Environmental Studies
Interdepartmental Undergraduate Program

Environmental Studies deals with the relationship and interactions between humans and the environment. Students in any college at ISU may elect to take a secondary major or minor in Environmental Studies. The curriculum is designed to give students an understanding of current and emerging environmental issues and an appreciation of different perspectives regarding these issues. Courses are provided for students pursuing careers related to the environment and for others who simply want to know more about environmental issues.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon graduation, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a broad understanding and appreciation for a range of environmental issues spanning natural and human systems
- Demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of different perspectives regarding environmental issues
- Demonstrate an understanding of approaches used in addressing environmental problems including data analysis and problem-solving

Secondary Major

The Environmental Studies secondary major is taken in addition to a first major and provides the breadth of preparation and integrated perspective necessary to understand environmental issues. Students seeking a major in Environmental Studies complete 24 credits of ENV S coursework including:

At least one general survey course chosen from:
- ENV S 101 Environmental Geology: Earth in Crisis
- ENV S 120 Introduction to Renewable Resources
- ENV S 173 Environmental Biology
- ENV S 201 Introduction to Environmental Issues

At least one integrative/issues course chosen from:
- ENV S 160 Water Resources of the World
- ENV S 204 Biodiversity
- ENV S 324 Energy and the Environment
- ENV S 342 World Food Issues: Past and Present
- ENV S 404 Global Change
- ENV S 424 Sustainable and Environmental Horticulture Systems
- ENV S 450 Issues in Sustainable Agriculture

At least two human/societal perspectives courses chosen from:
- ENV S 293 Environmental Planning
- ENV S 320 Ecofeminism
- ENV S 334 Environmental Ethics
- ENV S 345 Population and Society
- ENV S 355 Literature and the Environment
- ENV S 363 U. S. Environmental History
- ENV S 380 Energy, Environmental and Resource Economics
- ENV S 382 Environmental Sociology
- ENV S 383 Environmental Politics and Policies
- ENV S 384 Religion and Ecology
- ENV S 484 Sustainable Communities
- ENV S 491 Environmental Law and Planning

Beyond these three requirements, any Environmental Studies course and up to six credits of approved environmental coursework outside of Environmental Studies may be applied toward the 24 credit total for the major. Regardless of their home college, Environmental Studies majors must complete at least 9 credits in natural sciences from the LAS General Education approved course list. Unless prohibited by program or college rules, courses used to fulfill requirements of the Environmental Studies major may also be used to satisfy general education and other requirements of departments and colleges. A combined average grade of C or higher is required in courses applied to the major.

Minor

Students seeking a minor in Environmental Studies complete 15 credits of approved Environmental Studies coursework including:

At least one general survey course chosen from:
- ENV S 101 Environmental Geology: Earth in Crisis
- ENV S 120 Introduction to Renewable Resources
- ENV S 173 Environmental Biology
- ENV S 201 Introduction to Environmental Issues

At least one integrative/issues course chosen from:
- ENV S 160 Water Resources of the World
- ENV S 204 Biodiversity
- ENV S 324 Energy and the Environment
- ENV S 342 World Food Issues: Past and Present
- ENV S 404 Global Change
- ENV S 424 Sustainable and Environmental Horticulture Systems
- ENV S 450 Issues in Sustainable Agriculture

At least two human/societal perspectives courses chosen from:
- ENV S 293 Environmental Planning
- ENV S 320 Ecofeminism
- ENV S 334 Environmental Ethics
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A combined average grade of C or higher is required in courses applied to the minor, and the minor must include at least 9 credits that are not used to meet any other department, college, or university requirement.