

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

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The Environmental Studies Program offers several interdisciplinary courses for students interested in broadening their understanding of environmental issues. These courses are often team-taught by faculty from various areas of study.

Students wishing to major in an environmental program have three options: Environmental Science, Environmental Engineering (see Civil and Environmental Engineering), or Environmental Policy (see Policy Studies).

Students seeking advice regarding environmental programs may contact Dr. Isle, Dr. Harcombe, or the coordinator of the Center for the Study of Environment and Society.

Courses:

ENST 101 *The Sustainable Environment*

ENST 113 *Environmental Crisis Seminar*

ENST 301 *Introduction to the Environment*

ENST 302 *Environmental Issues—Rice into the Future*

ENST 400 *Independent Study*

See ENST in the Courses of Instruction section.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Environmental Science is an interdisciplinary program that addresses environmental issues in the context of what we know about earth, ecology, and society. In addition to its science core, the major also seeks to provide students with some appreciation of social, cultural, and policy dimensions of environmental issues, as well as exposure to the technologies of pollution control. The double major is designed to accommodate:

- Students wishing to obtain a solid preparation for later graduate study in environmental science or other careers as environmental professionals (e.g., environmental economics, or environmental law)
- Students pursuing other careers (e.g., historians, lawyers, mechanical engineers, chemists) who hope to contribute to solutions to one of the major global issues of the 21st Century.

Students may take environmental science *only as a second major*. The 67-semester-hour (minimum) double major in environmental science may be taken in conjunction with *any* stand-alone major offered in any school of the university.

The key components of the double major include:

- Foundation course work in mathematics, physics, chemistry, and biology
- A set of 5 undergraduate core courses, required of all double majors, that acquaint undergraduates with a range of environmental problems encountered by scientists, engineers, managers, and policy makers. Core courses stress the components of the global environment and their interactions.
- 24 semester hours of environmental electives from four categories (1) social sciences and economics, (2) humanities and architecture, (3) natural sciences, and (4) engineering. Students may petition to have electives, in addition to those currently listed, apply toward the double major.

Major tracking forms are available in the Center for the Study of Environment and Society (CSES) office for declared Environmental Science majors.

Specific Course Requirements for a Double Major (BA) in Environmental Science include:

General Prerequisites

CHEM 121 or 151 *General Chemistry with Laboratory*

CHEM 122 or 152 *General Chemistry with Laboratory*

MATH 101 or 111 *Single Variable Calculus I*

MATH 102 or 112 *Single Variable Calculus II*

PHYS 101 or 125 or 111 *Mechanics*

PHYS 102 or 126 or 112 *Electricity and Magnetism*

BIOS 201 *Introductory Biology*

BIOS 202 *Introductory Biology*

Core Courses

BIOS 325 *Ecology*

ESCI 221 *Earth System Evolution and Cycles*

One of the following two courses

CEVE 411 *Air Resource Management*

PHYS 443 *Atmospheric Science*

2 of the following 3 courses

CEVE 401 *Introduction to Environmental Chemistry*

CEVE 412 *Hydrology and Watershed Analysis*

ESci 451 *Analysis of Environmental Data*

Advanced Electives (24 hours; at least 6 semester hours from each category)

Category A—Social Sciences and Economics

CEVE 306 *Global Environmental Law and Sustainable Development*

CEVE 406 *Environmental Law*

ECON 480 *Environmental and Natural Resource Economics*

ENST 302/UNIV 303 *Environmental Issues: Rice into the Future*

POLI 317 *Congress*

POLI 331 *Environmental Politics and Policy*

POLI 332 *Urban Politics*

POLI 334 *Political Parties and Interest Groups*

SOCI 331 *Demography*

SOCI 367 *Environmental Sociology*

SOCI 411 *Social Change: Making Sense of Our Times*

Category B—Humanities and Architecture

ANTH 468/ESCI 468 *Climate Variability and Human Response*

ARCH 313 *Sustainable Architecture*

ARCH 351 *Social Issues and Architecture*

ENGL 367 *American Ecofeminism*

ENGL 378 *Literature and the Environment*

ENST 301/UNIV 300 *Introduction to the Environment: Environmental History and Literature*

Category C—Natural Sciences

BIOS 316 *Lab Module in Ecology*

BIOS 321 *Animal Behavior*

BIOS 322 *Global Ecosystem Dynamics*

BIOS 324 *Wetland Ecosystems*

BIOS 334 *Evolution*

CHEM 211 *Organic Chemistry*
CHEM 395 *Advanced Module in Green Chemistry*
ESCI 323 *Earth Structure and Deformation*
ESCI 326 *Environmental Geology*
ESCI 353 *Environmental Geochemistry*
ESCI 421 *Paleoceanography*
ESCI 430 *Trace Element and Isotope Geochemistry for Earth and Environmental Sciences*
ESCI 442 *Exploration Geophysics*
ESCI 454 *Geographic Information Science*
ESCI 468/ANTH 468 *Climate Variability and Human Response*

Category D—Engineering

CENG 503 *Chemical Engineering Process I: Air Pollution Control*
CEVE 201 *Introduction to Environmental Systems*

CEVE 401 *Introduction to Environmental Chemistry*
CEVE 403 *Principles of Environmental Engineering*
CEVE 411 *Air Resources Management*
CEVE 412 *Hydrology and Watershed Analysis*
CEVE 434 *Chemical Transport and Fate in the Environment*
CEVE 451 *Introduction to Transportation*
CEVE 470 *Basic Soil Mechanics*
CEVE 490 *Undergraduate Research in Environmental Engineering*
STAT 300 *Model Building*
STAT 305 *Introduction to Statistics for the Biosciences*
STAT 310 *Probability and Statistics*
STAT 339/PSYC 339 *Statistical Methods—Psychology*