

Environmental Studies, Minor

Director: Stefan Schnitzer, Ph.D.

The major and minor offer interdisciplinary studies on issues related to the environment. Students take core and elective courses that address the environment from a wide range of fields, including anthropology, biology and ecology, chemistry and physics, economics, history, political science, sociology, theology and ethics. The major is ideal for students who intend to pursue a career that focuses on the environment (e.g., environmental management, restoration, mitigation, consulting, policy, economics), or who intend to pursue graduate or professional school in environmental science, law, business, policy, economics, philosophy, theology or ethics.

The specific learning outcomes for graduates of the Environmental Studies major are to:

- understand the basic organization of ecosystems and their response to environmental factors
- quantitatively analyze scientific and economic data related to the environment
- have a fundamental understanding of the social, economic, political and historical components that influence the decision-making process with respect to the environment
- understand philosophical and ethical aspects of environmental issues
- gain practical experience working on environmental issues via internships
- understand and synthesize the study of the environment from the perspective of multiple disciplines

Environmental Studies Minor

The goal of the minor is to provide an overview of environmental studies, which includes the study of the ecology of natural ecosystems and the processes by which humans influence, exploit, evaluate, value, mitigate and restore their environment. Students learn to understand and address pressing environmental issues through an interdisciplinary approach. Students complete three required courses (9-10 credits) and four elective courses (12-13 credits) that cover subjects from the sciences, social sciences and humanities.

Code	Title	Hours
Required courses		
BIOL 1001	General Biology 1	3
BIOL 3400	Ecology	3
PHYS 1009 or CHEM 1080	Earth and Environmental Physics Chemistry in the World	3-4
Elective courses (choose one from each category, excluding those completed as required courses) and a fourth from any category		12-13
Category 1: Environmental Science		
BIOL 4401	Advanced Ecology	
BIOL 4402	Experimental Ecology and Field Biology	
BIOL 4403	Tropical Ecology in Panama	
BIOL 4410	Conservation Biology	
BIOL 4802	Experimental Microbiology	
CEEN 3510	Environmental Engineering	
CEEN 4515	Environmental Chemistry	
CEEN 4550	Water Resources Planning and Management	
CEEN 4715	Sustainable Engineering	
CHEM 1080 or PHYS 1009	Chemistry in the World Earth and Environmental Physics	
PHYS 1007	Survey of Meteorology	
Category 2: Anthropology/Sociology		
ANTH 2203	Human Geography	
ANTH 3153	Demography	
ANTH 4316	Culture Change and Development	
SOCI 3720	Environment and Society	
SOWJ 4700	Global Aid and Humanitarianism	
Category 3: Economics/Policy/Humanities		
ECON 4016	Environmental and Natural Resource Economics	
ECON 4047	Development Economics	

HIST 3800	Environmental History: Ecology and Society in the Modern World
PHIL 3350	Philosophy of the Environment
POSC 4216	Public Policy Analysis
POSC 4351	Environmental Politics and Policy
POSC 4661	The Political Economy of Development
THEO 4440	Foundations of Ecological Ethics

Total Credit Hours:

21-23

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