



GSA Sustainability Degree Show Prize Judging Criteria – A Guide for Entrants

Sustainability at the GSA has developed beyond recycling and energy saving, though there is room for both, into focusing on to why we're all here: your subject area. We're interested in the environmental effects of what materials you choose, and the processes you use, the subjects you examine and the causes you champion.

But again it goes past this. Design and art have the capacity to connect people emotionally, and emotionally to critical issues such as the climate and ecological crisis.

There can be no environmental solutions without social justice. We need a system that is equitable, cares for our self, each other and wider nature. That idea of humanity being within nature rather than on top of it.

Your work could reflect your connection to these issues, and might focus more on one element of environmental or social justice. The criteria is broad.

Your work is put forward for specialists in your area but also lay-people who may know little about the issues or your subject of study. It needs to be accessible and understandable. Questioning and interesting. Innovative and exploring.

Everything is connected, so decisions on what material you use connect back to who mined it, harvested it, transported it, made it. There are many people behind everything you make use of. How that person lives and works relates to that simple material or complex manufactured product. We have a link and duty of care through that process. What you use matters way beyond the actual impact, it is an exemplar.

Often the best work is subtle, but challenges how we perceive the World, and our place in it, whether that be our race, country, sexuality, gender or other way we define our self and others.

The prize application is a personal and professional piece of work. In two pages you must outline your work, why it is important to you, what it will mean for other students and your subject, and how it might be used, seen, or transferred out into a wider space. What new work might come from it? Include pictures if you wish and link out to your own website or social media.

This is the GSA: Question Everything. Be true to your values and the GSA's. Seek meaningful disruption and connection, make a difference.

Entry is via the two-page summary by the closing date. This shortlists 12 finalists who will take part in a judges' walk-round and judging session the day before Degree Show opens. Prizes awarded at the judges' discretion and are final.