Packaging for students with a sustainability-focused mindset...

Interdisciplinary. For a packaging system to work effectively and be sustainable, packaging engineers need to have a solid understanding of policy trends, corporate sustainability strategies, packaging management systems and infrastructure, recycling technologies, and life-cycle implications of different materials.

Virginia Tech’s packaging curriculum is designed to develop problem solvers who will be able to work in this multidisciplinary environment. Our students learn about effective and high-performing supply chain management and distribution systems so that they are able to understand the global distribution process and effectively communicate with warehousing and logistics professionals. In addition, they gain experience in mapping and modeling the environmental impacts that are associated with packaging design decisions.

During their time at Virginia Tech, our students have the chance to work in packaging laboratories on real-life projects that range from sustainable designs, to life-cycle analysis of reusable vs. single-use packaging systems, and even pilot projects for improving the recycling of difficult packages.

Students who have an interest in sustainable packaging will be well-prepared for careers with some of the world’s leading, sustainability-minded companies such as Tesla, HP, Coca-Cola, Amazon, H&M or any other company that manufactures and ships products. Their jobs focus on optimizing packaging materials in order to reduce the cost of the packages, reduce shipping costs, eliminate damages to products, and increase the sustainability of packaging solutions.

The next generation of packaging professionals must be able to integrate environmental, social, and economic perspectives into packaging design.
Transfer Credits:

The Packaging Systems and Design degree offers a lot of flexibility to transfer students to tailor their education and also to allow them to graduate on time. Our **32 free elective credits allow you to transfer classes that you already took** and count it towards your graduation progress. This allows many students to graduate on time even after changing their major.

Example courses:

- SBIO 1114 – A Sustainable Future through Circular Economy
- SBIO 2504 – Circular Economy Analysis

To learn more about the PSD degree:

![packaging.sbio.vt.edu](packaging.sbio.vt.edu)  
![packaging@vt.edu](packaging@vt.edu)

Meet with our professional advisor to learn about the degree requirement and transfer credits.

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