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# Planetary Health Report Card (Medicine) 2026: *Université de Genève*

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**UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE**

2025-2026 Contributing Team:

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## Summary of Findings

<b>Overall Grade</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>Curriculum</b>	<b>B</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Since last year, there have been a couple less mentions of PH in the Geneva curriculum. One elective course on PH has been discontinued and other lectures mentioning PH have been shortened. However PH is still well implemented throughout the Geneva curriculum. There are still very few mentions of the effects of climate change on people with low SES and, in general, the aspects of ethics and inequalities regarding the consequences of climate change are still not addressed in depth. PH is often rapidly mentioned in the context of other lectures as opposed to being discussed as a core topic. There are many learning objectives referenced, but reality does not always reflect them.</li> <li>● <b>Recommendations</b> : We recommend implementing a lecture or mentioning the disproportionate impact of climate change on low SES and marginalised communities as well as longitudinal teaching on how to advocate for the structural determinants of health, so the students may be trained not only to mitigate the impact of their daily practice but also to talk about and spread awareness about the systemic impact of climate change on PH. A notable improvement would be to integrate more PH in the Master’s curriculum so that there may be some clinical applications of PH, as most of the clinical teachings are in the Master’s curriculum. Like last year, we recommend the creation of a “health and sustainability” office with the aim of coordinating learning activities and continuing the integration of new courses, which might help greatly with the above recommendations.</li> </ul>	
<b>Interdisciplinary Research</b>	<b>A</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As last year, Planetary Health Research is conducted at the university, both with local, national and international projects.</li> <li>● <b>Recommendations</b> : Clear centralisation of the research information concerning Planetary Health, with for example, a dedicated web page on the university website.</li> </ul>	
<b>Community Outreach and Advocacy</b>	<b>B</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The university supports various community outreach programs concerning Planetary Health, but with no direct partnership with associations. The webpage on Sustainability at the University is an improvement.</li> <li>● <b>Recommendations</b> : Increasing communications around Planetary Health (website, news, social media), as well as community-facing courses. The university could engage more in local initiatives.</li> </ul>	
<b>Support for Student-Led Initiatives</b>	<b>A-</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Student associations, such as Health for Future, are still supported by the faculty of Medicine. Various projects are also supported by different structures in the university.</li> <li>● <b>Recommendations</b> : Centralisation of the information to increase project visibility and encourage student initiatives</li> </ul>	
<b>Campus Sustainability</b>	<b>C-</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● There has been no significant changes to campus sustainability since last year. There are little guidelines for reducing carbon footprints in the campus and renovations would be needed for the old Faculty of Medicine building in order to make it more sustainable.</li> <li>● <b>Recommendations</b> : Clear guidelines could be established for sustainability and reduction of carbon footprint in supply procurement and event hostings. The university could establish a clear plan with ambitious objectives in terms of durability.</li> </ul>	

# Statement of Purpose

*Planetary health is human health.*

The Planetary Health Alliance describes planetary health as “a solutions-oriented, transdisciplinary field and social movement focused on analysing and addressing the impacts of human disruptions to Earth’s natural systems on human health and all life on Earth.” This definition is intentionally broad, intended to encompass the multitude of ways that the environment can affect health, including water scarcity, changing food systems, urbanisation, biodiversity shifts, natural disasters, climate change, changing land use and land cover, global pollution, and changing biogeochemical flows. The health of humanity is dependent on our environment, and our environment is changing rapidly and in disastrous ways. Although the World Health Organization has called climate change “the greatest threat to global health in the 21st century,” many health professional school’s institutional priorities do not reflect the urgency of this danger to human health.

As future health professionals, we must be prepared to address the impacts of human-caused environmental changes on our patients’ health. This preparation is in the hands of the institutions providing our health professional training. It is imperative that we hold our institutions accountable for educating health professional students about the health impacts of climate change and other anthropogenic environmental changes, generating research to better understand health impacts and solutions, supporting related student initiatives, embracing sustainable practices as much as possible, and engaging with surrounding communities that are most affected by environmental threats. Because climate change and environmental threats disproportionately affect vulnerable populations (for example, communities of colour, older adults sensitive to health threats, and individuals in low-resource settings), these issues are inherently ones of equity and justice.

With the purpose of increasing planetary health awareness and accountability among health professional schools, we have created a Planetary Health Report Card that students internationally can use to grade and compare their institutions on an annual basis. This student-driven initiative aims to compare health professional schools nationally and internationally on the basis of discrete metrics in five main category areas: 1) planetary health curriculum, 2) interdisciplinary research in health and environment, 3) university support for student planetary health initiatives, 4) community outreach centred on environmental health impacts and 5) school campus sustainability.

# Definitions & Other Considerations

## Definitions:

- **Planetary Health:** is described by the Planetary Health Alliance as “the health of human civilisation and the state of the natural systems on which it depends.” For example, topics such as climate change, declining biodiversity, shortages of arable land and freshwater, and pollution would all fall under the realm of planetary health. Both planetary health and traditional ‘environmental health’ examine the relationship between human health and the external environment, including extreme temperatures, chemicals, vector-borne diseases, etc. Planetary health explicitly concerns itself with the potential health harms associated with human-caused perturbations of natural systems. Therefore, the human health focus of planetary health makes the field well-adapted for the context of health professional education. Throughout this report card, we use the term planetary health to refer to this broad swath of topics, but resources do not need to explicitly include the term “planetary health” to satisfy the metric.
- **Sustainable Healthcare:** As defined by the Academy of Royal Colleges, sustainable healthcare involves ensuring the ability to provide good quality care for future generations by balancing the economic, environmental, and social constraints and demands within health care settings. A sustainable healthcare system maintains population health, reduces disease burden and minimises use of healthcare services.
- **Education for Sustainable Healthcare (ESH):** is defined as the process of equipping current and future health professionals with the knowledge, attitudes, skills and capacity to provide environmentally sustainable services through health professional education, thus working to decrease the enormous environmental impact of the healthcare industry. Planetary Health Education is an integral part of this education rather than an end in itself. This is because knowledge on Planetary Health is required to be able to fully understand the necessity of sustainable healthcare as well as being part of the broader knowledge needed to fully protect and promote health. In summary, ESH is covered by the three Priority Learning Outcomes of the Centre of Sustainable Healthcare below, and Planetary Health Education is embraced in the first learning objective and is a fundamental requirement to achieve learning outcomes 2 and 3:
  1. Describe how the environment and human health interact at different levels.
  2. Demonstrate the knowledge and skills needed to improve the environmental sustainability of health systems.
  3. Discuss how the duty of a doctor to protect and promote health is shaped by the dependence of human health on the local and global environment.
- **Medical School/Department vs. Institution:** When “Medical school” is specified in the report card, this only refers to curriculum and resources offered by the School/department of Medicine and does not include offerings from other parts of the university (e.g. undergraduate departments (USA), other related departments (e.g. Public Health, Population Health departments). In contrast, when “institution” is specified in the report card, we are referring to the university more broadly including all of its campuses. Any resource reasonably accessible by medical students, no matter where in the institution the resource comes from or if it is

specifically targeted for medical students, can meet this metric.

- **Environmental history (Curriculum Section):** This is a series of questions students are taught to ask during medical encounters that elicits patients' exposures and environmental risk factors. Historically, this has included consideration of exposures like pesticides, asbestos, and lead, though in the modern era shaped by climate change, it can be expanded to include things like wildfire smoke exposure, air pollution and mould after flooding. Key components include place of residence over the lifecourse, occupational history, food and water sources (e.g. meat from industrial feeding operations, regular fishing in contaminated water, access to clean drinking water), and exposure to air pollution. Please be as specific as possible when providing evidence for this metric.
- **Elective:** The word "elective" refers to an optional course or lecture series that a student can opt to take part in but is not a requirement in the core curriculum. Generally, these elective courses take place in the preclinical curriculum but vary by school.
- **Core Curriculum:** This refers to the taught material that is delivered to the entire cohort of students in one year.
- **Clerkship / Outreach:** This is a term used in the USA to refer to placements that medical students go on e.g. Pediatrics, General medicine, Psychiatry. In the UK these are referred to as rotations, outreach or placements. This is a relatively short (approximately 4-8 weeks) period of study and patient-centred clinical experience that takes place as part of the undergraduate programme.
- **Clinical rotation:** This is a term used to refer to placements that students go on (e.g., ophthalmology, surgery, cardiology).
- **Physiotherapy vs Physical Therapy:** For the purposes of this report card these terms are considered interchangeable. However, physiotherapy will be used primarily.
- **Community organisations:** For most institutions, there are existing groups that are not directly affiliated with the university and exist as a product of what the community the institution exists in cares about or needs. These specific community organisations relevant to this report include those that are focused around some aspect of climate and health preservation. These community organisations can include but are not limited to local mutual aid initiatives, underserved-resource distribution groups, clean-up and nature conservation groups, community gardeners, and other environmental-related organisations. If your institution does not have access to local volunteerships with community groups, please report any community organisations your institution or school has collaborated with.
- **Climate justice:** The idea that certain population groups and geographical locations which are disproportionately more impacted by climate change are already economically and socially disadvantaged. This double vulnerability sits alongside pre-existing social justice concerns and should therefore shift policy and practice to mitigate the inequitable effects of the climate crisis.
- **Extractivism:** The removal of natural resources typically in large quantities. Within anthropology this term is often used in the context of colonialism to refer to the

historic seizing of natural resources, a practice which has developed business models tied to ecological degradation and loss of biodiversity.

- **Global South:** Nations that often have less economic and industrial development and are typically in the southern hemisphere. These nations have been found to be disproportionately impacted by the climate crisis.
- **Low socioeconomic status (SES):** An individual or geographical area that across a variety of socioeconomic factors (e.g., income, education, race/ethnicity) is considered vulnerable. This vulnerability has been correlated to more adverse health outcomes often as a consequence of encountering more barriers in accessing and receiving healthcare.
- **Low and Middle-Income Countries (LMIC):** Countries that have lower degrees of economic affluence.
- **Anthropogenic:** Created through human activity
- **Marginalized communities:** Groups excluded from mainstream economic, educational, social, and/or cultural experiences due to race, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, physical ability, language, and/or immigration status (Sevelius et al., 2020).

### Scoring Matrix

- Elective coursework (1 point): This score applies to material that is actively selected by the students such as a module choice, or additional lecture series. By implication, only a given proportion of the cohort will receive this taught material.
- Brief coverage in the core curriculum (2 points): This score applies where a topic is covered only briefly in a core curriculum session. This implies that the entire cohort receives the same material. At minimum brief inclusion would qualify as inclusion in a single lecture slide in a single year.
- In depth coverage in the core curriculum (3 points): This score applies where a topic is taught in significant detail or where a topic is repeatedly brought up in different years. This might look like several dedicated lecture slides, or inclusion of the same topic in different lectures and teaching formats.

### Other considerations:

- If there are more than one “tracks” at your institution with two different curricula (for example, Harvard Medical School has a Pathways and HST curriculum track), you can choose to fill out a report card for each track, or fill out just one report card and average the scores received by each track in cases where the scores are different (see the 2021 Harvard or Oxford report cards as examples). Where possible please indicate the proportion of students that are on each track.

Updated in 2025, a complete literature review by metric is available for the 2024/25 Medicine Report Card Template. This largely translates across disciplines although we are hoping to expand this process across all of our covered disciplines. A link to the 2025 literature review by metric is available [here](#).

# Planetary Health Curriculum

**Section Overview:** *This section evaluates the integration of relevant planetary health topics into the medical school curriculum. Today's health professional students will be on the frontlines of tackling the health effects of climate and other environmental changes. Therefore, it is critical that students are trained to understand the health effects of these changes, as well as planetary health issues and principles more broadly. Topics like the changing geography of vector-borne diseases, the health consequences of air pollution, environmental health inequities, and disaster response principles must be part of every medical school's core curriculum.*

## Curriculum: General

<b>1.1. Did your <u>medical school</u> offer elective courses (student selected modules) to engage students in Education for Sustainable Healthcare or Planetary Health in the last year?</b>	
Yes, the medical school has offered <b>more than one</b> elective whose primary focus is ESH/planetary health in the past year. (3 points)	
Yes, the medical school has offered <b>one</b> elective whose primary focus is ESH/planetary health in the past year. (2 points)	
The medical school does <b>not</b> have any electives whose primary focus is ESH/planetary health, but there are one or more electives that include a <b>lecture</b> on planetary health. (1 point)	
No, the medical school has <b>not</b> offered any electives on planetary health or electives that include ESH/planetary health topics in the past year. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	1
<p><i>Score explanation:</i></p> <p><i>There was one elective course entitled “Better understand the links between health, medicine and the environment” during the 2023-2024 academic year but it has since been discontinued. As far as we know, some other elective courses mention planetary health without including a full lecture on the subject:</i></p> <p><i>The elective “Current challenges in humanitarian health” mentions several times the worsening effect of climate change on humanitarian crises.</i></p> <p><i>Some of the lectures included in the optional “Tropical Medicine” unit of 6th year focus on “One health” and “Health and pollution”.</i></p> <p><i>There are other courses that focus on sustainability and climate change but not on planetary health per se., such as “biodiversity in time and space, singularities of our solar systems in the anthropocene”, “foundations of sustainability” and “ Methods of systemic analysis of sustainability”.</i></p>	

## Curriculum: Health Effects of Climate Change

**1.2. Does your medical school curriculum address the relationship between extreme heat, health risks, and climate change?**

This topic was explored **in depth** by the **core** curriculum. (3 points)

This topic was **briefly** covered in the **core** curriculum. (2 points)

This topic was covered in **elective** coursework. (1 point)

This topic was **not** covered. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

3

*Score explanation:*

*This subject is covered in:*

*1st year, with a 3 hour lecture, “Planetary health”, with the following learning objectives :*

- *“Describing the current state and evolution of planetary systems and the impact of human activities”*
- *“Being conscious of the interdependence between human health, the health of other animals and the environment”*
- *“Describing the impact of healthcare systems on planetary health and the role of healthcare professionals as actors of planetary health”*

*In 2nd year :*

- *One hour lecture, “Food industrialisation and planetary health”*
- *One hour lecture, “Effects of pollution and climate change on the cardiovascular system”*
- *One hour lecture, “ Effects of climate change on internal homeostasis”, in 2nd year*

*In 5th year in a 60 min lecture on “dysthermia” with the following learning objectives :*

- *understanding the mechanisms and structures involved in thermogenesis and thermoregulation*
- *understanding the repercussions of climate change on the epidemiology of pathologies caused by exposure to extreme temperatures*
- *understand the main principles of the management of hypothermia and hyperthermia*
- *list the diagnostic criteria for hypo- and hyperthermia*
- *define the main prognosis for these two conditions*

**1.3. Does your medical school curriculum address the impacts of extreme weather events on individual health and/or on healthcare systems?**

This topic was explored **in depth** by the **core** curriculum. (3 points)

This topic was **briefly** covered in the **core** curriculum. (2 points)

This topic was covered in **elective** coursework. (1 point)

This topic was **not** covered. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

2

*Score explanation:*

*The topic is briefly mentioned on various occasions :*

- *In the 2nd year classes on epigenetics*
- *In the 2nd year lecture on “Food industrialisation and planetary health”*
- *In a list of the impact of climate change on various aspects of health in the “Health and environment” lecture in 3rd year.*
- *In the elective “Current challenges in humanitarian health”*

*However, there lacks more extensive explanations of this subject, which is often quickly brought up or used as an example rather than being the main focus.*

**1.4. Does your medical school curriculum address the impact of climate change on the changing patterns of infectious diseases?**

This topic was explored **in depth** by the **core** curriculum. (3 points)

This topic was **briefly** covered in the **core** curriculum. (2 points)

This topic was covered in **elective** coursework. (1 point)

This topic was **not** covered. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

3

*Score explanation:*

*3rd year lecture “Emerging viruses” includes as a learning objective*

- *“Understanding zoonoses and reservoirs”*
- *“Understanding the main emergence risk factors and the concept of One Health”*

*The core curriculum includes several lectures mentioning the impact of climate change on infectious diseases :*

- *“Impacts of climate change on health” in 1st year*
- *“Emerging infectious diseases and environment” in 1st year*
- *“One health” in 5th year*

*These lectures emphasise how epidemics develop and the changing patterns of infectious diseases, and the links with climate change. There is however only little mention of the possibility of preventive actions.*

**1.5. Does your medical school curriculum address the respiratory health effects of climate change and air pollution?**

This topic was explored **in depth** by the **core** curriculum. (3 points)

This topic was **briefly** covered in the **core** curriculum. (2 points)

This topic was covered in <b>elective</b> coursework. (1 point)	
This topic was <b>not</b> covered. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	2
<p><i>Score explanation:</i></p> <p><i>This subject is briefly mentioned in :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- “Cancer and environment” in 2nd year</li> <li>- “Food industrialisation and planetary health” in 2nd year</li> </ul> <p><i>All the above classes mainly address the effect of air pollution on respiratory health, without this subject being their main focus.</i></p> <p><i>There are few mentions of climate change, how to prevent these emissions, or how to reduce the patient’s expositions.</i></p>	

<b>1.6. Does your <u>medical school</u> curriculum address the cardiovascular health effects of climate change, including increased heat?</b>	
This topic was explored <b>in depth</b> by the <b>core</b> curriculum. (3 points)	
This topic was <b>briefly</b> covered in the <b>core</b> curriculum. (2 points)	
This topic was covered in <b>elective</b> coursework. (1 point)	
This topic was <b>not</b> covered. (0 points)	
Score Assigned: 3	3
<p><i>Score explanation:</i></p> <p><i>The topic is covered in different lectures :</i></p> <p><i>In 2nd year, there is a 45 min lecture on “The effects of pollution and climate change on the cardiovascular system” with the following learning objectives :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Be sensitive to the impact of the environment on cardiovascular health</i></li> <li>- <i>Understand the analyses used to objectivize the influence of environmental factors on cardiovascular health</i></li> </ul> <p><i>It discusses the impact of the environment on cardiovascular health, including increased heat, the analyses to objectify them and their prevention.</i></p> <p><i>In 2nd year, the lecture “Preventive cardiology” briefly discusses the prevalence of cardiac disease in low income countries as well as the effect of pollution on cardiovascular health.</i></p>	

<b>1.7. Does your <u>medical school</u> curriculum address the mental health and neuropsychological effects of environmental degradation and climate change?</b>	
This topic was explored <b>in depth</b> by the <b>core</b> curriculum. (3 points)	

This topic was <b>briefly</b> covered in the <b>core</b> curriculum. (2 points)	
This topic was covered in <b>elective</b> coursework. (1 point)	
This topic was <b>not</b> covered. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	2
<p><i>Score explanation:</i></p> <p><i>The mental health and neuropsychological effects of environmental degradation and climate change are a learning objective in a problem-based learning about anxiety disorders in year 4-5 during the master psychiatric module.</i></p> <p><i>Some teachers also briefly mentioned eco-anxiety in group learning sessions but they were not obligated to.</i></p>	

<b>1.8. Does your <u>medical school</u> curriculum address the relationships between health, individual patient food and water security, ecosystem health, and climate change?</b>	
This topic was explored <b>in depth</b> by the <b>core</b> curriculum. (3 points)	
This topic was <b>briefly</b> covered in the <b>core</b> curriculum. (2 points)	
This topic was covered in <b>elective</b> coursework. (1 point)	
This topic was <b>not</b> covered. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	2
<p><i>Score explanation :</i></p> <p><i>Second year lecture “Food industrialisation and planetary health” explains the impact of climate change on food supply, as well as the benefits of a lifestyle that respects planetary boundaries on human health.</i></p> <p><i>As far as we could find, there is not much material about ecosystem health and none about water security.</i></p>	

<b>1.9. Does your <u>medical school</u> curriculum address the outsized impact of climate change on marginalised populations such as those with low SES, women, communities of colour, Indigenous communities, children, homeless populations, and older adults?</b>	
This topic was explored <b>in depth</b> by the <b>core</b> curriculum. (3 points)	
This topic was <b>briefly</b> covered in the <b>core</b> curriculum. (2 points)	
This topic was covered in <b>elective</b> coursework. (1 point)	
This topic was <b>not</b> covered. (0 points)	

Score Assigned:	2
<p><i>Score explanation:</i></p> <p><i>This topic is mentioned in 4th year in a lecture on “immigrant patient” which includes the impact of global warming on migration and the impact of armed conflict on climate. There are, however, no mentions of the impact on marginalised populations as cited in the above question.</i></p>	

<p><b>1.10. Does your <u>medical school</u> curriculum address the unequal regional health impacts of climate change globally?</b></p>	
<p>This topic was explored <b>in depth</b> by the <b>core</b> curriculum. (3 points)</p>	
<p>This topic was <b>briefly</b> covered in the <b>core</b> curriculum. (2 points)</p>	
<p>This topic was covered in <b>elective</b> coursework. (1 point)</p>	
<p>This topic was <b>not</b> covered. (0 points)</p>	
Score Assigned:	2
<p><i>Score explanation: Insert explanation here.</i></p> <p><i>In 2nd year, the lecture “ Environment and cancer” focuses on different types of exposures and pollutants that increase the risk of cancer development.</i></p> <p><i>Social inequalities linked to heat-islands in the light of urbanisation in Switzerland are explained in the 4th year lecture “Urban health and socio-economic determinants of health”. They are not, however, the main focus of this class.</i></p>	

***Curriculum: Environmental Health & the Effects of Anthropogenic Toxins on Human Health***

<p><b>1.11. Does your <u>medical school</u> curriculum address the reproductive health effects of industry-related environmental toxins (e.g. air pollution, pesticides, microplastics)?</b></p>	
<p>This topic was explored <b>in depth</b> by the <b>core</b> curriculum. (3 points)</p>	
<p>This topic was <b>briefly</b> covered in the <b>core</b> curriculum. (2 points)</p>	
<p>This topic was covered in <b>elective</b> coursework. (1 point)</p>	
<p>This topic was <b>not</b> covered. (0 points)</p>	
Score Assigned:	2
<p><i>Score explanation:</i></p> <p><i>The environmental reproductive health effects are covered in the “Reproduction” unit in 2nd year during 3 problem-based learnings with the following learning objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Understand how the environment can alter women’s reproductive functions</i></li> </ul>	

- Understand how the maternal environment can alter the mother's health and that of the fetus
- Understand how the environment can interfere with sex differentiation

However, this subject is never the main focus of these classes.

**1.12. Does your medical school curriculum address important human-caused environmental threats that are relevant to the university's surrounding community?**

This topic was explored **in depth** by the **core** curriculum. (3 points)

This topic was **briefly** covered in the **core** curriculum. (2 points)

This topic was covered in **elective** coursework. (1 point)

This topic was **not** covered. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

2

*Score explanation:*

*The "Health and environment" class in 3rd year talks about the environmental impact of Geneva's hospital, and what has been done to improve it. There is however no mention of the hospital's environmental impact on its surrounding community.*

*In 4th year, the lecture on "urban health and socio-economic determinants of health" covers the difficulties and implications of social status for the patient and the doctor.*

*In 5th year, the reverse-teaching class "prevention and promotion of health" as well as the lecture "Dysthermies" have as objectives :*

- *Understand the population perspective as a core aspect of public health, and the applications of basic principles of social medicine; advocate for the health and healthy environment of the local communities and society as a whole.*

**1.13. To what extent does your medical school emphasise the importance of Indigenous knowledge and value systems as essential components of planetary health solutions?**

This topic was explored **in depth** by the **core** curriculum. (3 points)

This topic was **briefly** covered in the **core** curriculum. (2 points)

This topic was covered in **elective** coursework. (1 point)

This topic was **not** covered. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

0

*Score explanation: We found no coverage of this topic in our curriculum.*

**1.14. Does your medical school curriculum address the outsized impact of anthropogenic environmental toxins on marginalised populations such as those with low SES, women, communities of colour, children, homeless populations, Indigenous populations, and older adults?**

This topic was explored **in depth** by the **core** curriculum. (3 points)

This topic was **briefly** covered in the **core** curriculum. (2 points)

This topic was covered in **elective** coursework. (1 point)

This topic was **not** covered. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

2

*Score explanation:*

*The impact of a low SES on individual health and on the access to healthcare systems are brought up on several occasions throughout the curriculum, and are part of the learning objectives of problem-based learnings. However the outsized impact of polluted environments on marginalised and low SES communities is not explicitly addressed.*

*The impact of environmental toxins in general is also discussed in 5th year during a lecture on neurotoxicity, through the following learning objective :*

*“ characterize and manage neurological disorders linked to non-drug agents such as biological toxins and chemical agents (plants, fungi, spiders, pesticides, heavy metals).”*

*An elective class on pharmacology that can be taken in 2nd or 3rd year also has a lecture on environmental toxins.*

### ***Curriculum: Sustainability***

**1.15. Does your medical school curriculum address the environmental and health co-benefits of a plant-based diet?**

This topic was explored **in depth** by the **core** curriculum. (3 points)

This topic was **briefly** covered in the **core** curriculum. (2 points)

This topic was covered in **elective** coursework. (1 point)

This topic was **not** covered. (0 point)

Score Assigned:

3

*Score explanation:*

*In 1st year, the lecture “Doctor’s role : acting in favor of sustainability” conveys the notion of co-benefits and the impact of a plant-based diet.*

*In 2nd year, the lecture “ Impacts of climate change and sustainable food on health” discusses the win-win diet and its benefits on health and on greenhouse gas emissions. It has the following objectives :*

- describe the main steps in the industrialisation of food

- understand the effects of food production on climate
- explain the impact of food choices on individual health and the co-benefits for health and the environment
- discuss and advise patients on food and drink choices

**1.16. Does your medical school curriculum address the carbon footprint of healthcare systems?**

This topic was explored **in depth** by the **core** curriculum. (3 points)

This topic was **briefly** covered in the **core** curriculum. (2 points)

This topic was covered in **elective** coursework. (1 point)

This topic was **not** covered. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

3

*Score explanation:*

*The carbon footprint of the healthcare system is mentioned during the 1st year lecture “Impacts of climate change and environment on health”*

*In 3rd year, the lecture “ Climatic changes and institution’s engagements” largely conveys the carbon footprint of the Swiss health care system.*

*3rd year course “Economy and healthcare system” has as an objective:*

- Describe the solutions to reduce waste

*In 5th year, this topic is mentioned in a lecture on “Swiss health care system”.*

**1.17. Does your medical school curriculum cover these components of sustainable clinical practice in the core curriculum? (points for each)**

**Score**

The health **and** environmental **co-benefits** of **avoiding** over-medicalisation, over-investigation and/or over-treatment (2 points)

2

The environmental impact of **pharmaceuticals** and over-prescribing as a cause of climate health harm. Alternatively teaching on **deprescribing** where possible and its environmental and health co-benefits would fulfil this metric. (2 points) .

2

The health **and** environmental **co-benefits** of **non-pharmaceutical management** of conditions where appropriate such as exercise or yoga classes for type 2 diabetes; social group activities such as gardening for mental health conditions; active transport such as bicycle schemes. This is commonly known as social prescribing in the UK. (1 point)

1

Environmental impact of **surgical** healthcare on planetary health and the climate crisis, and how can it be mitigated. (1 point)

0

The impact of **anaesthetic** gases on the healthcare carbon footprint and ways to reduce anaesthesia's environmental impacts, such as total intravenous anaesthesia or choosing less

1

environmentally harmful anaesthetic gas options with reduced greenhouse gas emissions. (1 point)	
The impact of <b>inhalers</b> on the healthcare carbon footprint and the environmental benefit of dry powdered inhalers over metered dose inhalers. (1 point)	1
<b>Waste production</b> within healthcare <b>clinics</b> and strategies for reducing waste in clinical activities (e.g. single use items in the inpatient or outpatient setting) (1 point)	1
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>A pharmacology class on Heart Failure in fifth year includes an article on Sustainable Prescription. The negative impacts of over-medicalisation are often mentioned throughout the curriculum, though the link to its negative environmental impact is not always explicitly mentioned.</i></li> <li>2. <i>The impact of pharmaceuticals on the environment is mentioned in a dedicated lecture the 1st year. The negative impact of overprescribing in the context of antibiotics is covered in a dedicated lecture “The proper use of antibiotics” in the 3rd year; without mention of the environmental impact of antibiotics. The theme of de-prescribing is addressed in a lecture in 4th year internal medicine which proposes to "discuss and apply strategies to limit the ecological footprint of drug prescriptions".</i></li> <li>3. <i>The dedicated lecture in the first year “Doctor’s roles : actions in favor of sustainability” conveys the notions of co-benefits and green/social prescriptions. Non-pharmaceutical management is also a recurring theme in the curriculum without being explicitly linked to the environment.</i></li> <li>4. <i>There is no lectures or mentions of the topic</i></li> <li>5. <i>Two 1st year lectures “Health care system and the environment”, “Doctor’s roles : actions in favor of sustainability” cover the subjects of anaesthetics gases, inhalers and waste production. These lectures include strategies for avoiding the harmful effects of those three elements</i></li> </ol>	

**Curriculum: Clinical Applications**

**1.18. In training for patient encounters, does your medical school's curriculum introduce strategies to have conversations with patients about the health effects of climate change?**

Yes, there are strategies introduced for having conversations with patients about climate change in the **core** curriculum. (2 points)

Yes, there are strategies introduced for having conversations with patients about climate change in **elective** coursework. (1 point)

No, there are **no** strategies introduced for having conversations with patients about climate change. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

0

*Score explanation: To the best of our knowledge there are no lessons covering this topic.*

*Some recommendations have been given*

- *In the 1st year lecture on therapeutic education concerning the health-environment co-benefits of changing one's diet, green prescribing and soft mobility*
- *A lecture in 2nd year has the following objective : discuss and advise patients on food and drink choices*
- *in the 3rd year lecture "Health and environment" to highlight conversational points to address with patients in order to reduce the environmental impact of over-prescribing*

*These recommendations however, address which subjects one might bring up with the patients, but there is no clinical teaching on how to discuss environmental issues with our patients.*

**1.19. In training for patient encounters, does your medical school's curriculum introduce strategies for taking an environmental history or exposure history?**

Yes, the **core** curriculum includes strategies for taking an environmental history. (2 points)

Only **elective** coursework includes strategies for taking an environmental history. (1 point)

No, the curriculum does **not** include strategies for taking an environmental history. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

0

*Score explanation:*

*The 3rd year lecture on "Solvent toxicity" includes a few notions of how to take an exposure history, but there are no specific teachings on how to take an environmental history.*

**Curriculum: Administrative Support for Planetary Health**

**1.20. Is your medical school currently in the process of implementing or improving Education for Sustainable Healthcare (ESH)/planetary health education?**

Yes, the medical school is currently in the process of making <b>major</b> improvements to ESH/planetary health education. (4 points)	
Yes, the medical school is currently in the process of making <b>minor</b> improvements to ESH/planetary health education. (2 points)	
No, there are <b>no</b> improvements to planetary health education in progress. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	2
<p><i>Score explanation:</i>  <i>The University of Geneva has a working group since 2021 that is responsible for the development of the curriculum in planetary health by implementing new lectures and new learning objectives in existing courses. The group is still working on expanding planetary health education but has been less active because the margins for improvement are smaller. Although this group still exists, little has been done since last year.</i></p>	

<b>1.21. How well are the aforementioned planetary health/Education for Sustainable Healthcare topics integrated longitudinally into the <u>core</u> curriculum?</b>	
Planetary health/ESH topics are <b>well integrated</b> into the core medical school curriculum. (6 points)	
<b>Some</b> planetary health/ESH topics are appropriately integrated into the core medical student curriculum. (4 points)	
Planetary health/ESH is not integrated and is primarily addressed in <b>(a) standalone lecture(s)</b> . (2 points)	
There is <b>minimal/no</b> education for sustainable healthcare. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	4
<p><i>Score explanation:</i>  <i>The topics are mostly integrated between the 1st and 3rd year, but are well distributed across that time, and always linked to the unit studied at the time. There are less classes concerning planetary health during the 4th to 5th year, but they are well integrated in the program, and their numbers are improving.</i></p>	

<b>1.22. Does your <u>medical school</u> employ a member of faculty to specifically oversee and take responsibility for the incorporation of planetary health and sustainable healthcare as a theme throughout the course?</b>	
<b>Yes, the medical school</b> has a specific faculty/staff member responsible for overseeing curricular integration of planetary health and sustainable healthcare. (1 point)	
<b>No, the medical school</b> does <b>not</b> have a specific faculty/staff member responsible for overseeing curricular integration of planetary health and sustainable healthcare. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	1

*Score explanation:*

*Since 2021, a working group including teachers and students (mandated by the deanship and headed by a Professor) is responsible for the development of a curriculum in planetary health.*

**1.23. Does your health professional curriculum include teaching on civic engagement/advocacy to address the environmental and structural determinants of health?**

This topic was explored **in depth** by the **core** curriculum. (3 points)

This topic was **briefly** covered in the **core** curriculum. (2 points)

This topic was covered in **elective** coursework. (1 point)

This topic was **not** covered. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

2

*Score explanation:*

*1st year Planetary Health courses mention the important role of a doctor in educating the public on the harmful effects of climate change on global health. There is however no teaching on civic engagement as the topic is always treated in relation to a professional posture rather than a civic one.*

**Section Total ( 51 out of 75)**

**68,00 %**

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# Interdisciplinary Research

***Section Overview:*** *This section evaluates the quality and quantity of interdisciplinary planetary health research at the broader institution. Interactions between health and the environment are complex and multifactorial. While climate change has been extensively studied from an environmental science perspective, planetary health is an emerging field. As leading health institutions with talented researchers and research resources, institutions should fund research studying the health effects of climate change and anthropogenic environmental toxins. This obligation is particularly strong because the public and policymakers are more attentive to climate change when its implications for human health are emphasised.*

<b>2.1. Are there researchers engaged in planetary health research and healthcare sustainability research at your <u>institution</u>?</b>	
Yes, there are faculty members at the <b>institution</b> who have a <b>primary</b> research focus in planetary health <b>or</b> sustainable healthcare/vetcare. (3 points)	
Yes, there are individual faculty members at the <b>institution</b> who are conducting research <b>related</b> to planetary health or healthcare sustainability, <b>OR</b> are part of a national/international sustainability working group, but it is not their primary research focus. (2 points)	
There are sustainability researchers at the <b>institution</b> , but not specifically associated with healthcare/vetcare. (1 point)	
No, there are <b>no</b> planetary health and/or sustainability researchers at the <b>institution</b> at this time. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	3
<p><i>Score explanation:</i>  <i>The Global Health institute has a <a href="#">GeoHealth</a> group and a <a href="#">Human, Animal and Environmental Health Division</a>, seeks to understand the relationships between people, location, time and health. Recent publications include assessment of the environmental life cycle of surgical care pathways, geographical accessibility to healthcare or how to lessen CO2 production by the Geneva Healthcare system.</i>  <i>The Institute of Global Health has a <a href="#">One Health</a> Unit, which focuses on Global Health and the interaction between humans, animals and ecosystems. Recent publications include recommendations for humanitarian actions in the planetary crisis.</i></p>	

<b>2.2. Is there a dedicated department or institute for interdisciplinary planetary health research at your <u>institution</u>?</b>	
There is <b>at least one</b> dedicated department or institute for interdisciplinary planetary health research. (3 points)	
There is <b>not currently</b> a department or institute for interdisciplinary planetary health research, but there are <b>plans</b> to open one in the next 3 years. (2 points)	

There is an <b>Occupational and Environmental Health department</b> , but no interdisciplinary department or institute for planetary health research. (1 point)	
There is <b>no</b> dedicated department or institute. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	3
<p><i>Score explanation: The Global Health institute, as mentioned above, explores various aspects of planetary health. The One Health unit thus assembles various fields such as epidemiology of infectious diseases, veterinary public health, environmental health, zoology and disease ecology, urban ecology, conservation sciences, and citizen cyber-science. The Human, Animal and Environmental Health division is concerned with public/global health, animal health, ecology, epidemiology, and environmental sciences. They also collaborate with the Institute for Environmental Sciences of the University of Geneva.</i></p>	

<b>2.3. Is there a process by which communities disproportionately impacted by climate change and environmental injustice give input or make decisions about the research agenda at your <u>institution</u>?</b>	
Yes, there is a process in which community members impacted by climate and environmental injustice have <b>decision-making power</b> in the climate + environmental research agenda. (3 points)	
Yes, there is a process in which community members impacted by climate and environmental injustice <b>advise</b> the climate + environmental research agenda. (2 points)	
<b>No</b> , but there are <b>current efforts</b> to establish a process for community members to advise or make decisions on the research agenda. (1 point)	
There is <b>no</b> process, and <b>no</b> efforts to create such a process. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	2
<p><i>Score explanation: The above mentioned projects at the Global Health Institute collaborate with partners in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). In-country partners are actively involved in shaping project design and defining research questions through a co-creation approach, ensuring that the research is grounded in local realities and priorities. For example, the SNSF (Swiss National Science Foundation)-funded SNAKEBYTE research project (2018–2022, <a href="https://data.snf.ch/grants/grant/176271">https://data.snf.ch/grants/grant/176271</a>), which involved community-level data collection on snakebite incidents in Nepal and Cameroon, local partners contributed to the project's development and had the opportunity to provide input and guide its implementation. We are not aware of a formalized process through which communities affected by climate change and environmental injustice can provide input or make decisions about the research agenda at the Faculty of Medicine.</i></p>	

<b>2.4. Does your <u>institution</u> have a planetary health website that centralises ongoing and past research related to health and the environment?</b>
--

There is an <b>easy-to-use, adequately comprehensive</b> website that <b>centralises</b> various campus resources related to health and the environment including all of the following: upcoming events, leaders in planetary health at your institution, and relevant funding opportunities. (3 points)	
There is a website that <b>attempts to centralise</b> various campus resources related to health and the environment, but it is hard-to-use, not updated, or not adequately comprehensive. (2 points)	
The <b>institution</b> has an <b>Office of Sustainability website</b> that includes <b>some</b> resources related to health and the environment. (1 point)	
There is <b>no</b> website. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	2
<p><i>Score explanation: There is a new page "<a href="#">"environmental sustainability at UNIGE"</a>", highlighting the different projects undertaken by the university.</i></p> <p><i>There is an "<a href="#">"Environmental sustainability"</a>" webpage on the medicine's faculty website summarising the environmental sustainability strategy for the faculty.</i></p> <p><i>The research groups and institutes mentioned above have their own dedicated webpage relaying information about their research. There is a webpage for "<a href="#">"Sustainability at UNIGE"</a>" relaying some information about health and the environment, and a webpage for relaying information about <a href="#">"teachings on planetary health"</a>.</i></p>	

<b>2.5. Has your <u>institution</u> recently hosted a conference or symposium on topics related to planetary health?</b>	
Yes, the <b>institution</b> has hosted at least one conference or symposium on topics related to planetary health in the past year. (4 points)	
Yes, the <b>institution</b> has hosted at least one conference or symposium on topics related to sustainable healthcare/vetcare in the past year. (3 points)	
Yes, the <b>institution</b> has hosted a conference on topics related to planetary health / sustainable healthcare/vetcare in the past three years. (2 points)	
The <b>institution</b> has not hosted any conferences directly, but they have provided financial support for a local planetary health event. (1 point)	
No, the <b>institution</b> has not hosted a conference on topics related to planetary health in the past three years. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	4
<p><i>Score explanation: UNIGE organised for the third year a "Sustainability week" in which several lectures were organised, directly or indirectly addressing planetary health topics. For example, Christian Clot, head of the Human Adaptation Institute, gave a <a href="#">lecture</a> on physical and mental health in a changing world, moderated by Pre Johanna Sommer. The TRIGGER european project, studying links between climate change, heat waves and health impacts was also <a href="#">presented</a>, as well as a lecture on <a href="#">nutrition</a>. The <a href="#">12 months/12 actions</a> project was also <a href="#">presented</a>.</i></p>	

**2.6. Is your institution a member of a national or international planetary health or ESH/ESV organisation?**

Yes, the institution is a member of a national or international planetary health **or** ESH/ESV organisation. (1 point)

No, the institution is **not** a member of such an organisation. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

1

*Score explanation: The institution is part of the [EHTICH Consortium](#), with a regular participation of members of the medical faculty. It is also part of the [Romandy sustainable care network](#).*

**Section Total (15 out of 17)**

**88,24%**

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## Community Outreach and Advocacy

***Section Overview:*** This section evaluates a school's engagement in community outreach and advocacy efforts associated with planetary health. Researching and teaching planetary health is necessary but not sufficient. It is critical that institutions also directly engage with communities most affected by environmental health harms. Although climate change is a problem largely created by those with power and resources, its impacts fall disproportionately on under-resourced populations and communities of colour. Institutions should partner with local communities affected by climate change and pollution to share information about environmental health threats, advocate together for change, and provide opportunities for students to be a part of this work.

<b>3.1. Does your <u>institution</u> partner with community organisations to promote planetary and environmental health?</b>	
Yes, the <b>institution</b> meaningfully partners with <b>multiple</b> community organisations to promote planetary and environmental health. (3 points)	
Yes, the <b>institution</b> meaningfully partners with <b>one</b> community organisation to promote planetary and environmental health. (2 points)	
The <b>institution</b> does not partner with community organisations, but participates in community focused events relating to planetary health. (1 point)	
No, there is <b>no</b> such meaningful community partnership. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	2
<p><i>Score explanation: The institution partnered with <a href="#">12months/12actions</a> to promote their community campaign. Several university members participate in different associations (<a href="#">Alliance Santé planétaire</a>, Health Systems for Earth, ...). The institution also supports and partially hosts the <a href="#">Alternatiba</a> festival, which organises a week of conferences and workshops around sustainability. The faculty of medicine is an official partner of the Réseau romand de soins durables and of the ETHICH consortium, but they are not community organisations. The institution commented two films of the Festival du film vert in 2025 (<a href="https://www.festivaldufilmvert.ch/fr/news/2025-02-16-programme-2025-est-ligne">https://www.festivaldufilmvert.ch/fr/news/2025-02-16-programme-2025-est-ligne</a>)</i></p>	

<b>3.2. Does your <u>institution</u> offer community-facing courses or events regarding planetary health?</b>	
The <b>institution</b> offers community-facing courses or events at least once every year. (3 points)	
The <b>institution</b> offers courses or events open to the community at least once per year, but they are not primarily created for a community audience. (2 points)	
The <b>institution</b> has promoted community-facing courses or events, but was not involved in planning those courses or events. (1 point)	

The <b>institution</b> has not offered such community-facing courses or events. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	3
<p><i>Score explanation: The Geneva Center For Humanitarian Studies proposes a (fee-based) <a href="#">Planetary Health online course</a>. The Alternatiba festival also organised community-facing workshops and conferences, and was hosted by the University of Geneva.</i></p> <p><i>The medicine faculty and the affiliated hospital organised several conferences around planetary Health in 2024, especially linked with the 12 months 12 actions program, and in 2025 a community campaign was held in the buses and trains one week per month. Different community activities were moderated by Professor Sommer (Festival du Film Vert twice, <a href="#">Christian Clot lecture</a> in november 2026; Serious game “roue de la santé “ for the community in November during the <a href="#">Climate week</a> at UNIGE.)</i></p> <p><i>An official call for signatures for a more sustainable food in the alimentary market has been organised and advertised in the media (television/newspaper, radio) and publicly brought to the government in Bern.</i></p>	

<b>3.3. Does your <u>institution</u> have regular coverage of issues related to planetary health and/or sustainable healthcare in university update communications?</b>	
Yes, all students <b>regularly</b> receive communication updates dedicated to planetary health and/or sustainable healthcare. (2 points)	
Yes, planetary health and/or sustainable healthcare topics are regularly included in communication updates to <b>some courses</b> . (1 point)	
Students <b>do not</b> receive communications about planetary health or sustainable healthcare. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	1
<p><i>Score explanation: The university’s <a href="#">newsletter</a> (which is sent on email distribution lists to which students are registered to for any faculty related information, as well as available to anyone online) promotes events, movies, book publications and others on a variety of subjects, amongst which are planetary health or sustainability. There is, however, no systemised regular communication updates on research or global events regarding planetary health. The 12 months 12 actions program was spread in the faculty’s newsletter in 2024 and in trams and buses in 2025.</i></p>	

<b>3.4. Does the <u>institution</u> or <u>main affiliated hospital trust</u> engage in professional education activities targeting individuals post-graduation with the aim of ensuring their knowledge and skills in planetary health and sustainable healthcare remain up to date during their professional career?</b>	
Yes, the <b>institution</b> or <b>main affiliated hospital trust</b> offers multiple in-person or online courses relating to planetary health and/or sustainable healthcare for post-graduate providers, including at least one with a primary focus of planetary health. (2 points)	
Yes, the <b>institution</b> or <b>main affiliated hospital trust</b> offers one course relating to planetary health and/or sustainable healthcare for post-graduate providers. (1 point)	

There are <b>no</b> such accessible courses for post-graduate providers. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	2
<p><i>Score explanation: The Hospital of Geneva developed a complete program “<a href="#">Choosing Greenly</a>” with a training program/ courses for interprofessional postgraduate training about 50 “leaders” responsible for spreading the message in their units/departments. The Geneva Center For Humanitarian Studies proposes a (fee-based) <a href="#">Planetary Health online course</a>.</i></p>	

<b>3.5. Does your <u>institution</u> or its <u>affiliated teaching hospitals</u> have accessible educational materials for patients about environmental health exposures?</b>	
Yes, the <b>institution</b> or <b>all affiliated hospitals</b> have accessible educational materials for patients. (2 points)	
<b>Some</b> affiliated hospitals have accessible educational materials for patients. (1 point)	
<b>No</b> affiliated medical centres have accessible educational materials for patients. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	1
<p><i>Score explanation: The posters of the <a href="#">12 months 12 actions campaign</a> are displayed in various units of the hospital, some of which deal with environmental exposures (screen exposure, endocrine disruptors). These are displayed on a voluntary basis.</i></p>	

<b>3.6. Does your <u>institution</u> or its <u>affiliated teaching hospitals</u> have accessible educational materials for patients about the health impacts of climate change?</b>	
Yes, the <b>institution</b> or <b>all affiliated hospitals</b> have accessible educational materials for patients. (2 points)	
<b>Some</b> affiliated hospitals have accessible educational materials for patients. (1 point)	
<b>No</b> affiliated hospitals have accessible educational materials for patients. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	1
<p><i>Score explanation: The posters of the <a href="#">12 months 12 actions campaign</a> are displayed in various units of the hospital, some of which deal with the health impacts of climate change. These are displayed on a voluntary basis.</i></p>	

<b>Section Total (10 out of 14)</b>	<b>71,43%</b>
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# Support for Student-Led Planetary Health Initiatives

**Section Overview:** This section evaluates institutional support for student-led planetary health initiatives, such as funding, fellowships, programming, and student groups. Planetary health is a young field and, as young people facing a future deeply shaped by climate change, students are often some of the first at an institution to engage with it. Institutions should provide support for students to engage in sustainability quality improvement (QI) initiatives, discover mentors in their area of interest, and receive funding for planetary health projects.

4.1. Does your <b>institution</b> offer support for students interested in enacting a sustainability initiative/QI project?	
Yes, the <b>institution</b> <i>either</i> offers grants for students to enact sustainability initiatives/QI projects <i>or</i> sustainability QI projects are part of the core curriculum. (2 points)	
The <b>institution</b> encourages sustainability QI projects (to fulfil clerkship or longitudinal requirements) and offers resources to help students succeed in these projects, <b>but</b> there is no student funding available and there is no requirement to participate. (1 point)	
No, the institution does not offer opportunities or support for sustainability initiatives or QI projects. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	1
<p><i>Score explanation: Students that suggest sustainability projects can receive organisational support from the <a href="#">sustainable campus service</a>. The most recent projects include ecocharge bikes (biking to charge electronic devices) and Uniswap (exchange boxes for clothes and other objects), in 2023 and 2024.</i></p> <p><i>The <a href="#">P3 program</a> is designed to support student projects for bottom-up quality improvement, and has in the past supported sustainability initiatives. However, it is currently inactive until next year as it is undergoing internal restructuration.</i></p>	

4.2. Does your <b>institution</b> offer opportunities for students to do research related to planetary health and/or sustainable healthcare/vetcare?	
The <b>institution</b> has a <b>specific</b> research program or fellowship for students interested in doing planetary health/sustainable healthcare/vetcare research. (2 points)	
There are research opportunities for students to perform research related to planetary health/sustainable healthcare, but these <b>require student initiative</b> to seek them out and carry them out in their spare time. (1 point)	
There are <b>no opportunities</b> for students to engage in planetary health/sustainable healthcare research. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	1
<p><i>Score explanation: Several teachers and researchers offer supervision for Bachelor or Master's thesis on topics regarding planetary health or sustainable healthcare. While the theses are</i></p>	

*mandatory, it is up to the students to choose their subjects and there is no special encouragement for these topics.*

**4.3. Does the institution have a webpage where students can find specific information related to planetary health and/or sustainable healthcare/vetcare activities and mentors within the institution? For example, projects achieved, current initiatives underway at the medical school and/or contact of information of potential mentors.**

The institution has a webpage with specific information related to planetary health or sustainable healthcare/vetcare that includes up-to-date information on relevant initiatives and contact information of potential mentors. (2 points)

There is an institution webpage that features some information on projects and mentors within planetary health and sustainable healthcare within the institution, but it lacks key information. (1 point)

There is **no institution** specific webpage for locating planetary health and/or sustainable healthcare projects or mentors. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

2

*Score explanation: The webpage "[environmental sustainability](#)" has specific information on sustainability at the faculty of medicine and in healthcare. There is a moodle page on "Public Health, Global Health and Occupational Medicine" with contact information of teachers of planetary health, as well as the "[Sustainability at UNIGE](#)" page and the Planetary health curriculum page. However, these are not centralised and lack information about activities specific to planetary health.*

**4.4. Does your institution have registered student groups dedicated towards fostering a culture of planetary health engagement, scholarship, and advocacy on campus, supported by faculty advisors?**

Yes, there is a student organisation **with faculty support** at my institution dedicated to planetary health or sustainability in healthcare. (2 points)

Yes, there is a student organisation at my institution dedicated to planetary health or sustainability in healthcare but it **lacks faculty support**. (1 point)

No, there is **not** a student organisation at my institution dedicated to planetary health or sustainability in healthcare. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

2

*Score explanation: The Geneva Medical Student's Association (AEMG) has been supporting the [Health for Future Geneva](#) association since 2019. The medicine faculty is also supporting this project by inviting students to faculty commissions, organising events open to the public within the faculty and inviting the association to teach during mandatory courses.*

<b>4.5. Is there a student liaison representing sustainability interests who serves on a <u>department or institutional</u> decision-making council to advocate for curriculum reform and/or sustainability best practices?</b>	
Yes, there is a student representative who serves on a department or institutional decision-making council/committee. (1 point)	
No, there is no such student representative. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	1
<i>Score explanation: Students are part of the working group implementing planetary health in the medical curriculum, on a voluntary basis. There are also students in the <a href="#">SDG council</a>, but this council hasn't been active for 3 years.</i>	

<b>4.6. In the past year, has the <u>institution</u> had one or more co-curricular planetary health programs or initiatives in the following categories? (1 point each)</b>	<b>Score</b>
Projects where students are able to gain experience in organic agriculture and sustainable food systems, such as gardens, farms, community supported agriculture (CSA), fishery programs, or urban agriculture projects.	1
Panels, speaker series, or similar events related to planetary health that have students as an intended audience.	1
Events in which students learn directly from members of a local environmental justice community about the climate and environmental challenges they face, and how health professionals can partner with their community to address these exposures and impacts.	1
Cultural arts events, installations or performances related to planetary health that have students as an intended audience.	1
Local volunteer opportunities related to building community resilience to anthropogenic environmental impacts.	0
Wilderness or outdoors programs (e.g., that organise hiking, backpacking, kayaking, or other outings for students)	1
<i>Score explanation:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The students for Sustainable Development Association takes care of the university's vegetable garden. They hold a workshop each spring to teach gardening. The "Sustainability week" hosted by UNIGE in 2025 also had a gardening workshop.</i></li> <li><i>Health for Future Geneva organised movie projections for students in the medicine faculty, followed up by a discussion on related issues. During the "Sustainability week" and "Climate week" at UniGe, students are invited alongside the general public to various events .</i></li> <li><i>Health for Future Geneva has given a workshop on the future of planetary health and well-being, during the interprofessional week for health students in January 2026.</i></li> </ol>	

4. *During the Sustainability week, hosted in collaboration with the city of Geneva, there were various interventions including a [heat wave simulator](#) where one could experiment how an everyday life at 50°C would be.*
5. *UNIGE is part of GE-21, which is a network of experts and institutions aiming to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services in order to improve the well-being of the inhabitants of Geneva and its region. It is also part of [2050Today](#), which aims at assisting institutions of International Geneva reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. There are projects opportunities but no volunteering opportunities.*
6. *UNIGE has a [sport program](#), providing different weekly outdoors activities.*

**Section Total ( 12 out of 15)**

**80,00%**

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# Campus Sustainability

***Section Overview:*** *This section evaluates the support and engagement in sustainability initiatives by the institution. The healthcare industry is a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions as well as pollution that harms local, regional, and global ecosystems. While healthcare is, by nature, a resource-intensive endeavour, the healthcare sector is well poised to lead the world to a more sustainable future. This will involve scrutinising every aspect of how our systems operate, from where we source our energy, to how we build our infrastructure, to what companies we invest in. Our institutions, clinics, and hospitals must set the standard for sustainable practices, and show other sectors what is possible when it comes to minimising environmental impact.*

<b>5.1. Does your <u>institution</u> have an Office of Sustainability?</b>	
Yes, there is an Office of Sustainability with multiple full-time staff dedicated to campus sustainability. If the Office of Sustainability serves the entire campus, there is <b>at least one designated staff member</b> for sustainability at the hospital. (3 points)	
There is an Office of Sustainability with one or more full-time staff dedicated to campus sustainability, but <b>no specific staff member</b> in charge of hospital sustainability. (2 points)	
There are <b>no salaried sustainability staff</b> , but there is a sustainability task force or committee. (1 point)	
There are <b>no</b> staff members <b>or</b> task force responsible for overseeing campus sustainability. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	2
<i>Score explanation: There is a one year contract employee working on establishing an inventory of durability in the faculty of medicine and another for the education of administrative employees on Planteray Health. At the global university level, there is one “rectorate advisor” (Conseiller au Rectorat) in charge of sustainable development and buildings. There is a Social and Environmental Responsibility Division at the hospital but no office of sustainability at the medicine faculty.</i>	

<b>5.2. How ambitious is your <u>institution's</u> plan to reduce its own carbon footprint?</b>	
The institution has a <b>written and approved plan</b> to achieve carbon neutrality by <b>2030</b> (5 points)	
The institution has a <b>written and approved plan</b> to achieve carbon neutrality by <b>2040</b> (3 points)	
The institution has a stated goal of carbon neutrality by <b>2040</b> but has <b>not created a plan</b> to reach that goal or the <b>plan is inadequate</b> (1 point)	
The institution does <b>not</b> meet any of the requirements listed above (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	0

*Score explanation: The University of Geneva has signed a call to reduce half of its emissions by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. As of now, there is no clear plan to achieve that goal and no way to track the progress.*

**5.3. Do buildings/infrastructure used by the institution for teaching (not including the hospital) utilize renewable energy?**

Yes, institution buildings are **100%** powered by renewable energy. (3 points)

Institution buildings source **>80%** of energy needs from off-site and/or on-site renewable energy. (2 points)

Institution buildings source **>20%** of energy needs from off-site and/or on-site renewable energy. (1 point)

Institution buildings source **<20%** of energy needs from off-site and/or on-site renewable energy. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

1

*Score explanation: The electricity consumed in the university is composed of: 94% of “SIG Vitale Vert” electricity (made of at least 90% classic swiss hydraulic electricity and up to 10% solar and hydraulic produced in Geneva), and 6% “Vitale solaire” (100% local photovoltaic electricity production). Most of the heating is still using fossil fuel. Last total energy use published: 258'340 GJ - renewable energy use: 168'599 GJ. There is no updated calculation for 2025. The science building (not the one linked to the medicine faculty) normally should have switched to renewable distant heating, but it put it far still from reaching 80%.*

**5.4. Are sustainable building practices utilised for new and old buildings on the institution's campus, with design and construction of new buildings and remodelling of old buildings conforming to a published sustainability rating system or building code/guideline?**

Yes, sustainable building practices are utilised for new buildings on the institution's campus and the **majority** of old buildings **have been retrofitted** to be more sustainable. (3 points)

Sustainable building practices are utilised for new buildings on the institution's campus, but most old buildings have **not been retrofitted**. (2 points)

Sustainable building practices are **inadequately or incompletely** implemented for new buildings. (1 point)

Sustainability is **not considered** in the construction of new buildings. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

2

*Score explanation: The new building of the faculty of medicine was constructed (2016) in line with sustainability practices, but the old building did not undergo a major renovation to make it more*

*sustainable. The buildings are mostly under the state's responsibility and therefore the university does not have recommendations on sustainable building practices.*

**5.5. Has the institution implemented strategies to encourage and provide environmentally-friendly transportation options for students and reduce the environmental impact of commuting?**

Yes, the institution has implemented strategies to encourage and provide **environmentally-friendly transportation options** such as safe active transport, public transport, or carpooling and these options are well-utilised by students. Alternatively, the campus location is not amenable to unsustainable forms of transportation by default. (2 points)

The institution has implemented **some** strategies to provide environmentally-friendly transportation options, but the options are **unsatisfactorily** accessible or advertised. (1 point)

The institution has **not** implemented strategies to encourage and provide environmentally-friendly transportation options. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

2

*Score explanation: The location of the faculty of medicine is well-centred and accessible by public transport, there are also facilities for cyclists very close to the entrances.*

**5.6. Does your institution have an organics recycling program (compost) and a conventional recycling program (aluminium/paper/plastic/glass)?**

Yes, the institution has **both** compost **and** recycling programs accessible to students and faculty. (2 points)

The institution has **either** recycling **or** compost programs accessible to students and faculty, but not both. (1 point)

There is **no** compost or recycling program at the institution. (0 points)

Score Assigned:

1

*Score explanation: There are recycling bins for aluminium, plastic and paper inside the university but no organic compost program.*

**5.7. Does the institution apply sustainability criteria when making decisions about the campus food and beverage selections (e.g. local sourcing, reduced meat, decreased plastic packaging)?**

Yes, the institution has **adequate** sustainability requirements for food and beverages, including meat-free days or no red-meat, and **is engaged** in efforts to increase food and beverage sustainability. (3 points)

There are sustainability guidelines for food and beverages, but they are <b>insufficient or optional</b> . The institution is <b>engaged</b> in efforts to increase food and beverage sustainability. (2 points)	
There are sustainability guidelines for food and beverages, but they are <b>insufficient or optional</b> . The institution is <b>not</b> engaged in efforts to increase food and beverage sustainability. (1 point)	
There are <b>no</b> sustainability guidelines for food and beverages. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	2
<p><i>Score explanation: 1/3 of the daily menus is vegetarian (and is vegan around twice a week), the rest of the offer is mostly meat and animal based. There is a program for the cafeterias to be : "Sustainable, tasty and affordable" <a href="#">There are programs</a> to enlarge the vegetarian offer; diminish the food and plastic waste, propose local food and be respectful of animal well-being (a collaboration exists with the Swiss Animal Protection PSA). However, animal-based products are still being served everyday in the medical school, except for the cafeteria in UniMail which is entirely vegetarian. This year, a vegan month was organised in January with mostly meat free offers with between 2-3 days a week with only vegetarian and vegan option.</i></p>	

<b>5.8. Does the <u>institution</u> apply sustainability criteria when making decisions about supply procurement?</b>	
Yes, the institution has <b>adequate</b> sustainability requirements for supply procurement <b>and</b> is <b>engaged</b> in efforts to increase sustainability of procurement. (3 points)	
There are sustainability guidelines for supply procurement, but they are <b>insufficient or optional</b> . The institution is <b>engaged</b> in efforts to increase sustainability of procurement. (2 points)	
There are sustainability guidelines for supply procurement, but they are <b>insufficient or optional</b> . The institution is <b>not engaged</b> in efforts to increase sustainability of procurement. (1 point)	
There are <b>no</b> sustainability guidelines for supply procurement. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	1
<p><i>Score explanation: The UNIGE has a responsible purchasing policy <a href="#">available online</a> in which the "spirit of sustainable development" is mentioned. However, it is the economic aspects of supply procurement that are emphasised rather than their environmental impact. The guidelines are vague and there are no constraints on their application.</i></p>	

<b>5.9. Are there sustainability requirements or guidelines for events hosted at the institution?</b>	
Every event hosted at the institution <b>must</b> abide by sustainability criteria. (2 points)	
The institution <b>strongly recommends or incentivizes</b> sustainability measures, but they are <b>not required</b> . (1 point)	
There are <b>no</b> sustainability guidelines for institution events. (0 points)	

Score Assigned:	0
<i>Score explanation: There is <a href="#">a web page</a> on UNIGE's website "how to organise an event" but sustainability is not mentioned.</i>	

<b>5.10. Does your <u>institution</u> have programs and initiatives to assist with making lab spaces more environmentally sustainable?</b>	
Yes, the institution has <b>programs</b> and <b>initiatives</b> to assist with making lab spaces more environmentally sustainable. (2 points)	
There are <b>guidelines</b> on how to make lab spaces more environmentally sustainable, but not programs or initiatives. (1 point)	
There are <b>no</b> efforts at the institution to make lab spaces more sustainable. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	0
<i>Score explanation: There are no guidelines aiming at reducing the footprint of the labs in the faculty of medicine. There is currently a <a href="#">project aiming at promoting environmentally responsible practices in research</a> but it is currently in gathering data and practice information inside the different laboratories.</i>	

<b>5.11. Does your <u>institution's</u> endowment portfolio investments include fossil-fuel companies?</b>	
The institution is <b>entirely divested</b> from fossil fuels <b>and</b> has made a <b>commitment to reinvest divested funds</b> into renewable energy companies or renewable energy campus initiatives. (4 points)	
The institution is <b>entirely divested</b> from fossil fuels. (3 points)	
The institution has <b>partially divested</b> from fossil fuel companies <b>or</b> has made a <b>commitment to fully divest</b> , but <b>currently</b> still has fossil fuel investments. (2 points)	
The institution has <b>not divested</b> from fossil-fuel companies, but faculty and/or students are <b>conducting organised advocacy</b> for divestment. (1 point)	
Yes, the institution has investments with fossil-fuel companies and there have been <b>no efforts</b> to change that. (0 points)	
Score Assigned:	3
<i>Score explanation: The institution does not have investment (its budget comes from the government).</i>	

<b>Section Total (14 out of 32)</b>	<b>43,75%</b>
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# Grading

## Section Overview

This section focuses on the grading of the report card. The institution received a grade for each of the individual sections as well as an overall institutional grade. Section point totals were tallied, divided by the total points available for the section, and converted to a percentage. The overall institutional grade is a weighted average of the section grades, with curriculum receiving a higher weight owing to its larger number of metrics. Letter grades for each section and the institution overall were then assigned according to the table below.

Letter Grade*	Percentage
A	80% - 100%
B	60% - 79%
C	40% - 59%
D	20% - 39%
F	0% - 19%

## Planetary Health Grades for the University of Geneva School of Medicine.

The following table presents the individual section grades and overall institutional grade for the University of Geneva School of Medicine on this Planetary Health Report Card.

Section	Raw Score %	Letter Grade
<b>Planetary Health Curriculum (30%)</b>	$(51/75) \times 100 = 68,00\%$	B
<b>Interdisciplinary Research (17.5%)</b>	$(15/17) \times 100 = 88,24\%$	A
<b>Community Outreach and Advocacy (17.5%)</b>	$(10/14) \times 100 = 71,43\%$	B
<b>Support for Student-led Planetary Health Initiatives (17.5%)</b>	$(12/15) \times 100 = 80,00\%$	A-
<b>Campus Sustainability (17.5%)</b>	$(14/32) \times 100 = 43,75\%$	C-
<b>Institutional Grade</b>	$(x0.3 + 0.88x0.175 + 0.71x0.175 + 0.8x0.175 + 0.44x0.175) = 70,00\%$	<b>B</b>

# Report Card Trends

## Section Overview

This graph demonstrates trends in overall and section grades for the years in which the University of Geneva has participated in the Planetary Health Report Card initiative.

