

# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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) (<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
<b>General Education Requirements</b>		
First-Year Seminar		4
EXPOS-UA 1	Writing as Inquiry	4
Foreign Language <sup>1</sup>		16
Quantitative Reasoning		4
Physical Science		4
Life Science		4
Texts and Ideas		4
Cultures and Contexts		4
Expressive Culture		4
<b>Major Requirements</b>		
<i>Core Courses<sup>2</sup></i>		
ENVST-UA 100	Environmental Systems Science	4
ENVST-UA 101	Environment & Society or SOCS-SHU 135	4
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	



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

<sup>1</sup> 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/>).