

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies: Policy Concentration

Program Overview

The mission of the Environmental Studies Program is to provide students experiential learning opportunities and rigorous academics rooted in natural sciences, political sciences, economics and philosophy to better understand the human endeavor in the context of responsible environmental stewardship. Through the program students learn about local, regional and global environmental issues that are integrated across disciplines. Global climate change, loss of biodiversity, clean water, resource depletion and the lack of a “land ethic” all suggest there are tremendous fundamental opportunities for positive change. Humans as well as all other organisms depend upon the quality and integrity of natural systems. The future of the world depends on the wisdom with which science and technology are used and how humans engage in responsible decision making that leads toward an environmentally sustainable world. The Environmental Studies Program provides a fundamental understanding of the biophysical world and how it intersects with human endeavors through formal academics, laboratory and field experiences, internships and undergraduate research opportunities. This interdisciplinary program includes three tracks: Technical, Natural History and Policy Track.

Degree Requirements

To earn this degree, students must have a GPA of 2.0 or higher in the Major as well as an overall GPA of 2.0, complete a minimum of 120 credit hours, and fulfill the course requirements of the program listed below.

*This is a sample plan; specific courses may vary from year to year. Academic advisors will work with each student to develop their individual schedule.

Major-Specific Required Courses			CREDITS
✓			
	BIOL 106/L^	Principles of Biology I/Lab	4
	BIOL 108/L	Principles of Biology II/Lab	4
	BIOL 225/L	Conservation Biology/Lab	3
	DATA 210^	Statistical Analysis	4
	ECON 115	Economic Concepts	3
	ENVS 130	Introduction to Environmental Studies	3
	ENVS 401	Environmental Science	3
	INTD 425^	Environmental Philosophy	3
	POSC 225	Public Policy	3
	Choose 1 of the following:		CREDITS
	ENVS 475	Internship in Environmental Studies	3
	ENVS 380/480	Special Problems	3
	Choose 1 of the following:		CREDITS
	POSC 121	American National Politics	3
	POSC 122	State and Local Politics	3
	Choose 1 of the following:		CREDITS
	ECON 350	Econometrics	3
	POSC 325	Political Analysis	3
	SOC 222	Social Research Methods	3
	Choose 2 semesters of chemistry w/lab from one sequence below		CREDITS
	CHEM 105/R/L	Intro to Inorganic Chemistry/Recitation/Lab	5
	CHEM 106/L	Intro to Organic Chemistry/Lab	4
	or		
	CHEM 111/R/L	General Chemistry I/Recitation/Lab	5
	CHEM 113/R/L	General Chemistry II/Recitation/Lab	5

CORE		CREDITS
✓		Foundation
	LA-FWS	First-Year Writing Seminar
	LA-FCS	First-Year Communication Seminar
	LA-FQR	Quantitative Reasoning
	LA-FSS	First Year Success Seminar
	LA-FCG	Cultural and Global Understanding
		Exploration
	LA-EAH	Arts and Humanities
	LA-ENS	Natural Sciences
	LA-ESS	Social Sciences
		Transformation
	LA-TFR	Faith, Reason, and Ethics
	LA-TBI	Big Issues - 2 courses
	LA-TCE	Creative Expression
		Additional credits to bring total to 120+ credits
✓		Electives
		Experiential Learning

MAJOR	*Options
CORE	^CORE equivalent
ELECTIVE/MINOR	
EXPERIENTIAL	

Total Program Credits: 120+

Example Course Sequence:

The following is a sample of a semester-by-semester approach to completing this program in 4 years.

YEAR 1							
FIRST SEMESTER							
COURSE		CREDITS	PREREQUISITES				
BIOL 106/L^	Principles of Biology I/Lab	4					
CHEM 111/R/L	General Chemistry I/Recitation/Lab	5					
ECON 115	Economic Concepts	3					
LA-FWS	First-Year Writing Seminar	3					
LA-FSS	First Year Success Seminar	1					
JAN TERM							
COURSE		CREDITS					
SECOND SEMESTER							
COURSE		CREDITS					
BIOL 108/L	Principles of Biology II/Lab	4					
CHEM 113/R/L	General Chemistry II/Recitation/Lab	5					
ENVS 130	Introduction to Environmental Studies	3					
LA-FCS	First-Year Communication Seminar	3					
		31					

YEAR 2							
THIRD SEMESTER							
COURSE		CREDITS	PREREQUISITES				
DATA 210^	Statistical Analysis	4					
BIOL 225/L	Conservation Biology/Lab	3					
LA-EAH	Arts and Humanities	3					
LA-ESS	Social Sciences	3					
ELECTIVE/MINOR		3					
JAN TERM							
COURSE		CREDITS					
ELECTIVE/MINOR		3					
FOURTH SEMESTER							
COURSE		CREDITS					
POSC 122	State and Local Politics	3					
LA-FCG	Cultural and Global Understanding	3					
ELECTIVE/MINOR		3					
ELECTIVE/MINOR		3					
		31					

4-Year Sample Schedule Cont.

YEAR 3			
FIFTH SEMESTER			
COURSE		CREDITS	PREREQUISITES
ENVS 401	Environmental Science	3	ENVS 130
POSC 225	Public Policy	3	POSC 121 or 122
LA-TCE	Creative Expression	3	
ELECTIVE/MINOR		3	
JAN TERM			
COURSE		CREDITS	
EXPERIENTIAL		3	
SIXTH SEMESTER			
COURSE		CREDITS	
POSC 325	Political Analysis	3	FYWS or ENG 111
LA-TFR	Faith, Reason, and Ethics	3	
ELECTIVE/MINOR		3	
ELECTIVE/MINOR		3	
EXPERIENTIAL		3	
		30	

YEAR 4			
SEVENTH SEMESTER			
COURSE		CREDITS	PREREQUISITES
INTD 425 [^]	Environmental Philosophy	3	1 course in PHIL; junior or senior standing
LA-TBI	Big Issues	3	
ELECTIVE/MINOR		3	
EXPERIENTIAL		3	
JAN TERM			
COURSE		CREDITS	
EXPERIENTIAL		3	
EIGHTH SEMESTER			
COURSE		CREDITS	
ENVS 475	Internship in Environmental Studies	3	
ELECTIVE/MINOR		3	
ELECTIVE/MINOR		3	
ELECTIVE/MINOR		3	
EXPERIENTIAL		3	
		30	
	TOTAL CREDITS	122	