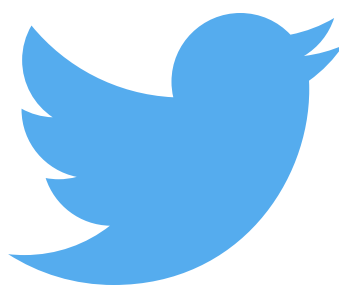


SUSTAINABILITY IN HIGHER-LEVEL EDUCATION

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Background



- Sustainability is an important aspect of higher-level education and is a converging concept (Figure 1).
- Although sustainable practices and programs are developed within UW, sustainability curricula are not being fully implemented.
- My work aims to help the university to meet its sustainability goal.

Research Questions



- How are sustainability courses offered across UW and how to improve sustainability education?

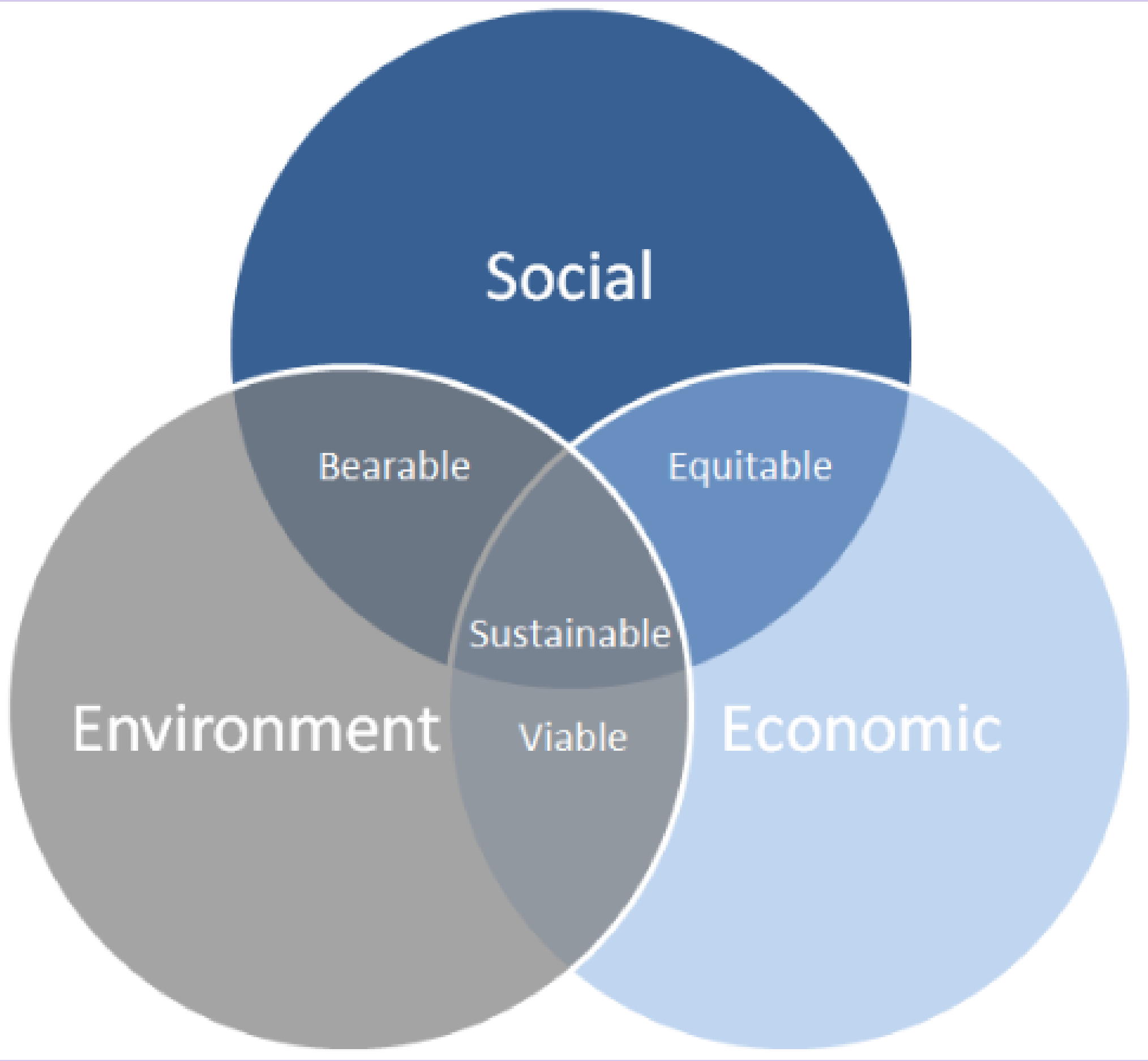


Figure 1: Three Dimensions of Sustainability

Internship and Methods



- I served as an intern for UW Sustainability. Went through the descriptions of all courses and marked sustainability verifications with my groupmate.
- Visited other universities' sustainability websites and conducted research on how to make an effective website.
- Surveyed how students perceive sustainability in learning.
- Literature reviewed about sustainable education in universities.

Results



- Shortages in UW sustainability education:
 - Lack of sustainability courses (Figure 2);
 - Unevenly distributed sustainability courses in different programs (Figure 3).

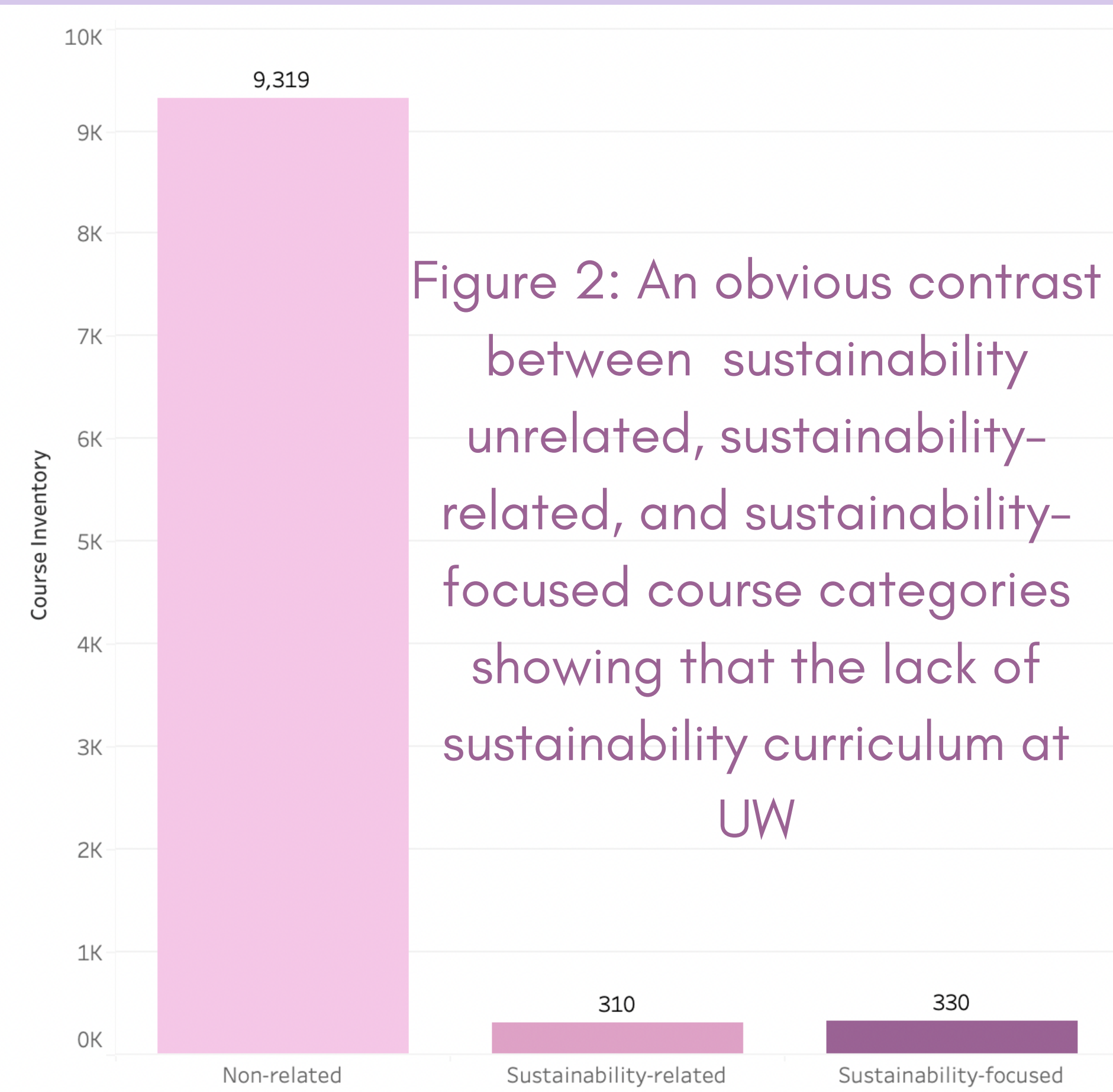


Figure 2: An obvious contrast between sustainability unrelated, sustainability-related, and sustainability-focused course categories showing that the lack of sustainability curriculum at UW

Results (continued)

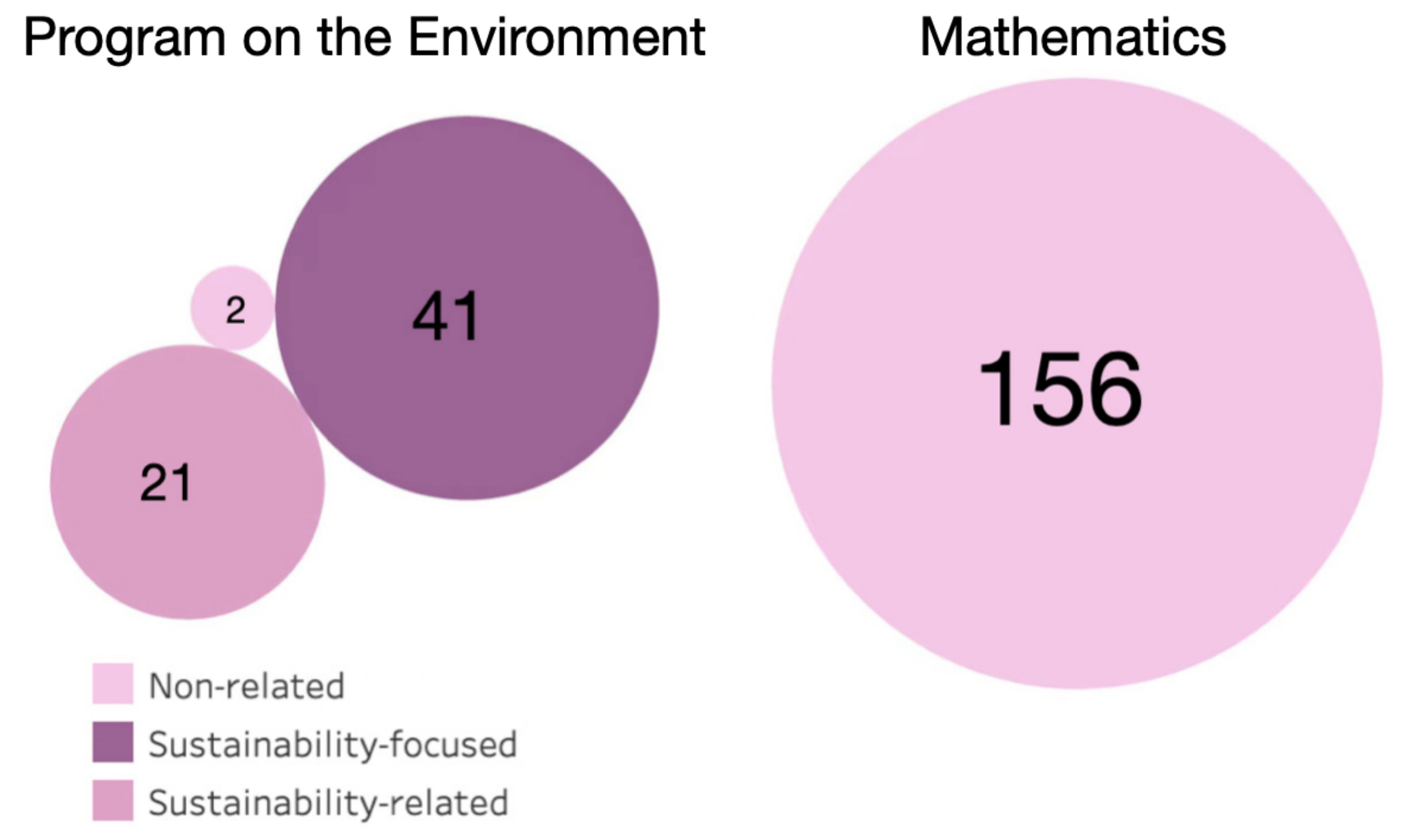


Figure 3: Data visualization showing a comparison of sustainability course numbers in different majors

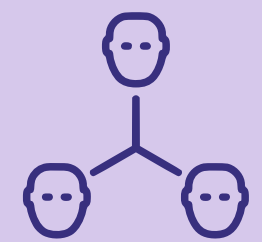
- Data visualization has a better influence on readers (Schultz 2016).
- Universities have a responsibility to put sustainability at the heart of education and research.

Significance



- Universities are engines of social transformation, and making students aware of sustainability can lead them toward sustainability and contribute back to society.
- The data visualization I created can also be used as a reference for other universities to help them build their course platform.

Acknowledgments



- Many thanks to my group, especially Daimon, Marilyn, and Heather for supporting me throughout the process.