Key differences between Sustainable Building Advisor course and Sustainable Homes Professional course

SBA	Earth Advantage SHP
Residential, Commercial, Institutional	Residential
Assumes a baseline knowledge of conventional design & construction but no prior knowledge of sustainable building topics	Assumes baseline knowledge of best construction practices, and an understanding of building science basics as they apply to residential building.
9 month duration	6 month duration
Conceptual emphasis: Provides principles of sustainable building design and construction and implications (benefits and challenges) of applying them. Technical applications are provided as examples of the principles. Building science principles are covered at introductory level. Course exercises illuminate principles. Readings range from introductory to advanced. Field trips demonstrate completed techniques.	Applied emphasis: In-depth focus on technical application. Course exercises illuminate how to apply strategies to achieve high-performance residential construction. Readings cover advanced building science topics. Field trips demonstrate application techniques in process.
Format is primarily lecture, group work, and individual work.	Format is primarily workshop and individual work.
Group work includes evaluating a “team project” and presenting a compilation of results in a final presentation.	In-class group work will include sharing ideas and experiences and providing information to incorporate into a “synthesis project” compiled over the term of the course and presented at its completion.
Individual work includes written research papers on sustainable building topics.	Individual work includes a series of introspective exercises that build on each other to create tools the student can use in their job.
Instruction is provided by a Lead Instructor and a roster of over a dozen experts in the various sustainable building topics.	Instruction is provided by three experts in building science and sustainable home construction and various guest lecturers.
Team projects are real projects, solicited from class members and vetted by the lead instructor.	Team exercises may be derived from field trips and/or template examples.
End goal: Knowledge and understanding to act as a sustainable building advisor in a variety of venues (owner, design team member, consultant, project manager, facilities staff, etc.)	End goal: Knowledge and tailored tools to implement process changes in residential construction that result in high performance homes.