Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies

Environmental Studies is an interdisciplinary B.A. degree program that examines interactions of human society and nature through approaches of the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities. Courses introduce foundation principles of ecology and environmental science in relation to issues of policy, politics, law, economics, social aspects, planning, pollution control, and natural resources management. Two degree concentrations are designed to prepare students for a broad field of environmental career pathways: Environmental Sustainability and Environmental Systems. Upon successful completion of the Environmental Studies B.A. degree program, students who want further training may go to graduate school in the natural sciences, public administration, planning, environmental law, environmental health, or education.

The Environmental Studies B.A., Environmental Sustainability Concentration, focuses on the concept of sustainability from an interdisciplinary perspective. This concentration includes instruction in sustainable development, environmental policies, ethics, ecology, landscape architecture, city and regional planning, economics, natural resource issues, sociology, and anthropology. Career pathways explored by this concentration include the work of government agencies and non-governmental organizations, natural resource planners and managers, environmental regulators, K-12 educators, and advocates. This concentration is recommended for students that want a broad and flexible liberal arts program that allows them follow diverse interests.

The Environmental Studies B.A., Environmental Systems Concentration, focuses on the application of biological, chemical, and physical principles to the study of environmental problems and solutions, including subjects such as abating or controlling environmental pollution and degradation; physical interactions between human society and the natural environment; and approaches to natural resources management. This concentration provides a science intensive background with instruction in biology, chemistry, physics, geosciences, environmental health, climatology, statistics, and mathematical modeling.

Career pathways explored by this concentration include the work of environmental specialists in consulting firms, governmental agencies that monitor and protect environmental quality, as well as in multiple fields of scientific research on human impacts to the environment. This concentration is recommended for students preparing to pursue a graduate degree in the natural sciences, or preparing for an environmentally related technical career.

Requirements (45-52 units)

Total units required for graduation: 120

B.A. in Environmental Studies

Lower-division requirements (13)
GEOG 1070 Environmental Studies Orientation Seminar 2
Three units chosen from:
| GEOG 1030 | Physical Geography |
| GEOL 1000 | Introductory Geology |
| HSCI 1200 | Health and Society: An Ecological and Societal Approach |

Upper-division requirements (17)

ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS (7 units)
GEOG 4360 Climate Change 3
or GEOG 4400 Geomorphology
Four units chosen from:
| GEOG 3300 | Weather and Climate |
| GEOG 4250 | Watershed Hydrology and Management |
| GEOG 4300 | Biogeography |

NATURE-SOCIETY RELATIONS (6 units)
GEOG 3500 Conservation and Natural Resources 3
or GEOG 3501 Environmental Sustainability
Three units chosen from:
| ANTH 3607 | Environmental Anthropology |
| ECON 3103 | Environmental Economics |
| ECON 3740 | Economics of Climate Change |
| ENG 3400 | Analysis of Environmental Discourse (WI) |
| ENG 3410 | Environmental Literature |
| PHIL 3014 | Environmental Ethics |

EXPERIMENTAL LEARNING (4 units)
GEOG 5000 Senior Seminar (must take in spring term prior to graduation) 2
Minimum of two units chosen from:
| GEOG 5351 | Professional Conferences |
| GEOG 5352 | Professional Conferences |
| GEOG 5551 | Laboratory Experience |
| GEOG 5552 | Laboratory Experience |
| GEOG 5651 | Field Experience |
| GEOG 5652 | Field Experience |
| GEOG 5751 | Internship in Geography |
| GEOG 5752 | Internship in Geography |
| GEOG 5753 | Internship in Geography |
| GEOG 5756 | Model United Nations Practicum (Spring Semester MUN Team) |
| GEOG 5761 | Study Abroad |
| GEOG 5762 | Study Abroad |
| GEOG 5763 | Study Abroad |
| GEOG 5771 | Study Away |
| GEOG 5772 | Study Away |
| GEOG 5773 | Study Away |
| GEOG 5781 | Service Learning in Geography, Global Studies and Environmental Studies |
| GEOG 5782 | Service Learning in Geography, Global Studies and Environmental Studies |
| GEOG 5783 | Service Learning in Geography, Global Studies and Environmental Studies |
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GEOG 5951 Independent Study
GEOG 5952 Independent Study
GEOG 5953 Independent Study
GEOG 5970 Senior Honors Project - Geography
GEOG 5971 Senior Honors Project - Environmental Studies
GEOG 5972 Senior Honors Project - Global Studies

Concentration (15-22)
All students must satisfy the requirements of one of the concentrations listed below:
15-22 units

Total Units 45-52

Concentrations (15-22 units)
Courses taken in a concentration cannot be used elsewhere to meet requirements of this major.

Environmental Sustainability Concentration (15 units)
(Program Code: ESSU)
MATH 1201 Introduction to Statistical Thinking 3
or GEOG 3018 Geographic Statistics and Research Methods
Minimum of six units chosen from:
GEOG 3520 Environmental Inquiry and Education
GEOG 3701 Environmental Policy and Impact Assessment
GEOG 4870 Environmental GIS
GEOG 4710 Water Wars
May choose one of the following:
GEOG 3020 Social Geography
GEOG 3030 Cultural Geography
GEOG 3045 Global Cities and Urban Environment
GEOG 3050 Economic Geography
GEOG 3060 Political Geography
GEOG 4050 Geography of California
Six units chosen from:
ANTH 3607 Environmental Anthropology
COMM 3227 Topics in Relational and Organizational Communication (Topic: Environmental Communication)
or COMM 42 Communication and Conflict
ECON 3103 Environmental Economics
or ECON 37 Economic of Climate Change
HIST 4950 Politics of Oil
SOC 4340 Community Organization
PA 5140 Nonprofit Management and Leadership
or PA 5170 Nonprofit Fundraising and Grantwriting
or PA 5200 Water Law, Regulation and Policy
or PA 5210 Urban Growth and Planning
PSCI 3300 State and Local Politics
or PSCI 3420 The Politics of Environment
May choose one of the following GE courses:
ART 3000 Art and Activism
BIOL 2180 Sustainable Agriculture
BIOL 3010 Human Ecology

CHEM 3100 Chemistry and the Environment
GEOL 3020 Natural Disasters
GEOL 3040 Energy and the Environment
ENG 3400 Analysis of Environmental Discourse (WI)
ENG 3410 Environmental Literature
PHIL 3014 Environmental Ethics

Total Units 15

Environmental Systems Concentration (22 units)
(Program Code: ESSY)
BIOL 1000 Introduction to Biology 3
CHEM 1000 Introduction to Chemistry 3
or CHEM 2050 Survey of General Chemistry
CHEM 1000L Introduction to Chemistry Laboratory 1
or CHEM 2050L Survey of General Chemistry Laboratory
MATH 1201 Introduction to Statistical Thinking 3
or MATH 1301 Modeling with Functions
or GEOG 3018 Geographic Statistics and Research Methods
PHYS 1000 Physics in the Modern World 3
Minimum of six units chosen from:
GEOG 3300 Weather and Climate
GEOG 3701 Environmental Policy and Impact Assessment
GEOG 4250 Watershed Hydrology and Management
GEOG 4300 Biogeochemistry
GEOG 4360 Climate Change
GEOG 4400 Geomorphology
GEOG 4651 Coastal Resources Management
GEOG 4750 Ecosystem Assessment
GEOG 4870 Environmental GIS
GEOG 4880 Remote Sensing of the Environment
Minimum of three units chosen from:
GEOG 3100 Introduction to Geologic Mapping
GEOG 3600 Structural Geology
GEOG 4100 Engineering Geology
GEOG 3700 Groundwater Hydrology
GEOG 5400 Environmental Hydrology
HSCI 3052 Principles of Environmental Health
HSCI 3522 Air Pollution and Radiological Health
HSCI 3558 Water Quality and Pollution Control
HSCI 4577 Environmental Health Engineering
HSCI 5557 Solid and Hazardous Waste Management

Total Units 22