

INDIVIDUALIZED MAJOR

Environmental Studies

UConn students interested in a major focused on the environment can pursue their interest in two ways. First, students who wish to have a strong foundation in the sciences should consider the Environmental Science major. It offers concentrations in a number of different areas: environmental biology, environmental chemistry, environmental geography, environmental geoscience, marine science, soil science, natural resources, resource economics and environmental health. Students are encouraged to explore the Environmental Science website (<http://www.enviroscience.uconn.edu/>) to learn more about this major and to consider the many relevant courses that are taught in the departments participating in this interdisciplinary program.

The Individualized Major Program is another option. This may be especially appropriate for students with strong interests in the social sciences and humanities. It may also be appropriate for students pursuing a B.S. but whose interests cannot be fully met through environmental science. Some recent environmental studies IMJRs include:

Environmental Writing
International Environmental Policy
Environmental Biochemistry

Energy, Environment and Society
Environmental Policy and Legal Studies
Climate Change and the World's Oceans

REQUIRED COURSES

The individualized major consists of at least 36 credits at the 200-level (from 2008: 2000-level or higher); at least 18 credits must be offered by the College which will be granting your degree.

Research Methods

You must include a research methods or research course to satisfy part of your information literacy competency requirement. This methods course should be offered by one of the departments represented in your plan of study.

Capstone

Every individualized major must satisfy a capstone requirement. Therefore, your plan of study must include INTD 295W (the Individualized Major Capstone course), INTD 296W (a senior thesis), or an acceptable alternative.

Writing

Beside the capstone, you must have one other "W" or writing-intensive course in your plan of study.

Experiential Learning

Study abroad, internships, and/or research are strongly recommended.

RECOMMENDED COURSE PREREQUISITES

Many of the courses relevant to an environmental studies major will have prerequisites. This is especially true of courses in the sciences (for example, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Marine Sciences, Geology, Allied Health) and in Economics and Agriculture and Resource Economics. Basic courses in biology, physics, chemistry, geology and economics are likely to be necessary before students can enroll in upper-level courses in those fields.

RELEVANT COURSES

PLEASE NOTE: Only select courses in the sciences have been included; for other relevant science courses, please consult the Environmental Science website. The list below focuses mostly on the social sciences & humanities.

ARE

234 Environmental and Resource Policy
235 Environmental and Resource Economics
238 Valuing the Environment
257 Benefit Cost Analysis & Resource Management
See also other ARE courses focused on marine resources and coastal management.

AH

221 Environment, Genetics and Cancer
226 Environmental Health

ANTH

236 Human Behavioral Ecology
261 Medical Ecology
282 People and Conservation of Nature
292 Ecological Anthropology Seminar

EEB

208 Introduction to Conservation Biology
244 Introduction to Ecology
293WC Methods of Ecology
These courses can be regarded as basic; EEB offers many other relevant courses.

ECON

207 Beyond Self-Interest
233 Economics of the Oceans
259 Urban and Regional Economies
268 Economics of the Law (including environmental law)

ENGL

239 American Nature Writing

GEOG

205 Intro to Physical Geography
215 Climate and Weather
230 Fluvial Geomorphology
231 Location Analysis
232 Principles & Applications of Physical Geography
236 Human Modifications of Natural Environments
237 Environmental Planning and Management
240C Cartography Techniques
242Q Geographic Data Analysis
246 Introduction to Geographic Info Systems
248 Applications of Geographic Info Systems
252 The American Landscape
285 Advanced Physical Geography
286(W) Environmental Evaluation and Assessment
287 Environmental Restoration

294/295 Internship in Geography

Students interested in interactions between humans and the built environment will also find many relevant courses on urban geography, population geography, economic geography.

GEOL

251 Earth Surface Processes

HIST

206 History of Science

MARN

200 The Hydrosphere

NRME

Courses in this department focus on the management and conservation of natural resource ecosystems. This includes courses on forestry, wildlife, fisheries, soil and water –including wetlands-- as well as the following courses:

210 Air Pollution
239W Natural Resources Planning & Management
240 Environmental Law
241 Meteorology
287 Field Study Internship

PHIL

216 Environmental Ethics

POLS

276 The Policy-making Process
Students focusing on national and international environmental policy will find many relevant courses in Political Science.

PP

Students focusing on environmental policy will find relevant courses in Public Policy.

PSYC

248 Environmental Psychology

SCI

240 Nature of Scientific Thought

SOCI

259 Energy, Environment and Society
Courses on urbanization, class, ethnicity, gender, and the developing world may also be relevant.