The Academic Minor

Many departments have designed academic minors for the convenience of undergraduate students. A minor is a structured group of courses that leads to considerable knowledge and understanding of a subject, although with less depth than a major. Some employers consider minors desirable, and the corresponding major requirements at the University may stipulate a minor. Some students choose to complement their major program with a minor in a related field or even in an entirely different field of interest. Students interested in pursuing an academic minor should contact their college dean’s office and the department responsible for the minor program for guidance and advising.

Please note that undergraduate students can only complete a minor in addition to and as a complement to a major. The University does not award stand-alone minors.

Minor in Environmental and Sustainability Studies

Environmental considerations permeate almost every facet of modern life, and concern for “the environment” is practically universal as we approach the twenty-first century. The minor in Environmental and Sustainability Studies is designed to provide students with the opportunity to become conversant in a range of environmental topics, whether as private citizens in their daily lives or as professional members of corporate, government, legal, medical, and educational circles.

The minor draws on topics and perspectives from the natural and physical sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities to underscore the interdisciplinary nature of environmental issues and problems. Students taking the minor are encouraged to integrate the program with their major study focus in order to gain a competitive advantage in grappling with environmental topics.

The minor in Environmental and Sustainability Studies requires 21 hours of course work including the following:

- ENS 201 Environmental and Sustainability Studies I: Humanities and Social Sciences .......................................................... 3
- ENS 202 Environmental and Sustainability Studies II Natural Science and Policy ................................................................. 3
- PHI 336 Environmental Ethics ................................................................ 3
- ENG 425 Environmental Writing ............................................................ 3
- plus three credit hours from each of the ENS Areas of Expertise: Economics, Environment, Society .................................................. 9

Economics

Environment

Society

Alternative elective courses may be approved by the Environmental and Sustainability Studies Program Director.

For further information, contact: Director Betsy Beymer-Farris, bbeymer-farris@uky.edu, 849 Patterson Office Tower 0027, (859) 257-5194.

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