

OHIO Carbon Offsets

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

Recommended project length: Semester, year or thesis/dissertation

Experiential Learning? Likely

Community Engagement? Likely

Remote learning possible? Yes

Connection to OHIO Sustainability & Climate Action Plan: [Climate](#) (goal 1), [Administrative Support](#) (goal 1), [Engagement](#) (goals 1 and 2)

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

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:

- [American Carbon Registry \(ACR\):](#)
 - Possible option for tree plantings: [IMPROVED FOREST MANAGEMENT IN NON-FEDERAL U.S. FORESTLANDS, version 2.0, July 2022](#)
- [Verified Carbon Standard](#)
- [Climate Action Reserve \(CAR\)](#)
- [UN certification of emission reductions](#)
- [Offset Network tools and resources](#)
- For tree planting projects: limited baseline data on canopy cover at Ohio University

- Initial interview with staff member