

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, B.A.

Objectives

The interdisciplinary Environmental Studies curriculum enables students to gain a broad foundation in the environment and human ecological relationships. Students examine these relationships and the natural environment from the perspectives of the humanities, social sciences, and environmental sciences, and apply these perspectives in an innovative capstone seminar.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students who successfully complete the Environmental Studies major should:

- Know-Understand
 - a. The basic science that frames and makes comprehensible current debates about environmental issues.
 - b. Various ways to assess and grasp the moral and ethical significance of environmental crises and the various possible responses to those crises.
 - c. The practical challenges (e.g., political, economic, etc.) associated with various possible responses to environmental crises.
 - d. The primary environmental issues confronting humans in the 21st Century (e.g., anthropogenic climate change, loss of biodiversity, resource consumption, etc.).
- Do-Be Able to
 - a. Apply diverse perspectives and ways of addressing environmental questions (e.g., philosophical, economic, scientific, political, theological, etc.), transcending traditional disciplinary boundaries in favor of a more holistic perspective.
 - b. Apply the knowledge they have learned in the course of their studies to real-world issues, bridging the supposed gap between theory and practice.
 - c. Write, speak, and think clearly about the issues studied in the major and minor.
- Value
 - a. The diverse perspectives and values (cultural, religious, economic, political, etc.) amongst the various stakeholders in environmental challenges.
 - b. The importance of good science in framing environmental questions.
 - c. The role of both (a) personal transformation (e.g., lifestyle choices, consumptive dispositions, etc.) and social transformation (e.g., community involvement, political action, addressing environmental justice and environmental racism, etc.) in any response to environmental challenges.

Major Requirements

The major consists of eleven (11) courses; most EVST majors will complete the required curriculum with 42 or 43 semester hours.

Code	Title	Semester Hours
Lower Division Requirements		
ENVS 101	Introduction to Environmental Science	3
EVST 1000	Introduction to Environmental Studies	4
EVST 1010	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	4
Subtotal		11
Upper Division Requirements		
EVST 3010	Environmental Policy	4
EVST 3020	Sustainable Cities	4
EVST 4001	Environmental Studies Capstone Seminar	4
Subtotal		12
Major Distribution Course Requirements ¹		
Select one of the following Humanities Distribution courses		4
EVST 3998	Special Studies	
HIST 1060	Modern Global Environmental History	
HIST 1900	Science, Nature, and Society	
HIST 3452	US Environmental History	
HIST 3820	Environment and Economy in China	
HIST 4411	The American West	
PHIL 3110	Environmental Ethics	
PHIL 3220	Environmental Philosophy	
PHIL 3998	Special Studies (taken as Environmental Virtue Ethics)	
THST 3780	World Religions and Ecology	
WGST 3200	Gender, Race, and Environmental Justice	
Select one of the following Social Science Distribution courses		1-4
ECON 3998	Special Studies (taken as Green Decision Making)	
ECON 4160	Environmental Economics	
EVST 1100	The Urban World	
	or URBN 1000The Urban World	
EVST 3100	Urban Planning	
	or URBN 304Urban Planning	
EVST 3110	Agriculture, Food, and Justice	
EVST 3998	Special Studies	
SOCL 3360	Environment and Society	
SOCL 3998	Special Studies (taken as Environmental Movements)	
SOCL 3998	Special Studies (taken as Environmental Inequality and Justice)	
URBN 3100	GIS Research	
URBN 3998	Special Studies (taken as Environmental Planning and Policy)	
Select one of the following Environmental Science Distribution courses ²		1-4
BIOL 311	Plant Interactions	
BIOL 316	Island Biology	
BIOL 321	Urban Ecology	
BIOL 322	Urban Ecology Lab	
BIOL 357	Comparative Animal Physiology	
BIOL 370	Plant Biotechnology	
BIOL 381	Baja Marine Ecology Laboratory	
BIOL 422	Marine Biology	

BIOL 460	Environmental Microbiology	
CHEM 250	Earth System Science	
CHEM 357	Environmental Chemistry: Atmosphere and Climate	
CHEM 358	Environmental Chemistry: Water, Soil, and Sediment	
CIVL 320	Introduction to Environmental Engineering	
CIVL 400	Fundamentals of Water and Wastewater Treatment	
ENVS 250	Earth System Science	
ENVS 263	Surfing and the Ocean Realm	
ENVS 276	Atmospheric Science	
ENVS 279	Principles of Environmental Sustainability	
ENVS 357	Environmental Chemistry: Atmosphere and Climate	
ENVS 358	Environmental Chemistry: Water, Soil, and Sediment	
SCEM 190	Exploring the Natural Sciences	
Select one Ethics and Justice Distribution course		1-4
EVST 3120	A Better World: Purpose and Place	
or URBN 3200	A Better World: Purpose and Place	
EVST 3998	Special Studies	
PHIL 3110	Environmental Ethics ³	
PHIL 3998	Special Studies (taken as Environmental Virtue Ethics) ³	
SOCL 3998	Special Studies (taken as Sustainability in East Asia)	
SOCL 3998	Special Studies (taken as Environmental Inequality and Justice)	
WGST 3200	Gender, Race, and Environmental Justice ³	
Subtotal		7-16
Electives		
Select one of the following: ⁴		4
INBA 4895	Global Sustainability: Challenges and Prospects in East Asia	
LBST 4900	Education and Global Issues	
any course listed in the four Distribution categories		
Subtotal		4
Total Semester Hours		34-43

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- No more than four (4) lower division courses may count for the major (including the three required lower division major courses)
- An appropriate lower or upper division course not listed for one of the Distributions may be counted for the major with approval of the Department Chair

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Some biology and environmental science courses have prerequisites beyond ENVS 101 Introduction to Environmental Science.

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PHIL 3110 Environmental Ethics and PHIL 3998 Special Studies and WGST 3200 Gender, Race, and Environmental Justice may only be counted for one of the distribution requirements.

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- No more than four (4) lower division courses may count for the major (including the three required lower division major courses)
- 1- and 2-semester-hour courses do not count toward the 11-course major requirement

Environmental Studies Major Four-Year Plan:

Course	Title	Semester Hours
First Year		
Fall		
EVST 1000	Introduction to Environmental Studies	4
FFYS 1000 or RHET 1000	First Year Seminar or Rhetorical Arts	4
University Core		3-4
Elective		3-4
Semester Hours		14-16
Spring		
ENVS 101	Introduction to Environmental Science	3
FFYS 1000 or RHET 1000	First Year Seminar or Rhetorical Arts	3-4
University Core		3-4
Elective		3-4
Semester Hours		12-15
Sophomore Year		
Fall		
Humanities EVST Requirement		4
EVST 1010 or URBN 1010	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems or Introduction to Geographical Information Systems	4
University Core		3-4
University Core		3-4
Semester Hours		14-16
Spring		
Social Science EVST Requirement		4
University Core		3-4
University Core		3-4
Elective		3-4
Semester Hours		13-16
Junior Year		
Fall		
Environmental Science EVST (plus lab if applicable)		3-4
URBN 3046	Sustainable Cities	4
University Core		3-4
Elective		3-4
Semester Hours		13-16
Senior Year		
Fall		
EVST Upper Division Elective		4
University Core		3-4
Elective		3-4
Elective		3-4
Semester Hours		13-16
Spring		
EVST 4001	Environmental Studies Capstone Seminar	4
Elective		3-4
Elective		3-4

Elective	3-4
Semester Hours	13-16
Minimum Semester Hours	92-111