
ENS

Environmental Studies

ENS 200 INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES. (3)

A broad-ranging multidisciplinary introduction to current environmental issues and problem solving presented through a series of case studies. Case studies incorporate contemporary environmental themes including industrialization, resource use, and pollution; changing land use patterns; global warming and deforestation; biodiversity; political regulation; economic resources; cultural attitudes toward nature. Each case study will present environmental issues as scientific problems with social, political, philosophical, and economic causes and consequences. Emphasis is placed on understanding and combining different approaches to environmental problems and on proposing public policy solutions.

ENS 201 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES I: HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES. (3)

This course will provide a foundation in the core ideas, theoretical concerns and practical approaches to environmental studies framed within the disciplines of the humanities and social sciences. Students will study human interactions with the environment, both natural and built, and inter-human relations conditioned by local and global environmental factors. Students will obtain a basic conceptual and historical understanding of the nature and value of their local, regional, and global environment.

ENS 202 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES II: NATURAL SCIENCE AND POLICY. (3)

This is an introduction to natural science and policy as they pertain to understanding environmental studies. The core ideas include understanding how the ecological theories of population dynamics, community structure, and ecosystems dynamics lay a scientific foundation to understanding the nature of current environmental issues and how they might be addressed individually and through governmental regulation.

ENS 300 SPECIAL TOPICS (Subtitle required). (1-4)

Special topics in environmental studies. This course permits the offering of special topics in order to take advantage of faculty specialties. Course topic must be approved by the Environmental Studies Program Director. Prereq: Variable, when topic is identified.

ENS 395 INDEPENDENT WORK. (1-4)

Under special conditions selected students may investigate specific environmental issues and problems. The instructor and the student will agree on a formal semester plan/learning contract, which will be filed with the Environmental Studies Program Director and will include weekly reports to the instructor. Prereq: Environmental Studies minor, 3.0 G.P.A., consent of instructor.

ENS 400 SENIOR SEMINAR (Subtitle required). (3)

This course will draw on your interdisciplinary understanding of environmental issues and your problem-solving capacities developed while fulfilling Environmental Studies Minor requirements. It is a participatory capstone seminar designed to utilize and test your critical ability for independent thinking organized around specific environmental issues. Independent library work and writing assignments will be required in order to prepare for weekly, interactive topical seminar meetings. Group projects will culminate in individual term papers/projects on different aspects of the environmental issues under discussion. Specific topics will vary. Prereq: ENS 200 and 12 hours of course work from approved Environmental Studies courses (or instructor's consent). This course is a Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement (GCCR) course in certain programs, and hence is not likely to be eligible for automatic transfer credit to UK.