

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Contact: Jerry Smosky, Ph.D.

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PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES MINOR

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES MAJOR PROGRAM

MCLA faculty from academic departments in the Sciences, Social Sciences, and Humanities provide an interdisciplinary four-year program leading to a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies. The program provides students with both a broad understanding of environmental issues and specific skills in particular professions. The program consists of foundation courses and many field-based research and training experiences, which help students learn teamwork, networking, and shared problem solving. Students also concentrate their studies in particular academic areas to gain a deeper understanding of environmental issues. Students graduating with a degree in Environmental Studies will be able to:

- use classical skills such as critical thinking, research, speaking, and writing as they apply to contemporary environmental issues
- use particular technologies necessary for modern professionals in the sciences, social sciences, and humanities
- quickly assess environmental problems and work effectively in a team to suggest realistic solutions
- enter either the professional world or graduate school with broad understanding, specific skills and significant experience in environmental studies.

Foundation Courses

BIOL 150	Foundations of Biology	4 cr
BIOL 235	Botany	4 cr
	or BIOL 245 Zoology	
CHEM 150	Introduction to Chemistry I	4 cr
CHEM 152	Introduction to Chemistry II	4 cr
ENVI 101	Introduction to Environmental Studies	4 cr
ENVI 220	Environmental Economics	3 cr
GEOG 151	Introduction to Physical Geography	4 cr
GEOG 152	Introduction to Physical Geology	<u>3-4 cr</u>
	or GEOG 270 Weather and Climate	

TOTAL FOUNDATION COURSES 30-31

Requirements

Foundation Courses		30-31 cr
ENVI 210	Environmental Law	3 cr
ENVI 310	Political and Environmental Policy	3 cr
ENVI 320	Methods in Environmental Research	4 cr
ENVI 401	Independent Research	3 cr
	or ENVI 540 Internship	

Choose two courses from each of the following categories:

Biology		6-8 cr
BIOL 225	Biodiversity	
BIOL 320	Microbiology	
BIOL 324	Marine Biology	
BIOL 345	Vertebrate Natural History	
BIOL 371	Forest Environment	
BIOL 460	Ecology	

Physical Science		6-8 cr
CCST 230	Energy and the Environment	
GEOG 245	Natural Hazards	
GEOG 300	Topics in Physical Geography	
GEOG 360	Environmental Geology	
GEOG 370	River Systems	
GEOG 380	Aerial Photography & Remote Sensing	

Society		<u>6 cr</u>
ART 311	Art History and American Landscapes	
CCHH 224	The Nuclear Age	
ENGL 374	Literature and the Environment	
PSYC 320	Ergonomics and the Environment	
PSYC 325	Environmental Psychology	
SOCI 322	Population	
GEOG 135	Travel and Tourism	

TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES MAJOR REQUIREMENTS 61-66

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Requirements

ENVI 101	Introduction to Environmental Studies	4 cr
BIOL 150	Foundations of Biology	4 cr
	or CHEM 150 Introduction to Chemistry I	
	or GEOG 151 Introduction to Physical Geography	
	or GEOG 152 Introduction to Physical Geology	
ENVI 210	Environmental Law	3 cr
ENVI 310	Politics and Environmental Policy	3 cr
ENVI 320	Methods in Environmental Research	4 cr

Choose one course from either of the following categories: 3-4 cr

Biology

BIOL 225	Biodiversity
BIOL 320	Microbiology
BIOL 324	Marine Biology
BIOL 345	Vertebrate Natural History
BIOL 371	Forest Environment
BIOL 460	Ecology

Physical Science

CCST 230	Energy and the Environment
GEOG 245	Natural Hazards
GEOG 300	Topics in Physical Geography
GEOG 360	Environmental Geology
GEOG 370	River Systems
GEOG 380	Aerial Photography & Remote Sensing

Society

ART 311	Art History and American Landscapes
CCHH 224	The Nuclear Age
ENGL 374	Literature and the Environment
PSYC 320	Ergonomics and the Environment
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TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES MINOR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS 21-22 cr

COURSE LISTINGS

ENVI 101 Introduction to Environmental Studies 4 cr
 Introduces contemporary problems resulting from human activity in the natural environment, emphasizing the theme of human ecology with interconnections in nature, energy, biodiversity, land use, air pollution and climate change, water supply and pollution, and solid and hazardous waste. The course includes field trips, research, and reporting. Students develop broad awareness as they learn teamwork and design problem solving strategies. Required laboratory.
Prerequisite: None

ENVI 210 Environmental Law 3 cr
 Studies the nature and development of United States environmental law, within its historical social, industrial, and political context, through an examination of related cases, statutory, and regulatory law. International comparisons will be made with federal law, and Massachusetts law will be compared with that of other states.
Prerequisite: Sophomore status

ENVI 220 Environmental Economics (Also listed as ECON 281) 3 cr
 Introduces students to the economic analysis of the conflict between our lifestyle of unlimited wants and the scarce resources of our biological environment. Examines economic theory and applications to explaining the dynamics of conflict. Exposes students to an economic approach to solving environmental problems created by energy generation, mining, maritime and logging industries, tourism, land development, industrial by-products, disposal, and related issues.
Prerequisite: ECON 141 or ENVI 101

ENVI 250 Special Topics in Environmental Studies 3 cr
 Focuses attention on a special environmental topic or issue at an introductory level of investigation.
Prerequisite: Sophomore status or permission of instructor

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ENVI 260-290 Green Living Seminars and Workshops

1 cr

Focuses the attention of students and environmental professionals on specific problems or issues for a concentrated period of time. These one-credit interdisciplinary experiential learning activities may involve weekend work at an organic farm, short-term placement in an environmental industry, or a retreat at a mountain lodge. Content identified by subtitle.

Prerequisite: None

ENVI 310 Politics and Environmental Policy

3 cr

Focuses on political science and government in national, regional, and international organizations throughout the world.

Prerequisite: Junior/senior status

ENVI 320 Methods in Environmental Research

4 cr

Investigates the methods used by environmental researchers to formulate research problems, collect and analyze data, and present results professionally; examines sampling techniques, field procedures, and limitations of equipment and research design. Required laboratory.

Prerequisite: ENVI 101, Tier I Math, and junior status

ENVI 330 Ecotourism

3 cr

Inspires students from many different disciplines to explore issues of sustainability through low-impact tourism development. Students will explore the exploding market in ecotourism based on first-hand accounts from ecotourism hotspots throughout the world. Students will learn about major issues and options facing tourism professionals, governments, and local communities.

Prerequisite: None

ENVI 350 Advanced Special Topics in Environmental Studies

3 cr

Focuses attention on a special environmental topic or issue at an advanced level of study.

Prerequisite: Junior status or permission of instructor

ENVI 401 Independent Research

1-3 cr

For Environmental Studies majors who desire to conduct research on a specific topic in Environmental Studies. The research will be under the supervision and direction of the instructor and will require a scholarly report.

Prerequisite: Department approval

ENVI 500 Environmental Studies Independent Study

1-3 cr

Open to junior and seniors who wish to study a topic in depth. Written reports and frequent conferences with the advisor are required.

Prerequisite: Junior/senior status; department approval

ENVI 540 Environmental Studies Internship

3-15 cr

Offers the Environmental Studies major an opportunity to practice in an appropriate professional situation. The student will work with a faculty sponsor and an off-campus supervisor in gaining experience significant to the major.

Prerequisite: Junior/senior status; department approval