Environmental Studies (ENS)

Interdisciplinary Major and Living Learning Center Minor in Environmental Studies

School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS)

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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 arenas 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 School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences and as of Fall 2007 is offered on two campuses—the Stony Brook main campus and at Stony Brook Southampton. Southampton students may choose to pursue one of four concentrations, whereas main campus students may pursue any of the published ten concentrations as described in Requirements for the Major. All other aspects regarding the academic requirements for the major remain the same on both campuses.

On the main campus, a Living Learning Center and a minor, with a residential component, are also available, housed in Hendrix College. Students pursuing the major or minor 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. Southampton students may not pursue the minor in conjunction with the major.

All students should consult with the appropriate faculty advisor based on the location in which they are studying. Students on the main campus should contact the director of undergraduate studies to design and approve an acceptable course of study before declaring the major. Students at Stony Brook Southampton should consult with the Southampton Coordinator to discuss the academic options in Southampton.

For more information about the Southampton campus, please read the Introduction to Stony Brook in this Bulletin or visit http://www.stonybrook.edu/southampton. Students may learn more about the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences by visiting http://www.somas.stonybrook.edu.

Courses Offered in Environmental Studies

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

- ENS 101-E Prospects for Planet Earth
- ENS 119-E Physics for Environmental Studies
- ENS 301-H Contemporary Environmental Issues and Policies
- ENS 311-H Ecosystem Ecology and the Global Environment
- ENS 312-H Population, Technology, and the Environment
- ENS 333 Environmental Law
- ENS 380 Stony Brook in Tanzania: Lake Victoria Environment and Human Health
- ENS 443 Environmental Problem Solving
- ENS 487 Independent Research in Environmental Studies
- ENS 488 Internship in Environmental Studies

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 201 Fundamentals of Biology: Organisms to Ecosystems
   - BIO 204 Fundamentals of Scientific Inquiry in the Biological Sciences

2. Physical Sciences

   - 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. One of the following statistics courses:
   AMS 102, AMS 110, AMS 310, ECO 320, POL 201, PSY 201, or SOC 202

2. MAR 340 Environmental Problems and Solutions

3. ENS 301 Contemporary Environmental Issues and Policies

4. ENS 311/BIO 386 Ecosystem Ecology and the Global Environment

5. ENS 312 Population, Technology, and the Environment

6. 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

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 357 The Agricultural Revolution
   ANT 362 Long Island Archaeology
   One additional upper-division archaeology course

4. Ecology*
   BIO 351 and 352 Ecology
   ECO 303 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
   ECO 305 Principles of Economics
   ECO 306 Intermediate Microeconomics

5. Environmental Economics*
   ECO 303 Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
   ECO 305 Principles of Economics
   ECO 306 Intermediate Microeconomics

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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.

Living Learning Center Interdisciplinary Minor in Environmental Studies

The Environmental Studies Living Learning Center, housed in Hendrix College (in the Science and Society College) offers a minor in Environmental Studies as well as activities that emphasize both scientific and social issues encompassed by the broad field of environmental studies. Through this program, motivated natural science and social science students are able to apply their other coursework specifically to the study of the environment. In addition, participation in the program adds an academic component to each student's residential experience. The minor in Environmental Studies provides enhanced exposure to one subfield of environmental studies, the natural science of the environment.