across six continents worldwide, with Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) hosting the program in Kuala Lumpur since September 2014. The primary objective of the MSDP is to train and empower a new generation of professionals capable of transcending institutional, sectoral, and regional boundaries. By integrating diverse stakeholders and methodologies, graduates are equipped to confront the intricacies of sustainable development, aligning with the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (17 SDGs).

Graduates of the MSDP program at USM emerge as specialists in integrated approaches to sustainable development. This expertise opens doors to diverse career opportunities, including roles within NGOs, private sector companies, social enterprises, UN agencies, development banks, philanthropic organizations, academic research institutions, government departments, and international aid agencies.

2.0 PROGRAMME EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES (PEO)

The MSDP programme educational objectives are:

PEO	OBJECTIVES	THINKER (T)	BALANCED (B)	ENTREPRENEURIAL (E)	ARTICULATE (A)	HOLISTIC (H)
		IEG 1	IEG 2	IEG 3	IEG 4	IEG 5
PEO1	To produce a new generation of holistic sustainable development practitioners who possess theoretical knowledge in diverse but related disciplines, enabling them to better coordinate and implement the insight of specialists in addressing multi, inter or transdisciplinary challenges		✓			✓
PEO2	To produce sustainable development practitioners who possess high ethical standards and responsible with good communication skills through a dynamic curriculum and project work contributing towards good practices in sustainable development			✓	✓	
PEO3	To produce graduates who are knowledgeable and skilled as leaders and practitioners of sustainable development that contribute towards the nation's aspirations in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.	✓				✓

3.0 PROGRAMME LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLO)

At the end of the MSDP programme, the students will be able to:

PLO	MQF 2.0 DOMAIN	Programme Learning Outcomes (PLO)	IEG Element	
PLO1	PO1: Knowledge	Apply comprehensive theoretical knowledge, concepts and practical to execute, evaluate and provide suggestions in sustainable development practices.	IEG1	Thinker
PLO2	PO2: Practical Skills	Perform and execute research projects with good skills and minimal supervision in the field of sustainable development.	IEG2	Balanced
PLO3	PO3(a): Cognitive Skills	Utilise scientific skills, as well as innovative and creative thinking, to generate progressive ideas and strategies, and improvement suggestions to holistically solve problems and make decisions regarding issues and challenges related to sustainable development.	IEG2	Balanced
PLO4	PO3(b): Communication Skills	Utilise effective communication skills in verbal and written forms to convey information, findings, and results within the context of sustainable development to clients, peers, scientific communities, stakeholders, and society.	IEG4	Articulate
PLO5	PO3(c): Interpersonal Skills	Demonstrate skills and social responsibilities, teamwork and sensitivity to culture and religions in sustainable development practices.	IEG4	Articulate
PLO6	PO3(d): Ethics and Professionalism	Demonstrate a high level of morals and values, possess ethics, and adhere to legislation principles and professional codes of conduct in sustainable development practices.	IEG2	Balanced
PLO7	PO3(e): Personal Skills	Enhance personal capabilities and development through lifelong learning by utilising information and communication technology (ICT) and information management skills in academic and career development.	IEG5	Holistic
PLO8	PO3(f): Entrepreneurial Skills	Apply managerial and entrepreneurial skills in everyday activities and the planning of sustainable development practices.	IEG3	Entrepreneurial
PLO9	PO4(a): Leadership, Autonomy and Responsibility	Utilise knowledge and understanding of effective leadership in the effort to contribute to the advancement of sustainable development.	IEG5	Holistic
PLO10	PO4(b): Digital Skills	Utilise various digital technologies using suitable software in studies involving sustainable development practice planning.	IEG2	Balanced
PLO11	PO5: Numeracy Skills	Perform analysis appropriate to research methods and ensure that research conclusions are accurate and impactful in contributing to the progress of sustainable development	IEG1	Thinker

4.0 PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The total number of units for the Master's in Sustainable Development Practice (MSDP) coursework mode is 44, with 38 units dedicated to core courses and 6 units designated for elective courses. Completion of all 44 units is necessary for graduation. Additionally, students must undertake the MSDP Project and prepare a dissertation to fulfil graduation requirements. The MSDP Project, worth 6 units, is integrated within the 38 units of core courses, underscoring its integral role in the curriculum.

The core and elective courses are organized into five clusters, each representing a distinct thematic focus:

- General Cluster
- Global Health Cluster
- Science and Engineering Cluster
- Management Cluster
- Social Sciences Cluster

Within each cluster, courses are carefully curated to align with its specific theme and objectives, ensuring a comprehensive and specialized learning experience for students.

The teaching and learning period for each semester spans 14 weeks. The duration of studies varies depending on the student's enrolment status as shown below:

Full-time students: Minimum 4 semesters/ Maximum 8 semesters
Part-time students: Minimum 6 semesters/ Maximum 10 semesters

Classes are conducted in person (physical classes) and are typically held on weekends to accommodate both full-time and part-time students. These classes take place every fortnight, whenever possible, at the Kuala Lumpur campus, known as USM@KL. By offering classes during weekends and spacing them out over a two-week period, the programme aims to provide flexibility and convenience without compromising the quality of education delivered.

Class venue:

USM@KL
Universiti Sains Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur
Level 20, MoF Inc Tower, Platinum Park,
No. 9 Persiaran KLCC
50088 Kuala Lumpur

5.0 COURSES OFFERED

5.1 Overview

The Master's in Sustainable Development Practice (MSDP) program consists of 44 units, with 38 core units and 6 elective units. To graduate, students must complete all 44 units. Additionally, they are required to complete the MSDP Project and a dissertation. The MSDP Project, valued at 6 units, is embedded within the 38 core units, highlighting its central role in the curriculum. The courses are divided into five key clusters: General Cluster, Global Health Cluster, Science and Engineering Cluster, Management Cluster, and Social Sciences Cluster. A detailed description of the courses offered will be provided in section 5.3.

5.2 Passing grades and graduation requirements

The passing grade for all subjects is C+, which is equivalent to a score range of 46 to 51 marks (Please see table below). To meet graduation requirements, students must achieve a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.00, which corresponds to a B grade. This means that while a C+ is sufficient to pass individual subjects, students must maintain a higher overall performance across all subjects to be eligible for graduation.

GRADE		
Marks	Grade	Point
80-100	A	4.00
70-79	A-	3.67
64-69	B+	3.33
58-63	B	3.00
52-57	B-	2.67
46-51	C+	2.33
40-45	C	2.00
36-39	C-	1.67
32-35	D+	1.33
28-31	D	1.00
25-27	D-	0.67
0-24	F	0.00

5.3 Core Courses (38 units)

The core curriculum consists of 12 courses, totalling 38 units. Registration for all 12 core courses is mandatory for students, as these courses form the foundation of the program and provide essential knowledge and skills.

General Cluster

	Course code	Unit	Course title
1.	NDP 502	3	Research Methods for Sustainable Development

Course synopsis:

This course provides students with knowledge and skills in case study and quantitative research. They will learn how to identify sustainability issues and problems, conduct a literature review, synthesise previous work, select appropriate tools and techniques for data collection and analysis, and draft a research proposal.

Course offered: Semester 1 of every academic session (E.g. Semester 1, Academic Session 2024/2025)

Course coordinators:

1. Dr. Radieah Mohd Nor (Centre for Global Sustainability Studies)
2. Dr. Noor Adelyna Mohammed Akib (Centre for Global Sustainability Studies)

Note: This course should be taken before undertaking the MSDP project (NDP506).

	Course code	Unit	Course title
2.	NDP 503	3	Project Design Evaluation and Management

Course synopsis:

Sustainable Development demands development practitioners with the ability to design, manage, and evaluate projects. However, many practitioners lack adequate skills, particularly in sustainable development project management. This course delves into the theories and practices involved in designing, managing, and evaluating projects using appropriate methods. Additionally, it explores various standards in sustainability reporting.

Course offered: Semester 1 of every academic session (E.g. Semester 1, Academic Session 2024/2025)

Course coordinators:

1. Dr. Suzyrman Sibly (Centre for Global Sustainability Studies)
2. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Wira Mohd Shafiei (Director, Centre for Global Sustainability Studies)

	Course code	Unit	Course title
3.	NDP 505	2	Global Classroom: Integrated Approaches to Sustainable Development.

Course synopsis:

This course introduces fundamental concepts of sustainable development, analysing achievements, issues, and challenges encountered by countries worldwide in implementing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Additionally, it offers students an opportunity to attend the Global Classroom Lecture, featuring discussions led by global development experts on current issues and challenges in sustainable development.

Course offered: Semester 1 of every academic session (E.g. Semester 1, Academic Session 2024/2025)

Course coordinator:

Dr. Suzyrman Sibly (Centre for Global Sustainability Studies)

	Course code	Unit	Course title
4.	*NDP 504	5	Master in Sustainable Development Practice Project
	*NDP 506	6	

Course synopsis:

This course serves as an extension of the research methodology course NDP502 and spans two semesters for completion. At the course's culmination, students are required to submit their dissertations, which will be examined by one internal examiner. The project aims to deepen students' comprehension of socio-economic or environmental challenges encountered by communities, offering them a platform to apply the knowledge acquired throughout the program to address identified issues. Moreover, the successful completion of a dissertation is a mandatory requirement for graduation.

Course offered: Semester 1 & 2 of every academic session

Course coordinators:

1. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Wira Mohd Shafiei (Centre for Global Sustainability Studies)
2. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Sayuti Hassan (Centre for Global Sustainability Studies)

Note: * **NDP 506** is a new course code replacing NDP 504. However, it will be offered to new intake students who begin their studies from Semester 2 of the 2022-2023 academic year onwards. Returning students, on the other hand, are required to enroll in NDP 504. You are advised to complete NDP 502 first, before undertaking NDP 506.

Course Registration Guideline: NDP506 spans two semesters and must be taken consecutively. However, students are required to register online only once. Registration for the subsequent semester will be handled administratively by CGSS. This guideline also applies to NDP504.

Global Health Cluster

	Course code	Unit	Course title
5.	NDP 511	3	Health Policy and Management

Course synopsis:

This is a series of syllabus to provide non-health experts with a basic understanding of global public health issues. The course will focus on the Millennium Development Goals, including child health, maternal health, HIV, TB, malaria, and other significant diseases, as well as the interdependence of the MDGs and health outcomes. Additionally, the course addresses challenges to health systems and barriers to access.

Course offered: Semester 1 of every academic session (E.g. Semester 1, Academic Session 2024/2025)

Course coordinator:

Dr. Muhamad Yusri Musa (Advanced Medical and Dental Institute)

Science & Engineering Cluster

	Course code	Unit	Course title
6.	NDP 513	3	Human Ecology and Sustainable Development

Course synopsis:

The course describes the interactions between physical ecology and economic development, emphasising the two-way interactions and interdependencies between them. Ecological constraints significantly shape the patterns of economic development, demography, wealth, and poverty. Simultaneously, anthropogenic activities change the physical environment. This course aims to provide an in-depth treatment of this two-way interaction, building on a rigorous foundation of earth systems processes to understand the ecological basis of human settlement.

Course offered: Semester 2 of every other academic session (E.g. Semester 2, Academic Session 2024/2025)

Course coordinator:

Dr. Noor Adelyna Mohammed Akib (Centre for Global Sustainability Studies)

	Course code	Unit	Course title
7.	NDP 516	3	Energy Infrastructure Planning

Course synopsis:

This course discusses global resources of carbon-based and noncarbon-based energy, the capture of energy for society's use, energy delivery, and regulatory frameworks. The relationship between energy production and use and climate change is explored. It evaluates emerging and renewable energy resources, as well as new energy infrastructure planning, including constraints and capacity to meet future demands.

Course offered: Semester 1 of every academic session (E.g. Semester 1, Academic Session 2024/2025)

Course coordinator

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ng Theam Foo (Centre for Global Sustainability Studies)

Management Cluster

	Course code	Unit	Course title
8.	NDP 514	3	Budget Planning and Financial Management

Course synopsis:

This course discusses the principles, theories, concepts, practices, interpretations, techniques, and strategies of accounting and finance essentials for holistic practitioners of sustainable development. The course focuses on managerial accounting tools for developing, implementing, and controlling plans. This includes the preparation of operating budgets and capital budgets, exploring long-term financing options, managing short-term resources, procurement, and conducting variance analysis.

Course offered: Semester 2 of every other academic session (E.g. Semester 2, Academic Session 2024/2025)

Course coordinator:

Dr. Haslindar Ibrahim (School of Management)

	Course code	Unit	Course title
9.	NDP 518	3	Information Technology for Development

Course synopsis:

The rapidly evolving use of information management systems in the field of sustainable development provides growing opportunities for professionals to quickly transmit vital information and key indicators, share best practices, and engage in virtual mentorship. Subsequently, this course aims to develop practitioners who can collect, monitor, and evaluate relevant information to inform and update policy and project implementation.

Course offered: Semester 2 of every other academic session (E.g. Semester 2, Academic Session 2024/2025)

Course coordinators:

1. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ng Theam Foo (Centre for Global Sustainability Studies)
2. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Sayuti Hassan (Centre for Global Sustainability Studies)

Social Science Cluster

	Course code	Unit	Course title
10.	NDP 512	3	Social Services Management

Course synopsis:

This course is designed to enable students to identify various theories in management, understand their strengths and weaknesses, and assess their applicability in the local environment. Students will be able to identify the most potential and relevant management methods for each distinctive human service agency. Topics will focus on developing skills in management and evaluation to bring about innovations that are relevant and realistic.

Course offered: Semester 2 of every other academic session (E.g. Semester 2, Academic Session 2025/2026)

Course coordinators:

1. Dr. Mohd Haizzan Bin Yahaya (School of Social Sciences)
2. Dr. Nur Ajrun Khalid (School of Social Sciences)

	Course code	Unit	Course title
11.	NDP 515	3	Law and Governance in Development

Course synopsis:

One of the requirements for achieving sustainable development is the accommodation, reconciliation, and integration of the objectives of economic growth, social justice, and environmental protection (Centre for International Sustainable Development Law, n.d.). While Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 frequently and directly references the rule of law and access to justice, the other 16 SDGs, either expressly or implicitly, also emphasise the importance of law and governance at both national and international levels in providing a framework for achieving multiple targets of the SDGs. This course utilises the traditional concept of development in its conventional discourse, as well as contemporary sustainable development discourse, to engage students in academic and practical discussions about the role and function of law and governance in achieving sustainable development.

Course offered: Semester 1 of every academic session (E.g. Semester 1, Academic Session 2024/2025)

Course coordinator:

Prof. Dato' Dr. Noraida Endut (School of Social Sciences)

	Course code	Unit	Course title
12.	NDP 517	3	Economic Analysis for Sustainable Development

Course synopsis:

Sustainable development practitioners must understand that economics plays a crucial role in impacting decision-making and the developmental process. This course introduces students to the exciting yet challenging subject of the economic problems facing developing countries by using economic theories and their applications. Both macroeconomic and microeconomic approaches will be employed in analysing these problems. The topics and issues covered in this course include the development gap in the world economy and the measurement of poverty; characteristics of underdevelopment and structural change; models of the growth and development process; the role of agriculture and surplus labour in the development process; industrialisation; dualism and vicious circles of poverty; the financing of development from domestic and international sources; debt problems; and trade and development.

Course offered: Semester 2 of every academic session (E.g. Semester 2, Academic Session 2025/2026)

Course coordinator:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tajul Ariffin Masron (School of Management)

5.4 Elective courses (6 units)

The remaining 6 units will come from elective courses, and students must choose 2 out of 3 available electives. The availability of these courses depends on student enrolment, with a minimum of 6 students required per class.

General Cluster

	Course code	Unit	Course title
1.	NDP 542	3	Sustainable Cities and Communities

Course synopsis:

The increase in urban population puts pressure on the city to provide employment opportunities, basic facilities, housing, public spaces, and other services. The agenda for sustainable cities and communities is relevant to all countries worldwide. Based on systems thinking, this course explores and discusses the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of the city in an integrated manner for the well-being of cities.

Course offered:

Semester 1 of every academic session (E.g. Semester 1, Academic Session 2024/2025)

Course coordinator:

Assoc Prof. Dr. Asyirah Abdul Rahim (School of Humanities)

Note: *NDP 542 is an interdisciplinary course. Students who choose this subject as their elective are advised to take the course during their final semesters or when they have completed most of the core courses.

Science & Engineering Cluster

	Course code	Unit	Course title
2.	NDP 544	3	Application of Environmental Science

Course synopsis

Science and technology are crucial for the achievement of sustainable development. Environmentally sound technologies that protect the environment, are less polluting, use resources sustainably, recycle more waste and products, and handle residual waste in an acceptable manner are essential for the development of all nations. This course provides an overview of how science, technology, and innovation can be conducted and applied to meet human needs while preserving the planet's life support systems. The course will focus on major environmental challenges such as climate change, energy management, production-consumption issues, natural resource management, and integrated water and waste management as practiced in Malaysia and other developing countries in the region. Environmental best practices will be used as case studies and action research for environmental problem-solving in an integrated and ethical manner.

Course offered: Semester 2 of every other academic session (E.g. Semester 2, Academic Session 2025/2026)

Course coordinator:

Dr. Chee Su Yin (Centre for Global Sustainability Studies)

Management Cluster

	Course code	Unit	Course title
3.	NDP 546	3	Corporate Social Responsibility and Social Enterprise

Course synopsis:

The objectives of this course have two prongs: 1) to educate learners about the concept of CSR and how to integrate and internalise CSR principles into the organisation and business operations, and 2) to educate learners on the concepts, models, practices, and management of social enterprises. Students will understand how the concept of sustainability can be internalised in business operations. Through a theoretical and practical approach, this course will facilitate students in understanding sustainability business management, social enterprise strategies and innovations, and CSR project initiatives related to the triple bottom line as well as the fourth bottom line.

Course offered: Semester 2 of every other academic session (E.g. Semester 2, Academic Session 2025/2026)

Course coordinator:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Fathyah Hashim (Graduate School of Business)

5.5 MALAYSIAN CULTURE AND MALAY LANGUAGE (LKM 111)

This course is compulsory for all international students and must be passed before graduation. The minimum required passing grade is a 'C'. Course registration is done through the Online Registration System during the designated registration period.

Students who have completed and passed an equivalent course may apply for an exemption. Applications for exemption must be submitted to the Dean of the School of Languages, Literacies, and Translation for approval.

6.0 STUDY PLAN

The study plan outlined in sections 6.1 to 6.3 is merely a proposed guideline to assist students in selecting courses based on their preferred semesters. However, each student has the flexibility to choose subjects that align with their preferences. Students are encouraged to consult the programme coordinator regarding their study plan.

Please note that **not all subjects** are available every semester, so exercise caution when selecting courses. If you encounter difficulties, seek guidance from the programme coordinator. It's important to manage your course selection to ensure timely graduation, as the program coordinator is not responsible for any delays.

6.1 Proposed study plan for full-time students starting Semester 1, 2024/2025 for 4 semesters.

Semester 241 (Sem 1, 2024/2025) October 2024 - February 2025		UNIT	T/E
NDP505	GLOBAL CLASSROOM: INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	2	T
NDP502	RESEARCH METHODS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	3	T
NDP503	PROJECT DESIGN & EVALUATION MANAGEMENT	3	T
NDP511	HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT	3	T

Semester 242 (Sem 2, 2024/2025) Mar 2025 - August 2025		UNIT	T/E
*NDP506	MSDP PROJECT (PART 1)	6	T
NDP513	HUMAN ECOLOGY & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	3	T
NDP514	BUDGET PLANNING & FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT	3	T
NDP518	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT	3	E

Semester 251 (Sem 1, 2025/2026) Oct 2025 - Feb 2026		UNIT	T/E
*NDP506	MSDP PROJECT (PART 2)	-	T
NDP515	LAW & GOVERNANCE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	3	T
NDP516	ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE & PLANNING	3	T
NDP542	SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	3	E

Semester 252 (Sem 2, 2025/2026) Mar 2026 - August 2026		UNIT	T/E
NDP512	SOCIAL SERVICES MANAGEMENT	3	T
NDP517	ECONOMIC ANALYSIS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	3	T
**NDP544 OR NDP546	APPLICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE OR CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISE	3	T

TOTAL	44
CORE	38
ELECTIVE	6
NO. OF SEMESTERS	4

T = KURSUS TERAS (CORE COURSE)
E = KURSUS ELEKTIF (ELECTIVE COURSE)

Note: * **NDP 506** is a new course code replacing NDP 504. However, it will be offered to new intake students who begin their studies from Semester 2 of the 2022-2023 academic year onwards. Returning students, on the other hand, are required to enroll in NDP 504. You are advised to complete NDP 502 first, before undertaking NDP 506.

NDP 506 Course Registration Guideline: NDP506 spans two semesters and must be taken consecutively. However, students are required to register online only once. Registration for the subsequent semester will be handled administratively by CGSS. This guideline also applies to NDP504.

** Choose only **ONE (1)** elective course either NDP544 or NDP 546

6.2 Proposed study plan for full-time students starting Semester 1, 2024/2025 for 6 semesters.

Semester 241		(Sem 1, 2024/2025) October 2024 - February 2025	UNIT	T/E
NDP505	GLOBAL CLASSROOM:INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		2	T
NDP502	RESEARCH METHODS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		3	T
NDP503	PROJECT DESIGN & EVALUATION MANAGEMENT		3	T

Semester 242		(Sem 2, 2024/2025) Mar 2025 - August 2025	UNIT	T/E
NDP513	HUMAN ECOLOGY & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		3	T
NDP514	BUDGET PLANNING & FINANCIAL DEV		3	T
NDP518	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT		3	T

Semester 251		(Sem 1, 2025/2026) Oct 2025 - Feb 2026	UNIT	T/E
NDP511	HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT		3	T
NDP515	LAW & GOVERNANCE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		3	T
NDP516	ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE & PLANNING		3	T

Semester 252		(Sem 2, 2025/2026) Mar 2026 - August 2026	UNIT	T/E
NDP512	SOCIAL SERVICES MANAGEMENT		3	T
NDP517	ECONOMIC ANALYSIS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		3	T
**NDP544 OR NDP546	APPLICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE OR CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISE		3	E

Semester 261		(Sem 1, 2026/2027) Oct 2026 - Feb 2027	UNIT	T/E
*NDP506	MSDP PROJECT (PART 1)		6	T
NDP542	SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES		3	E

Semester 262		(Sem 2, 2026/2027) Mar 2027 - August 2027	UNIT	T/E
*NDP506	MSDP PROJECT (PART 2)		-	T

TOTAL	44
CORE	38
ELECTIVE	6
NO. OF SEMESTERS	6

T = KURSUS TERAS (CORE COURSE)

E = KURSUS ELEKTIF (ELECTIVE COURSE)

* see explanation on page 16

** see explanation on page 16

6.3 Proposed study plan for full-time students starting Semester 1, 2024/2025 for 8 semesters.

Semester 241		(Sem 1, 2024/2025) October 2024 - February 2025	UNIT	T/E
NDP505	GLOBAL CLASSROOM:INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		2	T
NDP502	RESEARCH METHODS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		3	T
Semester 242		(Sem 2, 2024/2025) Mar 2025 - August 2025	UNIT	T/E
NDP513	HUMAN ECOLOGY & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		3	T
NDP514	BUDGET PLANNING & FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT		3	T
Semester 251		(Sem 1, 2025/2026) Oct 2025 - Feb 2026	UNIT	T/E
NDP503	PROJECT DESIGN & EVALUATION MANAGEMENT		3	T
NDP511	HEALTH POLICY AND MANAGEMENT		3	T
Semester 252		(Sem 2, 2025/2026) Mar 2026 - August 2026	UNIT	T/E
NDP512	SOCIAL SERVICES MANAGEMENT		3	T
NDP517	ECONOMIC ANALYSIS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		3	T
Semester 261		(Sem 1, 2026/2027) Oct 2026 - Feb 2027	UNIT	T/E
NDP506	MSDP PROJECT (PART 1)		6	T
NDP542	SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES		3	E
Semester 262		(Sem 2, 2026/2027) Mar 2027 - August 2027	UNIT	T/E
NDP506	MSDP PROJECT (PART 2)		0	T
NDP518	INFORMATION TECH FOR DEVELOPMENT		3	T
Semester 271		(Sem 1, 2027/2028) Oct 2027 - Feb 2028	UNIT	T/E
NDP515	LAW & GOVERNANCE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		3	T
NDP516	ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE & PLANNING		3	T
Semester 272		(Sem 2, 2027/2028) Mar 2028 - August 2028	UNIT	T/E
**NDP544 OR NDP546	APPLICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE OR CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISE		3	E

TOTAL	44
CORE	38
ELECTIVE	6
NO. OF SEMESTERS	8

T = KURSUS TERAS (CORE COURSE)
E = KURSUS ELEKTIF (ELECTIVE COURSE)

* see explanation on page 16

** see explanation on page 16

6.4 Proposed timetable for Academic Session 2024/2025

Semester 1 (2024/2025) (October 2024 to February 2025)



**TIMETABLE FOR MASTER IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE (MSDP)
SEMESTER 1, 2024/2025**

DAY / TIME	8.00 AM – 2.00 PM	2.00 PM – 3.00PM	3.00 PM – 9.00 PM
SATURDAY	NDP505 Global Classroom: Integrated Approaches to Sustainable Development	Lunch Break	NDP502 Research Methods for Sustainable Development
	NDP515 Law and Governance in Development		*NDP504/506 MSDP Project
SUNDAY	NDP511 Health Policy and Management	Lunch Break	NDP503 Project Design Evaluation and Management
	NDP542 Sustainable Cities and Communities		NDP516 Energy Infrastructure Planning

Tentative dates for Classes:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Week 1 Classes –October 2024 | 5. Week 5 Classes – December 2024 |
| 2. Week 2 Classes –November 2024 | 6. Week 6 Classes – January 2025 |
| 3. Week 3 Classes –November 2024 | 7. Week 7 Classes – January 2025 |
| 4. Week 4 Classes –November/December 2024 | |

MID-SEMESTER BREAK: 02 – 08 Dec 2024
STUDY WEEK: 27 Jan – 02 Feb 2025
EXAM WEEK: 03 Feb – 23 Feb 2025

Semester 2 (2024/2025) (April 2025 – August 2025)



**Masters in Sustainable Development Practice (MSDP) Programme
Semester 2, Academic Session 2024/2025**

Day/Time	8.00 am – 2.00 pm	2.00 pm – 3.00 pm	3.00 pm – 9.00 pm
Saturday	NDP514 Budget Planning and Financial Management	Lunch break	NDP518 Information Technology for Development
Sunday	*NDP504 / NDP 506 Master In Sustainable Development Practice Project <i>(Not for 1st semester students. Only for students in their 2nd semester and above, and they have completed NDP502)</i>	Lunch break	NDP513 Human Ecology and Sustainable Development
	NDP 516 Energy Infrastructure Planning <i>(For 1st semester students ONLY, it is not compulsory to take this course this semester because it will be offered during the 1st semester of every academic session)</i>		
Tentative Dates for Classes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Week 1 Classes –April 2025 Week 2 Classes –April 2025 Week 3 Classes –May 2025 Week 4 Classes –May 2025 Week 5 Classes –June 2025 Week 6 Classes –June 2025 Week 7 Classes –July 2025 		MID-SEMESTER BREAK: 12 MAY – 18 MAY 2023 (1 WEEK) STUDY WEEK: 17 JULY – 13 JULY 2023 (1 WEEK) EXAM WEEK: 14 JULY – 3 AUGUST 2023 (3 WEEKS)	

Please take note that the schedule may be subject to change. Students will be advised of any changes in advance. Dates for classes will be announced a month before the start of every semester. Students will be informed via WhatsApp or email.

7.0 Contact USM@KL

Any queries regarding administrative matters, please contact the USM@KL administrative office.

WhatsApp Number: +60 3 2181 5208

Alternatively, you can visit them in person during office hours from Monday to Friday, 9 am to 4.30 pm.

For further information, please refer to the **IPS Postgraduate Student Handbook** for the rules and regulations governing postgraduate studies at Universiti Sains Malaysia.

APPENDICES

Universiti Sains Malaysia's Academic Calendar, Session 2024/2025

1. Bahasa Malaysia version
2. English version

KALENDAR AKADEMIK - SIDANG AKADEMIK 2024/2025

BAGI SEMUA RANCANGAN (KECUALI PROGRAM DOKTOR PERUBATAN DAN DOKTOR PERGIGIAN)

Kampus Induk : Pendaftaran Pelajar Baharu (04 - 06 Oktober 2024) / **Minggu Siswa Lestari (07 - 12 Oktober 2024)

Kampus Kejuruteraan : Pendaftaran Pelajar Baharu (06 Oktober 2024) / **Minggu Siswa Lestari (07 - 12 Oktober 2024)

Kampus Kesihatan : Pendaftaran Pelajar Baharu (05 Oktober 2024) / **Minggu Siswa Lestari (06 - 12 Oktober 2024)

SEM	MINGGU	AKTIVITI	TARIKH	CATATAN	
SATU	1	P&P (7 Minggu)	Isnin, 14.10.2024 - Ahad, 20.10.2024		
	2		Isnin, 21.10.2024 - Ahad, 27.10.2024		
	3		Isnin, 28.10.2024 - Ahad, 03.11.2024	31.10.2024, Khamis - Hari Deepavali**	
	4		Isnin, 04.11.2024 - Ahad, 10.11.2024		
	5		Isnin, 11.11.2024 - Ahad, 17.11.2024		
	6		Isnin, 18.11.2024 - Ahad, 24.11.2024		
	7		Isnin, 25.11.2024 - Ahad, 01.12.2024		
	8	Cuti Pertengahan Semester I (1 Minggu)	Isnin, 02.12.2024 - Ahad, 08.12.2024		
	9	P&P (7 Minggu)	Isnin, 09.12.2024 - Ahad, 15.12.2024		
	10		Isnin, 16.12.2024 - Ahad, 22.12.2024		
	11		Isnin, 23.12.2024 - Ahad, 29.12.2024	25.12.2024, Rabu - Hari Krismas	
	12		Isnin, 30.12.2024 - Ahad, 05.01.2025	01.01.2025, Rabu - Tahun Baharu 2025	
	13		Isnin, 06.01.2025 - Ahad, 12.01.2025		
	14		Isnin, 13.01.2025 - Ahad, 19.01.2025		
	15		Isnin, 20.01.2025 - Ahad, 26.01.2025		
	16	Minggu Ulang Kaji (1 Minggu)	Isnin, 27.01.2025 - Ahad, 02.02.2025	29 & 30.01.2025, Rabu & Khamis - Tahun Baru Cina	
	17	Peperiksaan (3 Minggu)	Isnin, 03.02.2025 - Ahad, 09.02.2025		
	18		Isnin, 10.02.2025 - Ahad, 16.02.2025	11.02.2025, Selasa - Hari Thaipusam	
	19		Isnin, 17.02.2025 - Ahad, 23.02.2025		
	20	Cuti Semester I / Latihan Industri (4 Minggu)	Isnin, 24.02.2025 - Ahad, 02.03.2025	01.03.2025, Sabtu - Awal Ramadhan	
	21		Isnin, 03.03.2025 - Ahad, 09.03.2025		
	22		Isnin, 10.03.2025 - Ahad, 16.03.2025		
	23		Isnin, 17.03.2025 - Ahad, 23.03.2025	17.03.2025, Isnin - Nuzul Al-Quran	
DUA	24/1	P&P (7 Minggu)	Isnin, 24.03.2025 - Ahad, 30.03.2025		
	25/2		Isnin, 31.03.2025 - Ahad, 06.04.2025	31.03.2025 & 01.04.2025, Isnin & Selasa - Hari Raya Aidilfitri**	
	26/3		Isnin, 07.04.2025 - Ahad, 13.04.2025		
	27/4		Isnin, 14.04.2025 - Ahad, 20.04.2025		
	28/5		Isnin, 21.04.2025 - Ahad, 27.04.2025		
	29/6		Isnin, 28.04.2025 - Ahad, 04.05.2025	01.05.2025, Khamis - Hari Pekerja	
	30/7		Isnin, 05.05.2025 - Ahad, 11.05.2025		
	31/8	Cuti Pertengahan Semester II (1 Minggu)	Isnin, 12.05.2025 - Ahad, 18.05.2025	12.05.2025, Isnin - Hari Wesak	
	32/9	P&P (7 Minggu)	Isnin, 19.05.2025 - Ahad, 25.05.2025		
	33/10		Isnin, 26.05.2025 - Ahad, 01.06.2025	30 & 31.05.2025, Jumaat & Sabtu - Pesta Kaamatan	
	34/11		Isnin, 02.06.2025 - Ahad, 08.06.2025	01 & 02.06.2025, Ahad & Isnin - Hari Gawai	
	35/12		Isnin, 09.06.2025 - Ahad, 15.06.2025	02.06.2025, Isnin - Hari Keputeraan Yang di-Pertuan Agong	
	36/13		Isnin, 16.06.2025 - Ahad, 22.06.2025	06.06.2025, Jumaat - Hari Raya Haji**	
	37/14		Isnin, 23.06.2025 - Ahad, 29.06.2025	27.06.2025, Jumaat - Awal Muharram	
	38/15		Isnin, 30.06.2025 - Ahad, 06.07.2025		
39/16	Minggu Ulang Kaji (1 Minggu)	Isnin, 07.07.2025 - Ahad, 13.07.2025	07.07.2025, Isnin - Hari Bandar Warisan Dunia Georgetown 12.07.2025, Sabtu - Hari Jadi Yang di-Pertua Negeri Pulau Pinang		
40/17	**Peperiksaan (2 Minggu)	Peperiksaan (3 Minggu)	Isnin, 14.07.2025 - Ahad, 20.07.2025		
41/18	Isnin, 21.07.2025 - Ahad, 27.07.2025				
42/19	Isnin, 28.07.2025 - Ahad, 03.08.2025				
KSCP / CUTI PANJANG	43/20	Cuti Semester II / Latihan Industri (9/10 Minggu)	Isnin, 04.08.2025 - Ahad, 10.08.2025		
	44/21		Isnin, 11.08.2025 - Ahad, 17.08.2025		
	45/22		Isnin, 18.08.2025 - Ahad, 24.08.2025		
	46/23		Isnin, 25.08.2025 - Ahad, 31.08.2025	31.08.2025, Ahad - Hari Kebangsaan	
	47/24		*P&P	Isnin, 01.09.2025 - Ahad, 07.09.2025	
	48/25		Isnin, 08.09.2025 - Ahad, 14.09.2025		
	49/26		Peperiksaan	Isnin, 15.09.2025 - Ahad, 21.09.2025	16.09.2025, Selasa - Hari Malaysia
	50/27		Isnin, 22.09.2025 - Ahad, 28.09.2025		
51/28	Isnin, 29.09.2025 - Ahad, 05.10.2025		29 & 30.09.2025, Isnin & Selasa - Hari Keputeraan Sultan Kelantan (Kelantan)		

ACADEMIC CALENDAR - ACADEMIC SESSION 2024/2025

FOR ALL SCHOOLS (EXCEPT FOR SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES AND SCHOOL OF DENTAL SCIENCES)

Main Campus : Registration for New Student 04 - 06 October 2024) / **Orientation Week (07 - 12 October 2024)
Engineering Campus : Registration for New Student (06 October 2024) / **Orientation Week (07 - 12 October 2024)
Health Campus : Registration for New Student (05 October 2024) / **Orientation Week (06 - 12 October 2024)

SEM	WEEKS	ACTIVITY	DATE	REMARKS	
ONE	1	Teaching & Learning (T&L 7 Weeks)	Monday, 14.10.2024 - Sunday, 20.10.2024		
	2		Monday, 21.10.2024 - Sunday, 27.10.2024		
	3		Monday, 28.10.2024 - Sunday, 03.11.2024	31.10.2024, Thursday - Hari Deepavali**	
	4		Monday, 04.11.2024 - Sunday, 10.11.2024		
	5		Monday, 11.11.2024 - Sunday, 17.11.2024		
	6		Monday, 18.11.2024 - Sunday, 24.11.2024		
	7		Monday, 25.11.2024 - Sunday, 01.12.2024		
	8	Mid Semester Break (1 Week)	Monday, 02.12.2024 - Sunday, 08.12.2024		
	9	Teaching & Learning (T&L 7 Weeks)	Monday, 09.12.2024 - Sunday, 15.12.2024		
	10		Monday, 16.12.2024 - Sunday, 22.12.2024		
	11		Monday, 23.12.2024 - Sunday, 29.12.2024	25.12.2024, Wednesday - Christmas Day	
	12		Monday, 30.12.2024 - Sunday, 05.01.2025	01.01.2025, Wednesday - New Year of 2025	
	13		Monday, 06.01.2025 - Sunday, 12.01.2025		
	14		Monday, 13.01.2025 - Sunday, 19.01.2025		
	15		Monday, 20.01.2025 - Sunday, 26.01.2025		
	16	Revision Week (1 Week)	Monday, 27.01.2025 - Sunday, 02.02.2025	29 & 30.01.2025, Wednesday & Thursday - Chinese New Year	
	17	Examination (3 Weeks)	Monday, 03.02.2025 - Sunday, 09.02.2025		
	18		Monday, 10.02.2025 - Sunday, 16.02.2025	11.02.2025, Tuesday - Thaipusam	
	19		Monday, 17.02.2025 - Sunday, 23.02.2025		
	20	Mid Semester Break / Industrial Training (4 Weeks)	Monday, 24.02.2025 - Sunday, 02.03.2025	01.03.2025, Saturday - Awal Ramadhan	
	21		Monday, 03.03.2025 - Sunday, 09.03.2025		
	22		Monday, 10.03.2025 - Sunday, 16.03.2025		
	23		Monday, 17.03.2025 - Sunday, 23.03.2025	17.03.2025, Monday - Nuzul Al-Quran	
TWO	24/1	Teaching & Learning (T&L 7 Weeks)	Monday, 24.03.2025 - Sunday, 30.03.2025		
	25/2		Monday, 31.03.2025 - Sunday, 06.04.2025	31.03.2025 & 01.04.2025, Monday & Tuesday - Eid al-Fitr**	
	26/3		Monday, 07.04.2025 - Sunday, 13.04.2025		
	27/4		Monday, 14.04.2025 - Sunday, 20.04.2025		
	28/5		Monday, 21.04.2025 - Sunday, 27.04.2025		
	29/6		Monday, 28.04.2025 - Sunday, 04.05.2025	01.05.2025, Thursday - Labour Day	
	30/7		Monday, 05.05.2025 - Sunday, 11.05.2025		
	31/8	Mid Semester Break (1 Week)	Monday, 12.05.2025 - Sunday, 18.05.2025	12.05.2025, Monday - Wesak Day	
	32/9	Teaching & Learning (T&L 7 Weeks)	Monday, 19.05.2025 - Sunday, 25.05.2025		
	33/10		Monday, 26.05.2025 - Sunday, 01.06.2025	30 & 31.05.2025, Friday & Saturday - Pesta Kaamatan 01 & 02.06.2025, Sunday & Monday - Hari Gawai	
	34/11		Monday, 02.06.2025 - Sunday, 08.06.2025	02.06.2025, Monday - Yang di-Pertuan Agong's Birthday 06.06.2025, Friday - Eid al-Adha**	
	35/12		Monday, 09.06.2025 - Sunday, 15.06.2025		
	36/13		Monday, 16.06.2025 - Sunday, 22.06.2025		
	37/14		Monday, 23.06.2025 - Sunday, 29.06.2025	27.06.2025, Friday - Awal Muharram	
	38/15		Monday, 30.06.2025 - Sunday, 06.07.2025		
	39/16	Revision Week (1 Week)	Monday, 07.07.2025 - Sunday, 13.07.2025	07.07.2025, Isnin - Georgetown World Heritage City Day 12.07.2025, Saturday - Penang Governor's Birthday	
	40/17	**Examination (2 Weeks)	Examination (3 Weeks)	Monday, 14.07.2025 - Sunday, 20.07.2025	
41/18	Monday, 21.07.2025 - Sunday, 27.07.2025				
42/19	Monday, 28.07.2025 - Sunday, 03.08.2025				
COURSES DURING LONG BREAK / SEMESTER BREAK	43/20	Long Semester Break / Industrial Training (9/10 Weeks)	Monday, 04.08.2025 - Sunday, 10.08.2025		
	44/21		Monday, 11.08.2025 - Sunday, 17.08.2025		
	45/22		Monday, 18.08.2025 - Sunday, 24.08.2025		
	46/23		Monday, 25.08.2025 - Sunday, 31.08.2025	31.08.2025, Sunday - National Day	
	47/24		*T&L	Monday, 01.09.2025 - Sunday, 07.09.2025	
	48/25		Monday, 08.09.2025 - Sunday, 14.09.2025		
	49/26		Examination	Monday, 15.09.2025 - Sunday, 21.09.2025	16.09.2025, Tuesday - Malaysia Day
	50/27		Monday, 22.09.2025 - Sunday, 28.09.2025		
	51/28		Monday, 29.09.2025 - Sunday, 05.10.2025	29 & 30.09.2025, Monday & Tuesday - Sultan of Kelantan's Birthday (Kelantan)	

CENTRE FOR GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA

