

# CULTURAL HERITAGE AND SUSTAINABILITY IN THE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN CULTURAL HERITAGE AND SOCIETY

# PATRIMÔNIO CULTURAL E SUSTENTABILIDADE NO PROGRAMA DE PÓS-GRADUAÇÃO EM PATRIMÔNIO CULTURAL E SOCIEDADE

# PATRIMONIO CULTURAL Y SOSTENIBILIDAD EN EL PROGRAMA DE POSGRADO EN PATRIMONIO CULTURAL Y SOCIEDAD

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# **ABSTRACT**

This article presents the results of a research on sustainability, investigated in the Graduate Program in Cultural Heritage and Society - PPGPCS of the University of the Region of Joinville (Univille), in the period 2013–2023. This study is linked to the Sustainability Observatory of Univille, and the research presented here is part of the objectives of this Observatory on the design of conceptions on the theme of sustainability. The methodology used was documentary analysis, focusing on the understanding and analysis of how the concept of sustainability is activated in discussions about cultural heritage and the theoretical frameworks of this concept in the field. The results obtained point to the understanding that the research carried out mainly deals with problems related to environmental heritage and sustainable development from the perspective of cultural

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heritage and management, in a vision of imbrication between environment and culture. Themes that are linked to sustainability such as fundamental rights, access to cultural assets, memories, identity, landscapes, commodification of culture, private property, forests, biodiversity, cultural policies and cultural knowledge and practices of traditional populations are also highlighted.

**Keywords:** Cultural Heritage. Sustainability. Univille. Sustainability Observatory.

### **RESUMO**

Este artigo apresenta os resultados de uma pesquisa sobre sustentabilidade, investigada no Programa de Pós-Graduação em Patrimônio Cultural e Sociedade - PPGPCS da Universidade da Região de Joinville (Univille), no período de 2013 a 2023. Este estudo está vinculado ao Observatório da Sustentabilidade da Univille, e a pesquisa aqui apresentada insere-se nos objetivos deste Observatório sobre a construção de concepções sobre o tema da sustentabilidade. A metodologia utilizada foi a análise documental, com foco na compreensão e análise de como o conceito de sustentabilidade é acionado nas discussões sobre patrimônio cultural e os referenciais teóricos desse conceito na área. Os resultados obtidos apontam para a compreensão de que as pesquisas realizadas abordam, principalmente, problemas relacionados ao patrimônio ambiental e ao desenvolvimento sustentável sob a perspectiva do patrimônio cultural e da gestão, em uma visão de imbricação entre meio ambiente e cultura. Temas que se vinculam à sustentabilidade, como direitos fundamentais, acesso a bens culturais, memórias, identidade, paisagens, mercantilização da cultura, propriedade privada, florestas, biodiversidade, políticas culturais e saberes e práticas culturais de populações tradicionais, também são destacados.

**Palavras-chave:** Patrimônio Cultural. Sustentabilidade. Univille. Observatório da Sustentabilidade.

# **RESUMEN**

Este artículo presenta los resultados de una investigación sobre sostenibilidad, realizada en el Programa de Posgrado en Patrimonio Cultural y Sociedad - PPGPCS de la Universidad de la Región de Joinville (Univille), durante el período 2013-2023. Este estudio está vinculado al Observatorio de Sostenibilidad de Univille, y la investigación que se presenta aquí se enmarca en los objetivos de este Observatorio sobre el diseño de concepciones sobre el tema de la sostenibilidad. La metodología empleada fue el análisis documental, centrándose en la comprensión y el análisis de cómo el concepto de sostenibilidad se activa en los debates sobre el patrimonio cultural y los marcos teóricos de este concepto en el campo. Los resultados obtenidos apuntan a la comprensión de que la investigación realizada aborda principalmente problemas relacionados con el patrimonio ambiental y el desarrollo sostenible desde la perspectiva del patrimonio cultural y su gestión, en una visión de imbricación entre medio ambiente y cultura. También se destacan temas vinculados a la sostenibilidad, como los derechos fundamentales, el acceso a los bienes culturales, la memoria, la identidad, los paisajes, la mercantilización de la cultura, la propiedad privada, los bosques, la biodiversidad, las políticas culturales y los conocimientos y prácticas culturales de las poblaciones tradicionales.

**Palabras clave:** Patrimonio cultural. Sostenibilidad. Univille. Observatorio de Sostenibilidad.



## INTRODUCTION<sup>6</sup>

Sustainability is a hot topic in the 21st century. Although it is a concept operated by several fields, it has become more significant for some time with the advancement of discussions on sustainable practices, increasingly in-depth diagnoses and studies, and especially on the climate crisis. The theme is key when we deal with the environment as an interdisciplinary knowledge, reintegrating diversity, new values and existing potentials when we work together with the various dimensions of life, such as social, environmental, economic, cultural, technological, political, spatial, ethical and aesthetic processes (Sachs, 1986; Leff, 2001).

Sustainability emerges in the context of the signs that appear about the limits of the market society of the impacts it produces both on the environment and on society and has entered a level of rapid change as a dominant and naturalized consequence, to proceed brings the preeminence of the reorientation of the civilizing process of humanity (Leff, 2001; Morin and Kern, 2003; Morin, 2007; Sachs, 1986; Guerreiro Ramos, 1989; Krenak, 2020).

Cultural heritage is made and sustained by its bond with the community. Meneses (2012) shows that heritage occurs in the relations between society and cultural property. It is from these relationships that the meanings and values attributed to heritage are constituted. From the moment there is the impossibility of appropriating the cultural asset, there is an impact on this sociability, on the community to which this asset belongs.

In addition, there is the symbolic component of culture, in which heritage is inserted. Culture is projected as a basic need for the quality of life of a community, and cultural heritage can be an anchor in the revitalization of identity and memory, providing regularity and continuity (ICBS, 2010).

Sustainability in the field of cultural heritage is linked to local development, carried out in a dialogical manner with the community to which it belongs, to the transmission of know-how between generations, to the maintenance of a built asset or to the support for the performance of rites and festivities.

Addressing these issues, this article aimed to present the preliminary results of how the sustainability theme appears in the productions of the Graduate Program in Cultural Heritage and Society of the University of the Region of Joinville (Univille), a community university that serves not only Joinville (SC), but the entire northeast region of the state of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>This article has data that were collected with the help of the students of the Master's Degree in Cultural Heritage and Society Letícia de Oliveira Mota and Sabrina Hille.



Santa Catarina. The university was founded in 1967 and since 1995 has had an institutional commitment to sustainability, reinforced in 2024 within the scope of the Sustainability Observatory Project, carried out across the university.

The Sustainability Observatory was awarded by the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development call No. 69/2022 with 10 master's and four doctoral scholarships, with activities scheduled between the years 2023 and 2028. The Observatory participates in the institution's *stricto sensu* programs: Design, Education, Process Engineering, Cultural Heritage and Society (PPGPCS), Health and Environment and Communication and Contemporary Mediations. In 2024, additionally, the Communication and Contemporary Mediations Program was awarded two master's scholarships and the Design Program with a doctoral scholarship. Currently, the Observatory has five doctoral fellows and 12 master's fellows.

The Sustainability Observatory aims to build interdisciplinary theoretical frameworks that can support the idea of sustainability of the project carried out at Univille, a strategic theme at the institution. Among the purposes of the research proposed at the Observatory are: To build a diagnosis in each stricto *sensu program*; Hold colloquia and research workshops to expose the general diagnosis of sustainability approaches and conceptions; Promote the structuring of the conceptual, ethical, educational, strategic, tactical and operational frameworks of the programs; Develop a conceptual project of the Sustainability Observatory at the service of social insertion and professional training.

The objective of this article is to discuss the dimensions of sustainability operated within the scope of the PPGPCS of Univille based on the theory of Sachs (1986; 1993; 2002; 2008; 2009). This article presents the results of the diagnosis provided for in the first objective of the Observatory, specifically the PPGPCS. Thus, the purpose was to look at what had already been produced by the Program in order to understand how the fields are articulated and how sustainability is addressed by the PPGPCS.

The PPGPCS began its activities in 2008, with the master's course. It is interdisciplinary, in the area of humanities, and addresses the diverse perspectives of cultural heritage. In 2018, ten years after opening, the doctoral course was approved by the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel. From the beginning, the Program has participated in contemporary discussions in society, which reverberates in the community and is sustained by interdisciplinary dialogue (Univille, 2023).



In order to achieve the objective proposed for this article, institutional documents were analyzed to obtain data from the PPGPCS, the area of concentration of the course, the lines of research, disciplines, syllabus, bibliographies and, finally, the dissertations and theses defended between the years 2013 and 2023.

The analysis was chosen in the light of Sachs' theory (1986; 1993; 2002; 2008; 2009), because the author bases the discussions on sustainability on a broad view of the concept, multidimensional and interconnected with it, the dimension to analyze the conception in the field of cultural heritage.

With this reflection, we can understand the importance of the studies carried out and how they are articulated with the community in which they are inserted. Observing the achievements and the existing gaps can lead to possible paths for contemporary discussions of topics so dear and necessary to the present day.

# **METHODOLOGY**

Considering the proposed objective of the article and the theoretical framework adopted, the methodology was outlined in different stages so that the data could be organized to enable the compilation, analysis and relationship with the appropriate theory.

At first, the mapping was carried out, the location of the necessary documents, on the PPGPCS website or at the Program's secretariat, for preliminary information, and the organization of data and analysis.

Next, keywords were defined that guided the search in the documents, these words: Sustainability, Sustainable and Sustainable Development. The keywords were designed to guide the searches and presented a vast and diverse number of documents to be analyzed.

With the markers, the analysis was organized through the elaboration of forms, in which items were customized for each discipline studied, adapting them to the proposed objectives. The fields contained items such as the identification of the document, responsible and/or advisor for the writing, implementation or offer, date and specific points such as summary, summary, etc.

The forms make it possible to organize and quickly visualize the analyses performed, in addition to serving as a parameter for the subsequent ordering of the data. The collected data were analyzed, visually organized and weighted according to the theory of sustainability proposed by Ignacy Sachs (1986; 1993; 2002; 2008; 2009). The result obtained from this analysis became the central theme of this article.



In this vein, the analysis that underlies this study highlights the complexity of looking inwards, investigating the hows and whys of the relations between cultural heritage and sustainability in a graduate program, in its social, political, environmental, cultural and economic dynamics.

## THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Sustainability, present in multiple fields of knowledge and human relations, demands a specific conceptualization for this research, given the complexity of defining such a diverse term. This analysis, then, is based on the premise that the market society profoundly influences all dimensions of life. In this line of reasoning, "It is not a mere incident that, in every society in which the market has become a central agency of social influence, community ties and specific cultural traits are undermined or even destroyed" (RAMOS, 1989, p. 65).

To deepen the analysis of the complex relations between society and the environment, we integrated Sachs' (2002) dimensions of sustainability, which he extrapolates the idea of sustainable development solely concerned with the economic aspect. According to the author, there are some important issues involving sustainability, which are intertwined: environmental sustainability itself, cultural, social, economic, territorial and political sustainability. For the author:

Social sustainability comes first, as it stands out as the very purpose of development, not to mention the probability that a social collapse will occur before the environmental catastrophe; a corollary: cultural sustainability; The sustainability of the environment comes as a result of: another corollary: balanced territorial distribution of human settlements and activities; economic sustainability appears as a necessity, but under no circumstances is it a precondition for the previous ones, since an economic upheaval brings with it social upheaval, which, in turn, obstructs environmental sustainability; the same can be said about the lack of political governability and for this reason the importance of political sustainability is sovereign (SACHS, 2002, p. 71-72).

When analyzing the different contexts proposed by Sachs (2008), we start with the ecological dimension, which encompasses ecosystems, fauna and flora, water, soil and other elements of nature. It is essential to recognize that these aspects are impacted by urban expansion and real estate speculation, extensive agriculture, predatory hunting and fishing, as well as mining and various forms of pollution, emitted constantly

The environmental dimension, on the other hand, refers to natural and community environments, the result of human relationships, and the limits of the planet, as well as the



impacts on quality of life and environmental services. What poses a risk to this environmental dimension are disorderly occupations, industrial activities, the use of pesticides, once again extensive agriculture and various pollutions.

It is necessary to highlight that for Sachs (2008), the ecological and environmental dimensions have their own characteristics. Although used in everyday life as synonyms, they have diverse magnitudes, although integrated, the environmental dimension deals with nature in a broad way and in its relationship with the human society that occupies and exploits it.

In the territorial dimension, geographical spaces, both political and symbolic, are connected, as a human and social construction, according to two origins: the legal origin and the ecological origin, which, in turn, has the dimensions of life, space and society, encompassing the physical and organizational existence of society. However, cultural and economic homogenization, lack of land use planning, and local devaluation bring risks to sustainability.

Local cultural values and customs, traditions, ways of life and relations with the environment are part of the cultural dimension, which is threatened by North American and European hegemony and cultural centrism. The devaluation of local customs and traditions and territorialities and the standardization of values in favor of mass tourism are also risk factors.

The social dimension, on the other hand, concerns the distribution of income, the employment rate, access to basic services, social security, etc., items that are threatened, in the current situation, by social inequality, corruption, violence, unemployment and many other daily problems.

According to Sachs (2008), the national political dimension encompasses democracy, the practice of human rights and the State as an expression of society, but it is threatened by ideological setbacks, patrimonialism, patriarchy, among other issues that plague the Brazilian political scene. For the author, there is also the international political dimension, which discusses cooperation between peoples, reduction of asymmetries between the global North and South, sharing of responsibilities, among other aspects. Therefore, this dimension is under pressure from colonialism and imperialism, wars, disputes over natural resources, etc.

Finally, the economic dimension presupposes the economic viability of development, a viable productive model that provides social needs and a necessary condition for the



emancipation of the poorest social groups, which is impacted by political instability, precarious infrastructure, unemployment, *and the commodity* market, among others.

It is interesting to think that the themes of development and human rights reached the spotlight of discussions in the middle of the last century, in which humanity, after going through two world wars, turned to the protection of the rights of all human beings. Broad environmental awareness is even newer. However, in these more than 50 years of studies and concern with human development and the environment, discussions are still based on economic issues, stifling actions and discussions about sustainability.

In line with the ideas of Sachs (1986; 1993; 2002; 2008; 2009), we have José Augusto Pádua (2010), who draws attention to the complexity of dealing with the history of nature and with the analysis of this nature when we talk about culture. The author contemplates several interconnected fronts of analysis, including social, biophysical, cultural, among others:

The important thing is to remain attentive and open in each research situation. In certain situations, biophysical factors are decisive. In others, technology or worldviews can be decisive. In all situations, however, the biophysical, the social and the cultural are present. In the different cases, what is perceived are open systems that change in the course of history. The very relationships between all components of interaction – where all are relevant, even if at different levels – construct, destroy, and reconstruct countless material and cultural forms. In the deepest sense, the analytical challenge is to overcome the rigid and dualistic divisions between nature and society, in favor of a dynamic and integrative reading, based on the observation of the world that is built in the river of time (PÁDUA, 2010, p. 97).

Likewise, we can extrapolate these dimensions by thinking about other ways, in addition to promoting, practicing, studying and analyzing sustainability, with the view of Leff (2009), who discusses the interculturality of knowledge and environmental rationality. According to the author:

Environmental rationality thus opens up new perspectives for a democratic transition, generating new human rights linked to the preservation of cultural and ecological diversity and articulating the demands of society and participation in a plural policy of economic decentralization based on the social reappropriation of nature by communities, capable of integrating the marginalized population into projects of productive self-sufficiency (LEFF, 2009, p. 408).

For the author, these principles inaugurate a new form of production and rationality that will build a social logic and eradicate poverty, in addition to enhancing Latin American culture, especially of native peoples.

This theoretical dialogue provides the conceptual basis for the discussions that follow in this article, outlining our understanding of sustainability and the intrinsic relationship between nature and culture, with their various interfaces.



#### **FINDINGS**

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN CULTURAL HERITAGE AND SUSTAINABILITY IN THE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN CULTURAL HERITAGE AND SOCIETY

In line with the established theoretical dialogue, we recognize the diversity of approaches and the scope with which sustainability can be understood in the different fields of knowledge. In this sense, investigating how this concept is operationalized in an interdisciplinary graduate program such as the PPGPCS can reveal valuable perspectives. The following analyses were conducted based on the proposed theoretical framework, examining the area of concentration, the lines of research, the disciplines, the syllabus, the bibliography, the dissertations and the theses of the course. The bibliographic research aimed to identify and analyze the manifestations of sustainability in the academic production of the PPGPCS.

### Area of Concentration and Lines of Research

As a post, the analysis begins in the area of concentration and lines of research. These are guiding guidelines for the Program. It is from them that the professors' research projects derive, to which the students' projects are linked.

According to the PPGPCS Academic Guide (Univille, 2023), the area of concentration covers Cultural Heritage, Identity and Citizenship:

The program's area of concentration aims to produce knowledge about the complex relationships that societies (from different times and spaces) establish with cultural heritage. Based on the debate in the human and social sciences, the notion of identity is conceived as a game of attributions produced by (and among) individuals, in which sociocultural belongings and boundaries are configured that, mobilizing symbolic resources in specific circumstances, resort to a supposed memory common to some and not to others. In this game of identities and identifications, the challenges linked not only to the rights and the exercise of citizenship in the twenty-first century are intertwined, but also to the future of the place(s) that are their reference. The area articulates two lines of research (UNIVILLE, 2023, p. 15).

The lines of research branch out into two approaches: Heritage, Memory and Languages and Heritage, Environment and Sustainable Development. The line Heritage, Memory and Languages is described as follows:

The line studies and develops interdisciplinary research on cultural heritage, focusing on different theoretical perspectives on memory and its developments in expressions of identities and languages. The thematic domains include heritage and heritage related to: cultural management and policies (public and private); dimensions of material and immaterial culture; world heritage; museums and memory spaces; collections and collections; preparation of inventories, records and legislative and judicial processes; (auto)biographies and life stories; artistic processes and their institutionalization; imbrication with the sound, visual, verbal and digital; history and



epistemology of heritage; and interaction with immigration and tourism networks (UNIVILLE, 2023, p. 15-16).

The Heritage, Environment and Sustainable Development line is reported as:

The line studies and develops interdisciplinary research on heritage, considering culture, nature, sustainability and citizenship as transversal concepts in research on: public policies; environmental and archaeological heritage; material/immaterial culture; indigenous history; cultural landscape; education for cultural and environmental heritage; innovation; intellectual property, legislation and other legal instruments; cultural knowledge and practices; and effects of climate change on cultural and environmental heritage. To this end, it integrates theoretical-methodological approaches such as discourse analysis, representations, oral history, hermeneutics, archaeography, paleo and ethnobiology, and laboratory research (UNIVILLE, 2023, p. 16).

The area of concentration has a focus on cultural heritage, having under its umbrella the human and social sciences, sociocultural development, studies on memory and identity and the right to the city.

The lines of research were subsumed from the Program's area of concentration and present two approaches, which are complementary to each other. The Heritage, Memory and Languages line addresses issues about cultural collections, public policies, management and material and immaterial cultures in the light of discussions on memory and identity. The Heritage, Environment and Sustainable Development research line addresses issues about sustainability, nature, environmental and archaeological heritage, climate change and legal practices in this area.

Considering the serious compartmentalization of disciplinary knowledge and its consequent inability to articulate it, the area of concentration and the lines of research are expressed in the option for the interdisciplinary area. This demonstrates the relevance, for the PPGPCS, in overcoming the fragmentation of knowledge, as Morin (2003, p.16) points out: "It is necessary to develop the ability to contextualize and integrate knowledge." This has been a challenge of the PPGPCS, built on the articulation, area of concentration, lines, disciplines, syllabi and bibliographies, commented below.

# Disciplines, Syllabuses and Bibliographies

The articulation between cultural heritage and sustainability is evident in the offer of disciplines at the PPGPCS. Of the 29 mandatory and elective courses offered in master's and doctoral courses (Univille, 2023), we identified 12 that address discussions on



sustainability. This expressive number (41% of the total) demonstrates the alignment of the Program with studies on this theme.

The selected disciplines were: Advanced Studies in Management and Legislation of Cultural Heritage; Advanced Studies in Culture, Citizenship and Sustainable Development; Culture, Citizenship and Sustainable Development; Biodiversity, Traditional Knowledge and Innovation; Indigenous Culture, Environment and Education; Ethics, Sustainability and Human Rights in Brazil; Cultural Heritage Management; Cultural Landscape and Heritage in Rural and Urban Spaces; Archaeological and Environmental Heritage; Cultural Heritage and Cultural Rights; Cultural Heritage and Forest; and World Heritage and Tourism.

The disciplines offered by the PPGPCS that dialogue with sustainability are mainly aligned with issues of heritage management, cultural rights, sustainable development, native peoples and environmental and archaeological heritage.

The analysis of the course syllabus, through the construction of a word cloud (Fig. 1), revealed cultural heritage as the central theme, consistent with the focus of the Program. In an articulated way, discussions on sustainable development, relations with nature, indigenous peoples and cultural rights emerged prominently.

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Figure 1. Word cloud made with the keywords of the disciplines

Source: the authors (2024).



As for the disciplines that address the theme of sustainability, we can observe the various fields of the professors. The areas of knowledge of the professors of the disciplines stand out, which include law, history, archaeology, biology, sociology, philosophy, engineering, among others (Fig. 2).

Among the highlights, only one is not linked to the Heritage, Environment and Sustainable Development research line. The data reveal a strong emphasis on the line directly related to sustainability. However, it is relevant to note that even disciplines in the Heritage, Memory and Languages line incorporate sustainability themes in their approaches.

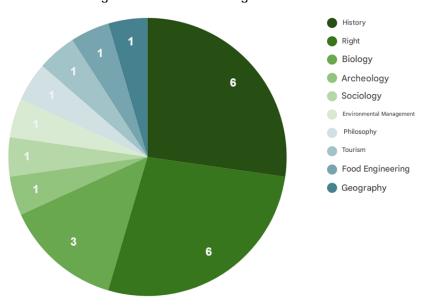


Figure 2. Area of knowledge of the teachers.

Source: the authors (2024).

The bibliographies of the disciplines on sustainability were analyzed to understand the theoretical references that guide teaching and research at PPGPCS. The analysis showed two central points: the interdisciplinarity of the Program is reflected in the diversified bibliographic selection by the professors. In addition, these bibliographies are comprehensive and present articulations among themselves, with the themes of the disciplines and with the research of professors and students.

In addition to the bibliographies being broad, covering several areas of technicalscientific knowledge that permeate the interdisciplinary discussion of heritage, they are updated annually, providing a convergent discussion of the problems faced in everyday life.



Thus, theory finds the link with reality and can be effectively applied in the understanding, discussion and solution of problems that cross the field of cultural heritage.

# **Faculty Research Projects**

Regarding the research projects of the PPGPCS professors, issues related to heritage management, cultural rights, cultural landscape, forests, biodiversity, intellectual property and innovation, sustainable development, native peoples and environmental and archaeological heritage were found again. In addition, there are problems around the circulation of knowledge and uses of cultural heritage and its social dimension (Chart 1).

Table 1. Relationship between the research projects of the professors and the dimensions of sustainability

Table 1. Relationship between the research projects of the professors and the differisions of sustaina	
Research projects	Dimensions of sustainability
Societies, materialities and environments: issues of interaction and conservation (Soma)	Environmental dimension, cultural dimension, ecological dimension
Epistemology of cultural heritage: between sacredness and secularization (Epistemo)	Cultural dimension, social dimension
Functions, appropriations and uses of cultural, natural and mixed heritage in societies of the past and present (FAUPC)	Cultural dimension, social dimension
Cultural heritage: between networks and plots (PRES II)	Cultural dimension, social dimension
Botany applied to natural, anthropized and cultural systems as a tool for the conservation of natural heritage and biodiversity (BOTSIST)	Environmental dimension, cultural dimension, ecological dimension
Right to cultural heritage: perspectives and challenges for the recognition of cultural heritage as an element of human dignity in the light of cultural rights (Dipatri II)	Cultural dimension, national political dimension, international political dimension
The Cultural Landscape: Living Heritage (Landscape)	Environmental dimension, cultural dimension, ecological dimension
Cultural heritage law, intellectual property and innovation: challenges and opportunities from the perspective of inclusive, sustainable and sustainable development (PCPI)	Cultural dimension, national political dimension, international political dimension
Culture of the crack and the present pasts of environmental heritage: studies on the circulation of knowledge, nature and agriculture (Fresta)	Environmental dimension, cultural dimension, ecological dimension

Source: the authors (2024).



It can be seen in chart 1 that the projects mentioned involve several dimensions of sustainability. This converges with the directions that the area of concentration and the lines of research present, from which it follows that they reverberate in the disciplines, menus, research project of the professors and, finally, in the dissertations and theses defended.

## **Dissertations and Theses**

The dissertations and theses produced by the PPGPCS students followed the analysis parameters already mentioned. The time frame from 2013 to 2023 was applied, in which a total of 156 dissertations and six theses were produced.

Then, in order to identify among the works produced those that adhere to the theme of sustainability, the abstracts of the dissertations and theses were read through the search engine of the archive reader, to identify the existence of the following keywords: sustainability, sustainable and sustainable development.

The productions that had these terms were analyzed and cataloged in cards (Fig. 3). For a global analysis of the approximations made with themes involving sustainability, the eight dimensions of Sachs (1986) were used as a basis.



Figure 3. Relationship between the topics covered and the dimensions of sustainability

Source: the authors (2024).

## **Dissertations**

38 dissertations defended between the years 2013 and 2023 were identified that are part of the study carried out. There are works that are linked to the two lines of research of the course, however most are linked to the line of research Heritage, Environment and Sustainable Development, totaling 29 works. The Heritage, Memory and Language line is contemplated in nine productions.



In a global analysis of the selected dissertations, it is possible to observe through the keywords of the works (Fig. 4) that the main axes occur around the problems of natural, archaeological and environmental heritage, as well as the cultural landscape and sustainability. The management of cultural heritage, its implications and public policies are also recurring themes, such as shell mounds and discussions around memory and identity.

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Figure 4. Word cloud made with the keywords of the dissertations studied

Source: the authors (2024)

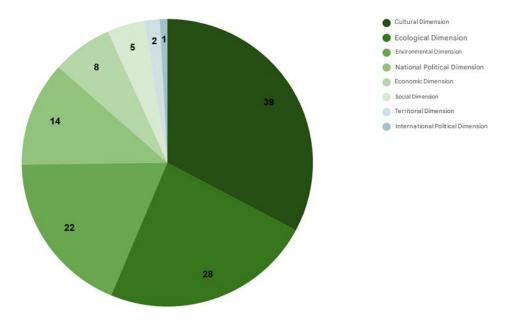
Other dissertations work on issues related to artisanal fishing, rural areas and geographical indications and their respective developments. In addition, it is possible to highlight the local impact of these surveys. The keyword Joinville stands out, demonstrating studies that cover the city and its various problems. In addition, it is also possible to observe research covering Garuva (SC), Rio Negrinho (SC) and São Francisco do Sul (SC), demonstrating the regional impact of the studies carried out in the Program.

Based on the analyses carried out, the convergence of the research carried out with the sustainability dimensions of Sachs (1986) was sought. It was found that the combination of research areas, disciplines and references results in investigations with unique views on the proposed problems. Thus, in order to contemplate the different faces of the research, different dimensions of sustainability were combined in each dissertation. In Fig. 5, it is possible to observe the cultural dimension as a highlight, followed by the environmental and spatial dimensions. Issues related to the political, economic and social dimensions are addressed.



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Figure 5. Dimensions of sustainability identified in the dissertations, period 2013–2023, in the Graduate Program in Cultural Heritage and Society



Source: the authors (2024)

As in the Program's guidelines, the sustainability discussions found in the dissertations are comprehensive, aligning a link with the community in which they are inserted and addressing relevant issues in the field of cultural heritage. It should be noted that the set of knowledge produced within the scope of the sustainability theme covers the social function of cultural heritage.

# **Theses**

The doctoral course linked to the PPGPCS is recent. The first class started in 2019, and the first theses were defended in 2022. In this group, three theses were identified with themes related to sustainability.

Of these three, two are included in the Heritage, Environment and Sustainable Development research line and one in the Heritage, Memory and Language research line. They are supervised by professors from different areas: law, sociology and arts.

By analyzing the keywords used in the theses (Fig. 6), it is possible to notice the link with cultural rights, management and sustainable development.



Figure 6. Word cloud made with the keywords of the theses studied



Source: the authors (2024).

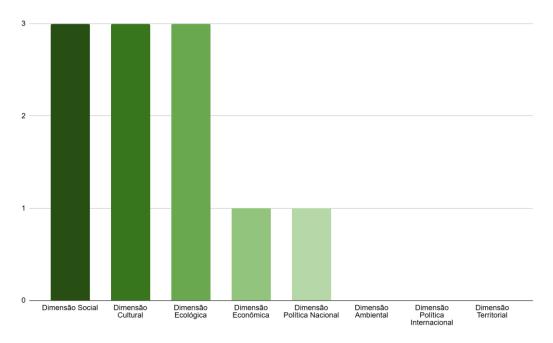
The central themes of the theses are: cultural management and the uses of the city, with a focus on graffiti and appropriations of the city; how games and gamification can generate an interface for the appropriation of assets; and uses of the landscape and geographical indication, from the perspective of sustainable development.

After the analyses carried out, as previously done for the dissertations, we sought to understand these researches through the dimensions of sustainability of Sachs (1986). As a result of this analysis, Fig. 7 shows the social and cultural dimensions highlighted, although there are issues related to the spatial, economic and political dimensions in the analyzed studies.



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Figure 7. Dimensions of sustainability identified in the theses, period 2019–2023, in the Graduate Program in Cultural Heritage and Society.



Source: the authors (2024)

In general, we found that the research carried out at the PPGPCS selected for this diagnosis works on problems related to environmental heritage, sustainable development from the perspective of cultural heritage and management of both resources and culture and its developments.

Still, we can highlight the research that works on human rights, access to cultural assets, the appreciation of heritage related to native peoples, minorities and that deal with difficult issues for society, thus engendering a significant contribution with local and regional impacts.

# **DISCUSSION**

# EXPANDING HORIZONS: NEW DIMENSIONS OF SUSTAINABILITY

Considering that the Program understands cultural heritage is crossed by different issues and involves fierce struggles:

Among other topics, public interest, public policy and management, security, access to the arts, urban mobility, human displacements and settlements, rural areas, family farming, the environment, landscapes, geographical indications and marketing strategies involving heritage, tourism, narratives and memories, sustainable cities and communities, centers and areas of innovation in the uses of public spaces, the recognition of the memory of the so-called minorities, access to fundamental rights,



the informality of work, the commodification of culture, the protection of biodiversity, landscapes, private property, the limitation of resources and structure necessary for the management and protection of heritage assets. (PPGPCS, 2021, p.05).

This conception is articulated with the breadth of discussions on sustainability according to the dimensions of Sachs (1986; 1993; 2002; 2008; 2009). At PPGPCS, research, thesis and dissertations cover new dimensions and approaches on the subject. In this sense, the ethical dimension, the aesthetic dimension, the psychological or sensorial dimension and the technological dimension of sustainability are addressed, in addition to the concepts of good living, creating more solid bridges between the various discussions between heritage and sustainability and expanding the dimensions initially proposed.

The discussion carried out by Souza (2020) brings relevant points about the ethical dimension:

It is important to emphasize that the human interferences that artificialized nature or even naturalized the artifices cannot be seen only from the negative aspects, the advances in science, in the forms of cultivation or in the fight against diseases collaborated with the well-being and maintenance of the species. However, with the environmental crisis, the need to feel belonging to nature, which was previously externalized to man, allows for a more attentive and friendly look at environmental issues. Thus, by establishing environmental ethics comprising the different conceptions of nature and with the proposal of "good use", it is expected that human interference will become more conscious, coherent and responsible, given that nature is a common good, it is up to contemporary humanity to take care that the rights of future generations are not harmed (SOUZA, 2020, p. 134).

According to the author, ethics is in the use of nature in a rational way, with awareness and responsibility, since the protection of nature including the right to a fair and dignified experience of present and future generations is also an ethical commitment.

In addition to the ethical commitment to humanity, there is an ethical commitment to animals and plants, through the maintenance of their habitats and the offer of a dignified life, as well as that human actions that affect the life of these living beings are sensitive, in order to guarantee their continuity of existence.

The author also highlights the importance of the aesthetic dimension, another aspect that we also feel the need to be inserted in discussions about sustainability, as the environment must guarantee both individual and collective identity and memories.

From this perspective, the work of Dolci and Pereira (2020) contributes to the understanding of the importance of the aesthetic dimension of sustainability. It is about how the human being interacts with the world through the senses, affections and sensations that are evoked.



If the aesthetic relationship is the "expression of the subject who externalizes and recognizes himself" (DOLCI; PEREIRA, 2020, p. 10), it is important that in an aesthetic dimension of sustainability, human beings see themselves as part of the environment they inhabit and that they are able to express the relationships they build with this environment, which can go beyond aesthetics as a synonym for beauty, weaving meanings of belonging, admiration, strangeness, among other perspectives and feelings that can be expressed.

This medium can serve as a sociotransmitter. According to Candau's concept used by Matarezi, Carelli, and Lamas (2021), the environment and other aspects of the aesthetic dimension are the object of activation of memories, recollections, feelings, and senses. The authors mention the installation of the Trail of Life:

Everything that exists along the path of the Trail of Life Installations, to be traveled, touched, perceived and experienced by the senses; it is considered as miniatures that provoke discoveries, with a strong predominance of the processes of activation of individual and collective memories (MATAREZI; CARELLI; LAMAS, 2021. p. 39).

These experiments, however, can be extended to other moments and aspects of life, arousing human belonging and its expression both in the experience and in the use of the environment.

The psychological dimension addresses how the human being interprets and understands the other dimensions or the environment in which he is inserted in general and interacts with both. According to laquinto (2018, p. 176), "the psychological dimension studies the relationship of the human being with the other dimensions" of sustainability.

Also according to Iaquinto (2018), the technological dimension of sustainability focuses on the role of technology as a tool in decision-making and in the dissemination of sustainability, as well as in the processes of pollution management, productivity, equitable income distribution, climate emergencies, and environmental conservation.

Finally, the last relevant discussion regarding sustainability is the concept of good living. According to Alcântara and Sampaio (2017), buen vivir is a worldview built over the years by the native peoples of Latin America and can be found in several languages: "Sumak Kawsai in Quechua, Suma Qamaã in Aymara or Buen Vivir/Vivir Bien [...] In Guaraní, 'Teko Kavi' means good life and living well (respecting life). 'Buen Vivir', for the Embera of Colombia, is to be in harmony among all" (ALCÂNTARA; SAMPAIO, 2017, p. 234).



Buen Vivir is an important contribution to this discussion because it confronts patriarchy, capitalism and especially colonialism. Through good living, we can understand a common space-time, and in this diverse reflections on how beings can coexist, in the construction of a diverse interculturality that points out alternatives to conventional development.

Reflecting on sustainability according to new horizons allows us to adopt a more complex view of life from a sustainable perspective. This means going beyond the traditional *triple bottom line*, which addresses environmental, social and economic aspects, often treated in isolation. Instead, an approach is proposed that recognizes the interconnectedness between the various dimensions addressed in this paper and their complexity.

## FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The analyses carried out in the diagnosis presented allowed the visualization of several points about sustainability in the PPGPCS.

At first, it was possible to verify a sensitive position on sustainability issues in the Program's guidelines, both in its area of concentration and in the lines of research, issues that guide the work of professors and students. This direction is remarkable when we verify the proposed disciplines, as well as the research projects of the professors. Such aspects outline the guidelines as the Program is planned and organized.

However, when we look at the dissertations and theses, we see the need to mention sustainability as part of the study carried out, since often, despite being discussed, the term appears little in the keywords of the program's publications. An example of this is people's access to the city's cultural spaces, a topic that is part of the field of sustainability. The same happens in the studies of woods, forests and the like, which we know to be within the scope of the sustainability theme, but does not appear in the keywords. Thus, the researcher's gaze needs to turn to an analysis of the conjuncture of the multiple faces that involve this concept.

For this, it is necessary to carry out a theoretical and methodological exercise to address questions such as: what sustainability are we talking about? How do we mention sustainability? Through these questions and conceptual discussion, it is necessary to undertake a delineation of the concept of sustainability for the field of cultural heritage based on theoretical frameworks.



Another challenge that is necessary is the appropriation of various concepts of the global South and decoloniality, as well as the symbolic field that involves sustainability.

We highlight putting an end to the inseparability of culture and nature, since, from the perspective of sustainability, development occurs in multiple dimensions, covering environment, ecology, culture, politics, society, economy, territory, ethics, aesthetics and psychology in a complex and transdisciplinary way.

To think about sustainability is to think about the dynamic society, the daily life, the people and their relationships, which bring us contemporary and changing issues and demands.

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