# 

OHIO Carbon Offsets

**Possible Academic Connections:** Environmental Studies, Plant Biology, Restaurant, Hotel & Tourism, Geography

**Recommended project length:** Semester, year or thesis/dissertation

[**Experiential Learning**](https://www.ohio.edu/academic-excellence/experiential-learning/overview)**?** Likely

[**Community Engagement**](https://www.ohio.edu/university-college/campus-community-engagement)**?** Likely

**Remote learning possible?** Yes

**Connection to** [**OHIO Sustainability & Climate Action Plan**](https://www.ohio.edu/sites/default/files/sites/sustainability/files/2021%20OHIO%20Sustainability%20and%20Climate%20Action%20Plan.pdf)**:** Climate, Administrative Support, Engagement

**Brief description:** Create a proposal for an Ohio University certified carbon offset program.

**Project contact:**

Elaine Goetz, [goetze@ohio.edu](mailto:goetze@ohio.edu), Director of Energy Management & Sustainability

Catherine Marshall, [marshalc@ohio.edu](mailto:marshalc@ohio.edu), Director, Office of Global Opportunities

**Project description:**

Carbon offsets compensate for carbon emissions that cannot be avoided by reducing emissions elsewhere.

* For a semester-length project, students will create a proposal for an Ohio University certified carbon offset program. They will investigate methods for creating a certified carbon offset programs and will write and present a proposal with recommendations and best practices, including potential locations.
* Longer projects could include a cost-benefit assessment of implementation including greenhouse gas reductions, operating costs, ecosystem services benefits, opportunity costs, and/or actual implementation of a certified carbon offset program (for example, tree plantings).

**Resources available to students/faculty to complete project:**

* [UN certification of emission reductions](https://offset.climateneutralnow.org/uncertification)
* [Offset Network tools and resources](https://offsetnetwork.secondnature.org/resources-and-tools)
* Initial interview with staff member

**Project alignment to** [**OHIO Sustainability & Climate Action Plan**](https://www.ohio.edu/sites/default/files/sites/sustainability/files/2021%20OHIO%20Sustainability%20and%20Climate%20Action%20Plan.pdf)**:**

* [Climate](https://www.ohio.edu/sustainability/operations/climate) (goal #1)
* [Administrative Support](https://www.ohio.edu/sites/default/files/sites/sustainability/Sustainability%20and%20Climate%20Action%20Plan%20sections/Core%20Components.pdf) (goal #1)
* [Engagement](https://www.ohio.edu/sites/default/files/sites/sustainability/Sustainability%20and%20Climate%20Action%20Plan%20sections/Core%20Components.pdf) (goals #1 and #2)

**Please send final project deliverables to** [**sustainability@ohio.edu**](mailto:sustainability@ohio.edu) **for tracking and reporting purposes.**