

ENVIRONMENT, SOCIETY, AND CULTURE, MINOR

Liberal Arts (Code 489-401)

Advisors: J. Boulter (Public Health and Environmental Studies), J. Phillips (Chemistry and Biochemistry), C. Pierce (Public Health and Environmental Studies).

The Environment, Society, and Culture minor enables students to apply interdisciplinary approaches to investigate the human and ecological dimensions of environmental issues, including climate change, environmental justice, pollution, and sustainable food systems. The minor provides the opportunity to integrate courses from a variety of disciplines, including economics, environmental science, ethics, gender studies, geography, history, policy, public health, and sociology. Concepts and tools from these disciplines empower students to address environmental challenges at local-to-global scales. The minor is open to all students and is designed to be flexible so that students can tailor their courses to meet their particular needs and interests.

In addition, students gain real world research skills and apply principles of environmental justice, civic engagement, sustainability, and strategic policy development to learn about the underlying drivers of critical challenges such as climate change, air and water pollution, biodiversity loss, urbanization, and infectious disease outbreaks. Students in the minor examine social and environmental conflicts and the policies and strategies to address these conflicts. The Environment, Society, and Culture minor challenges students to think critically and holistically to understand the social and environmental dynamics of environmental concerns.

Code	Title	Credits
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Minimum of 24 credits, with at least 12 credits from courses at the 300-level or above, including:

Select at least one gateway course from the following:

BIOL 180	Environmental Biology and Conservation	
CHEM 127	Chemistry and Climate	
ENPH 110	Introduction to Environmental Health	
ENV 101	Sustainability Basics and Beyond	
GEOG 178	Planet Earth: Conservation of the Environment	
PH 115	Global Health	

Select at least three of the following from the "Socio-cultural Perspectives" category:

CJ 318	Topics in Communication and Social Advocacy (when offered as Environmental Communications)	
ECON 268	Environmental Economics	
ENV 310	Sustainable Cities	
ENV 330	Waste & Society: Energy, Food, and Efficiency	
ENV/GEOG 377	U.S. Environmental and Sustainability Policy	
GEOG 354	Sustainable Placemaking and Community	
GEOG 369	Geography of Food	

GEOG/ENV 378	International Environmental Problems and Policy
HIST/ENV 346	American Environmental History
PHIL 320	Environmental Ethics
SOC 301	Environmental Sociology
SOC 317	Sociology of Food and Agriculture

Natural Science Focus Area: A two-course sequence in a natural science chosen from the following options:

BIOL 328	Conservation Biology ¹
CHEM 115 & CHEM 304	Chemical Principles and Environmental Chemistry ²
GEOG 104 & GEOG 304	Planet Earth: The Physical Environment and Introduction to Geomorphology
or GEOG 340	Climatology
or GEOG 361	Environmental Hazards
GEOG 115 & GEOG 301	Environmental Geology and Earth Resources and Sustainability
or GEOG 308	Water Resources

Select additional courses from those listed above or from the options below to reach a total of 24 credits:

AIS/HIST 240	American Indian History
AIS 343	Contemporary American Indian Communities
BIOL 329	Biological Field Experiences and Service-Learning Capstone
ENPH 150	Disease Detectives: Epidemics and Data
ENPH 422	Radiation, Air Pollution and Health
ENPH 441	Water and Wastewater
ENPH 445	Hazardous and Solid Waste Management
GEOG 270	Introduction to Urban and Regional Planning
GEOG/AIS 322	Native Geographies
GEOG 365	Tourism Geographies
GEOG 368	Geography Field Seminar
HIST 348	History of Public Health in the United States
PH 450	Epidemiology
SOC 310	Principles of Demography
SOC 314	Social Class and Inequality

¹ Must take either GEOG 178 or BIOL 180 as the gateway course as a prerequisite to BIOL 328.

² CHEM 105, CHEM 106, and CHEM 109 may be used in lieu of CHEM 115 but only six credits may be counted toward the minor from these courses.

Note 1: Credits from other courses may also be applied as electives, pending advisor and college approval, when they focus specifically on environmental topics. This includes special topics, directed studies, independent study, and/or internships. Applicable environmental courses offered through the Honors program, International Study Abroad or National Student Exchange may also be applied with consent of an advisor.

Note 2: A minimum of 48 unique credits must be earned between the student's major and this minor for purposes of meeting graduation requirements for first and second degree programs.

Program Learning Outcomes

Students completing this program will be expected to meet the following learning outcomes:

- Examine the human impacts on environmental systems using scientific inquiry.
- Describe political, economic, and social dimensions of environmental problems.
- Recognize the spiritual and philosophical interconnections between humans and the environment.
- Integrate scientific, socioeconomic, and ethical perspectives to address environmental issues.