

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (BA)

Department Website (<http://as.nyu.edu/environment/>)

NYSED: 31478 HEGIS: 0420.00 CIP: 26.1301

Program Description

The Department of Environmental Studies aims to provide students with the breadth of understanding and skills necessary for resolving environmental questions and creating a sustainable future on scales ranging from local to global. It does so through integrated, problem-oriented study and a broad range of courses across disciplines and schools. The department offers opportunities to develop interests in a number of areas, including environmental studies; environmental values, policy, and law; urban environmental problems; climate change; energy systems; environmental justice; and our complex relations with both domesticated and wild nature.

Major/Minor Declaration

Please review the major/minor requirements before submitting a declaration request. For questions about the Environmental Studies major or minor, please contact environmental.studies.advising@nyu.edu. CAS students can declare the Environmental Studies major or minor by visiting the department's website (<https://as.nyu.edu/departments/environment/undergraduate-program.html>) and filling out the form listed under the "Declaring a Major or Minor" section. Non-CAS students wishing to declare the Environmental Studies major or minor must do the following:

- Non-CAS students must review their eligibility for a major in Environmental Studies with their adviser. If approved, please request a secondary/non-primary major declaration form and email it to arb653@nyu.edu.
- Non-CAS students must declare the minor through the "Application for Cross-School Minor" form found on the "Academics" tab in Albert. The "host school" for the minor is CAS, and the "home school" is the school in which you are matriculated as a full-time student. The minor declaration request will then be processed by your home school.

Honors Program

Students who maintain a GPA over 3.65 (both in the major and overall) and complete the ENVST-UA 950 Honors Seminar in Environmental Studies (4 credits) are eligible for departmental honors. No formal application is required to enroll in the course as long as the GPA requirement is met, but it may only be taken in the spring semester of senior year—students should plan accordingly. The Honors Seminar cannot be taken in place of the required Environmental Studies Senior Seminar course. Students who enroll in the Honors Seminar will be expected to formulate their own research question and write a thesis to address it.

Admissions

New York University's Office of Undergraduate Admissions supports the application process for all undergraduate programs at NYU. For additional information about undergraduate admissions, including application

requirements, see How to Apply (<https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html>).

Program Requirements

The major in environmental studies requires nine 4-credit courses (36 credits) as outlined below.

Course	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
First-Year Seminar		4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing as Inquiry	4
Foreign Language ¹		16
Quantitative Reasoning		4
Physical Science		4
Life Science		4
Texts and Ideas		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
Expressive Culture		4
Major Requirements		
<i>Core Courses</i> ²		
ENVST-UA 100	Environmental Systems Science	4
ENVST-UA 101	Environment & Society	4
or SOCS-SHU 135	Environment and Society	
ENVST-UA 900	Environmental Studies Senior Seminar	4
<i>Methods of Inquiry</i>		
Select one of the following:		4
ENVST-UA 305	Introduction to Environmental Modeling	
ENVST-UA 310	Environmental Quantitative Methods	
ENVST-UA 320	Introduction to Conservation Science Analysis	
ENVST-UA 360	Fundamental Dynamics of Earth's Atmosphere and Climate	
ENVST-UA 372/BIOL-UA 64	Exploring Earth: Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis	
ENVST-UA 424	Environmental Qualitative Methods	
BIOL-UA 42	Biostatistics	
CORE-UA 105	Quantitative Reasoning: Elementary Statistics	
CORE-UA 107	Quantitative Reasoning: Prob, Stats & Decisn-Mkng	
PSYCH-UA 10	Statistics for The Behavioral Sciences	
SOC-UA 301	Research Methods	
UPADM-GP 111	Quantitative Analysis for Public Policy	
<i>Governance</i>		
Select one of the following:		4
ANST-UA 500	Animals and Public Policy	
ENVST-UA/ANST-UA 323	Introduction to Marine Ecology and Conservation	
ENVST-UA 422	Science in Environmental Policy	
ENVST-UA 423	History of United States Environmental Policy	
ENVST-UA 435	Environmental Governance	
ENVST-UA 444	Governing Disaster	
ECON-UA 353	Public Economics	
POL-UA 306	Public Policy	

POL-UA 315	Controversies in Public Policy: Logic and Evidence
POL-UA 341	Private Influence in Public Policy
POL-UA 720	Diplomacy & Negotiation
POL-UA 730	Internat'L Organization

Major Electives

Select four elective courses chosen in consultation with a departmental adviser. Please note that elective courses are not necessarily offered every year and may carry prerequisites. Some ENVST-UA courses are cross-listed and originate in other departments. Below is a partial list of acceptable electives in CAS as well as in other divisions of NYU; for a full list that includes courses in the other divisions of NYU (both undergraduate and graduate), contact the department.³

16

ANST-UA 400	Ethics and Animals
ANST-UA/ ENVST-UA 440	Food, Animals, & The Environment
ANST-UA 475/ ENVST-UA 675	Literature and the Environment
ENVST-UA 250	Topics in Environmental Science
ENVST-UA 300	Advanced Topics:
ENVST-UA 325/BIOL- UA 63	Fundamentals of Ecology
ENVST-UA 327	NY Underground
ENVST-UA 331	Food Production and Climate Change
ENVST-UA 346	Animal Behavior for Compassionate Conservation
ENVST-UA 370	Biogeochemistry of Global Change
ENVST-UA 385	Climate and Life
ENVST-UA 390	Urban Ecology
ENVST-UA 400	Ethics & The Environment
ENVST-UA 431	Urban Environmentalism
ENVST-UA 440	Food, Animals, & The Environment
ENVST-UA 450	Topics in Environmental Values & Society
ENVST-UA 465	Business and the Environment
ENVST-UA 470	Climate and Society
ENVST-UA 480	Environmental Justice & Inequality
ENVST-UA 630	Animals and Public Policy
ENVST-UA 700	Introduction to Environmental Humanities
ENVST-UA 800	Internship in Environmental Studies
ARTH-UA 672	Environmental Design: Issues & Methods
BIOL-UA 16	Ecological Field Methods
CORE-UA 203	Physical Science: Energy & The Environment
HIST-UA 594	History of Water
CORE-UA 311	Life Science: Lessons From The Biosphere
EHSC-GA 2033	Aerosol Science of Particulate Air Pollution
IDSEM- UG 1566	History of European Environmental Sciences
IDSEM- UG 1627	Green Design from Geddes to Gore
IDSEM- UG 1628	Think Big: Global Issues and Ecological Solutions
IDSEM- UG 1892	History of Environmental Sciences
IDSEM- UG 2004	NYC Coastlines: Past, Present, and Future

IDSEM-UG 2114	Environmental Racism and Environmental Injustice: Rights, Citizenship, and Activism	
IDSEM-UG 2123	Cultures of Energy and the End of Fossil Fuels	
OART-UT 573	The Great Auk: Performance and Advocacy in the Mass Extinction Event	
Other Elective Credits		44
Total Credits		128

¹ The foreign language requirement is satisfied upon successful completion through the Intermediate level of a language. This may be accomplished in fewer than 16 credits, but those credits must then be completed as elective credit.

² Please note that the Honors Seminar does not replace the required Senior Seminar. Both courses must be taken to graduate with honors.

³ ENVST-UA 800 Internship in Environmental Studies may count as one of the four electives.

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
Foreign Language I		4
Texts and Ideas		4
First-Year Seminar		4
Quantitative Reasoning		4
Credits		16
2nd Semester/Term		
Foreign Language II		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing as Inquiry	4
Expressive Culture		4
Credits		16
3rd Semester/Term		
ENVST-UA 100	Environmental Systems Science	4
Methods of Inquiry major requirement ¹		4
Foreign Language III		4
Physical Science		4
Credits		16
4th Semester/Term		
ENVST-UA 101	Environment & Society	4
Governance major requirement ¹		4
Foreign Language IV		4
Life Science		4
Credits		16
5th Semester/Term		
Major Elective (#1 of 4)		4
Other Elective Credits		4
Other Elective Credits		4
Other Elective Credits		4
Credits		16
6th Semester/Term		
Major Elective (#2 of 4)		4
Other Elective Credits		4
Other Elective Credits		4
Other Elective Credits		4
Credits		16
7th Semester/Term		
ENVST-UA 900	Environmental Studies Senior Seminar	4
Major Elective (#3 of 4)		4

Other Elective Credits	4
Other Elective Credits	4
Credits	16
8th Semester/Term	
Major Elective (#4 of 4)	4
Other Elective Credits	4
Other Elective Credits	4
Other Elective Credits	4
Credits	16
Total Credits	128

¹ Drawn from a list of specific courses in the program of study.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of program requirements, students are expected to have acquired:

1. The skills necessary for resolving environmental questions and creating a sustainable future on scales ranging from local to global.
2. The intellectual tools for critical thinking about the environment.
3. A general familiarity with main theoretical constructs relevant for thinking about the environment from scientific, humanistic, social, and integrative perspectives.
4. Demonstrated engagement and familiarity with primary texts in the field.
5. Proficiency in written and oral communication.
6. Familiarity with fundamental research skills, including organizing, analyzing, and displaying scientific data.

Policies

Program Policies

Policies Applying to the Major

1. A course cannot satisfy more than one requirement for the environmental studies major. Students must earn a C or better in all courses to satisfy major requirements. Pass/Fail courses cannot count toward the major.
2. Any transfer courses to be applied toward major requirements must be approved by the department and may not exceed one-half of the required coursework for the major or minor. A maximum of four transfer courses can be applied to the major.
3. Completion of the major in environmental studies satisfies the Societies and the Social Sciences component of the College Core Curriculum. However, completion of the minor does not satisfy this requirement. Environmental Quantitative Methods (ENVST-UA 310) fulfills the Quantitative Reasoning requirement in the Foundations of Scientific Inquiry component of the College Core Curriculum.
4. Many courses approved for the major in environmental studies are outside of the College of Arts and Science. CAS students may take up to 16 credits outside the College and apply them to their degree. To request additional non-CAS credits beyond the 16-credit limit, students must consult the College of Arts and Science Advising Center (25 West 4th Street, 5th floor; 212-998-8130; <http://cas.nyu.edu/academic-standards/petitions>).
5. Students may double count a maximum of two courses between two majors, as long as both departments approve.

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

College of Arts and Science Policies

A full list of relevant academic policies can be found on the CAS Academic Policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/arts-science/academic-policies/>).