Environmental Studies (ENS)

Interdisciplinary Major and Living Learning Center Minor in Environmental Studies

Marine Sciences Research Center

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Faculty

Please see the faculty listing in the entry for the Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences major.

The Environmental Studies major, leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree, is designed to provide students with the analytical and communication skills and the broad background necessary to understand and address complex environmental issues. The major also offers the opportunity for students to carry out focused study within a specific area of interest. Environmental issues are not resolved in the scientific, technological, social, or political area alone. The curriculum is, therefore, interdisciplinary and integrates principles and methodologies from the social sciences, engineering, the natural sciences, and humanities. The goal is to address the complex scientific, legal, political, socio-economic and ethical issues that define and surround environmental issues.

The major in Environmental Studies prepares the student for further education and entry-level employment in areas such as public interest science and advocacy, environmental conservation, law, journalism, management, television documentary production, ecotourism, population studies, and public service including public health.

To demonstrate depth of learning, an area of concentration is required of all students in the major. Additionally, a research course, an internship, or field study is an essential part of the curriculum to provide real-world experience in an appropriate subject area. Seniors are expected to share these experiences with the rest of the academic community through participation in an annual environmental studies colloquium.

The Environmental Studies major is administered by the Marine Sciences Research Center. A Living Learning Center and a minor, with a residential component, is also available, housed in Hendrix College. Students majoring or minoring in Environmental Studies are given priority housing in Hendrix College. A lounge and study area are also available within the Living Learning Center for commuter students enrolled in the major or minor. The Living Learning Center, which is part of the Science and Society College offers special programs, such as a seminar series showcasing faculty research and selected courses in the major and minor.

All students should consult with the director of undergraduate students to design and approve an acceptable course of study before declaring the major.

Courses Offered in Environmental Studies

See the Course Descriptions listing in this Bulletin for complete information.

Requirements for the Major in Environmental Studies (ENS)

The major in Environmental Studies leads to the Bachelor of Arts degree. No more than one course required for the major can receive a letter grade less than C.

Completion of the major requires approximately 66 credits.

A. Foundation Courses (34 credits)

1. Natural Sciences

   BIO 113 General Ecology
   or BIO 150 The Living World
   CHE 131, 133 General Chemistry and Lab  (See Note 1)
   MAT 125 or MAT 131 or MAT 141 Calculus
   PHY/ENS 119 Physics for Environmental Studies (See Note 2)
   One of the following:
   GEO 101 Environmental Geology
   or MAR 104 Oceanography
   or ATM 102 Weather and Climate
   or ENS 101 Prospects for Planet Earth

2. Social Sciences

   ANP 120 Introduction to Physical Anthropology
   ECO 108 Introduction to Economic Analysis
   POL 102 Introduction to American Government

3. Humanities

   PHI 104 Moral Reasoning
   or PHI 105 Politics and Society

4. Communications

   Proficiency in writing, oral communication, and computer literacy will be encouraged in all students. These skills will be developed within the context of formal coursework and no additional credits are required.

5. Upper-Division Writing Requirement

   All students in the major must submit two papers from any upper division course in the major to the Director of Undergraduate Programs for evaluation by the end of the junior year.
B. Core Courses (20 credits)
1. BIO 201 Fundamentals of Biology: Organisms to Ecosystems
2. One of the following statistics courses:
   AMS 102, AMS 110, AMS 310, ECO 320, POL 201, PSY 201, or SOC 202
3. MAR 340 Environmental Problems and Solutions
4. ENS 301 Contemporary Environmental Issues and Policies
5. ENS 311/BIO 386 Ecosystem Ecology and the Global Environment
6. ENS 312 Population, Technology, and the Environment
7. One of the following (2 credits):
   ENS 443 Environmental Problem Solving
   Independent Research (See Note 3)
   Internship (See Note 4)

C. Concentration (12 credits)
All students in the major must complete an area of concentration consisting of four courses to develop depth of knowledge in a specific field of interest.
1. Archaeology
   ANT 104 Introduction to Archaeology
   ANT 357 The Agricultural Revolution
   ANT 362 Long Island Archaeology
   One additional upper-division archaeology course
2. Atmospheric Studies
   ATM 205 Introduction to Atmospheric Science
   ATM 237 Global Atmospheric Change
   ATM 397 Air Pollution and its Control
   MAR 334 Remote Sensing in the Environment
   Other upper-division ATM courses (ATM 345, ATM 346, or ATM 348) may be substituted with permission of the undergraduate program director
3. Conservation/Physical Anthropology
   ANP 210 The Living Primates
   ANP 350 Primate Behavior and Ecology
4. Ecology
   BIO 351 and 352 Ecology and Ecology Laboratory
   BIO 353 Marine Ecology
   BIO 354 Evolution or BIO 385 Plant Ecology
   Other upper-division ecology or marine sciences courses (e.g., MAR 320 Limnology) may be substituted for BIO 353 and BIO 354/BIO 385 with permission of the undergraduate program director.
5. Environmental Economics
   ECO 303 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
   ECO 305 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory
   ECO 373 Economics of the Environment and Natural Resources
   One additional upper-division economics course by permission of the undergraduate director
6. Environmental History
   HIS 103 American History to 1877 or HIS 104 United States since 1877
   HIS 365 Environmental History of North America
   HIS 398 Environment in World History
   Additional upper-division history course with permission of undergraduate director (for example, AAS/HIS 353 Environmental History of China)
7. Environmental Law
MAR/POL 333 Environmental Law
POL 320 Constitutional Law and Politics
POL 329 Administrative Law
POL 366 Government Regulation of Business
Other upper-division courses (i.e., POL 351, POL 359, PHI 375) may be substituted for POL 366 with permission of the undergraduate program director.

8. Marine Environmental Studies
MAR 333 Coastal Oceanography
MAR 336 Marine Pollution
MAR 315 Conservation Biology and Marine Biodiversity
MAR 385 Principles of Fisheries Biology and Management
Other upper-division courses (BIO 343, 353; MAR 302, 304, 307, 308, 334, 339, 351, 366, 371, 390) may be substituted for MAR 315 and/or MAR 385 with permission of the director of undergraduate studies.

9. Public Policy
POL 359 Public Policy Analysis
POL 364 Organizational Decision Making
POL 366 Government Regulation of Business
PHI 364 Philosophy of Technology or PHI 366 Philosophy and the Environment
One additional upper-division waste reduction or environmental policy course (with permission of the undergraduate director)

10. Waste Reduction and Management
MAR 392 Waste Management Issues
MAR/POL 333 Environmental Law
BCP/MAR 394 Toxology and Public Health

9. Environmental History
HIS 103 or HIS 104
HIS 365 Environmental History of North America
HIS 398 Environment in World History
One additional upper-division history course

Notes:
1. CHE 141, 143 Honors Chemistry and Lab may be substituted for CHE 131, 133
2. PHY 117, 118 or 121/123, 122/124 or 125, 126, 127 or 131/133, 132/134 or 141, 142 may be substituted for PHY/ENS 119.
3. Two credits of any course numbered 487 or equivalent with one of the following designators: ANP, ANT, ATM, BCP, BIO, CHE, ECO, ENS, EST, GEO, MAR, PHY, POL. In addition to other prerequisites, credit toward the major requires approval of the research topic by the Director of Undergraduate Studies of the Marine Sciences Research Center. A presentation at the annual senior colloquium is also required.
4. Two credits of any course numbered 488 or equivalent with one of the following designators: ANP, ANT, ATM, BCP, BIO, CHE, ECO, ENS, EST, GEO, MAR, PHY, POL. In addition to other prerequisites, credit toward the major requires approval of the internship by the Director of Undergraduate Studies. A presentation at the annual senior colloquium is also required.

Requirements for the Minor in Environmental Studies (ENS)
No more than one three-credit course in the minor may be taken under the Pass/No Credit option. All upper-division courses offered for the minor must be passed with a letter grade of C or higher. Completion of the minor requires 18 credits.
1. One introductory course chosen from the following:
   ATM/EST 102 Weather and Climate
   BIO 113 General Ecology
   BIO 201 Principles of Biology: From Organisms to Ecosystems
   GEO 101 Environmental Geology
   MAR 101 Long Island Sound: Science and Use
   MAR 104 Oceanography
2. ENS 101 Prospects for Planet Earth
3. ENS 301 Contemporary Environmental Issues and Policies
4. Two advanced courses chosen from the following:
   ANP 360 Primate Conservation
   ANT 420 Environmental Analysis Using Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems
   ATM 397 Air Pollution and Its Control
   BIO 351 Ecology
   BIO 352 Ecology Laboratory
   BIO/GEO 353 Marine Ecology
   CHE 310 Chemistry in Technology and the Environment
   GEO 304 Energy, Mineral Resources, and the Environment
   GEO 315 Groundwater Hydrology
   MAR 320 Limnology
   MAR 333 Coastal Oceanography
   MAR 340 Environmental Problems and Solutions
5. At least three credits of independent study or research in any department, approved by the minor coordinator or undergraduate director.

Declaration of the Minor
Students should declare the Environmental Studies minor no later than the middle of their junior year, at which time they should consult with the minor coordinator or undergraduate director and plan their course of study for fulfillment of the requirements.

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