

SUSTAINABLE PRODUCT DESIGN AND INNOVATION (B.S.)

The Sustainable Product Design and Innovation major at Keene State College is a pre-professional four-year program offering a cross-disciplinary curriculum to give the student a solid foundation in the artistic, scientific, and technical aspects of product design and the social and scientific aspects of sustainability concerns. Product Design involves the synthesis of consumer needs and production capabilities in the creation of new products and their affiliated services. The integrated sustainability issues link the multitude of human factors, environmental, and resource depletion concerns to the decision-making process. The curriculum draws from five disciplines: art, management, mathematics, safety, and industrial/product design to build the student's capacity in design theory and practice, material sciences, production processes, digital technology, and the quantitative and qualitative issues of sustainability and business practices.

All SPDI Majors complete the SPDI major requirements totaling 68 credits. By choosing additional courses noted below, students may elect to further focus their studies by adding an option in General Engineering or in Manufacturing Engineering. These options are not required to complete the SPDI major. The Sustainable Product Design and Innovation major is designed to provide students with a hands-on project-based learning curriculum focusing on real-world applications grounded in a liberal arts foundation. The emphasis on innovation complemented with business management encourages creative problem-solving and entrepreneurship, providing students with the tools to adapt and evolve their career paths to meet the needs of a rapidly changing world. Integrated sustainability values prepare students for engagement in the product realization arena in the "lean" and "green" global production economy. Graduates are prepared to pursue graduate study or transition directly into careers in product design/engineering, technology/evaluation, planning, supply, production, quality control, technical services, marketing, sales, or other related professions.