

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES: GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS, BA

The Environmental Studies major provides graduates with the necessary skills to contribute to society and effectively work on challenging problems that face humanity. Students acquire knowledge in environmental economics, environmental health, sustainability, renewable resources, and environmental management. In addition, they have an in-depth understanding of the human-environment interconnection, knowledge of international and domestic environmental issues, and are well-versed in environmental policies and how these policies are set and changed.

Students in the Global Environmental Systems concentration will focus their coursework on understanding global environmental systems.

The minimum total course units (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/credits-needed-major/>) for graduation in this major is 35. Double majors may entail more course units.

This concentration is for students who have a background in either the Natural or the Social Sciences.

For more information: <http://www.sas.upenn.edu/earth/environmental-studies/global-environmental-systems-concentration> (<http://www.sas.upenn.edu/earth/environmental-studies/global-environmental-systems-concentration/>)

For information about the General Education requirements, please visit the College of Arts & Sciences Curriculum (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/curriculum/>) page.

Code	Title	Course Units
College General Education Requirements and Free Electives		
Foundational Approaches + Sectors ¹ + Free Electives		20
Major Requirements		
<i>Core Requirements</i>		
ENVS 1000	Introduction to Environmental Science	1
Select one of the following:		1
EESC 2300	Global Climate Change	
EESC 1000	Earth Systems Science	
EESC 1060	Natural Disturbances and Disasters	
EESC 1050	Earth and Life Through Time	
EESC 1030	Oceanography	
Select 1 course unit of Data Analysis & Statistics		1
Select 1 course unit of Economics & Policy		1
ENVS 3100	Environmental Case Studies	1
	or ENVS 3991 Topics in Environmental Studies	
Select 1 course unit of Geographical or Environmental Modeling		1
ENVS 4997	Senior Thesis (Semester I)	1
ENVS 4997	Senior Thesis (Semester II)	1
<i>Global Environmental Systems</i>		
Select 1 course unit of Earth Systems		1

Select 1 course unit of Biotic History	1
Select 1 course unit of Geochemical Dynamics	1
Select 1 course unit of Global Politics & International Relations	1
Select 1 course unit of International Environmental Issues	1
Select 2 course units of 4000 or 5000 level Concentration Electives	2
<i>Curriculum-Related Practical Experience</i>	
Field course or equivalent experience	
Total Course Units	35

¹ You may count no more than one course toward both a Major and a Sector requirement. For Exceptions, check the Policy Statement (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/sector-policy/>).

Honors

Applicants must have a 3.25 GPA in the major and complete Senior Thesis with a B+ or above.

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2024 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.