

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Program Description

Many of the greatest challenges currently facing human society concern the strained relation between a resources-intensive global civilization and the ecological systems of the world on which it relies. Environmental Studies is an interdisciplinary field that has emerged in response to these challenges, bringing together natural science, social science, the humanities, and the professions to understand and solve complex environmental problems and conceptualize the workings of communities that are truly environmentally sustainable.

The Environmental Studies Department offers students formal academic programs through which they can engage with environmental issues effectively by integrating skills and knowledge from many different disciplines. The major in Environmental Studies consists of a core sequence of required interdisciplinary courses coupled to one of four concentrations, allowing each student to pursue the aspect of environmental studies of most interest to them. The concentration areas are:

- Environmental STEM;
- Global Environmental Policy;
- Nature, Culture, Arts; and
- Spirituality, Justice, Ethics.

The minor in Environmental Studies is a flexible program that offers students the opportunity to integrate their environmental interests with work in another major field through independent, hands-on projects as well as through regular coursework.

Study Abroad

Saint Mary's has a long history of providing quality international programs as an essential part of our educational mission—forming women leaders who will make a difference in the world. As this world becomes increasingly interdependent, the College offers an expanding range of semester, year, semester break, and summer study and service programs in a wide variety of countries, and encourages students to take advantage of them. Learn more about the various Study Abroad opportunities (<https://catalog.saintmarys.edu/undergraduate/academic-life/international-programs/>).

Programs

- Environmental STEM Concentration, Environmental Studies, Bachelor of Arts - ESES (<https://catalog.saintmarys.edu/undergraduate/programs/environmental-studies/environmental-stem-concentration-bachelor-arts/>)
- Environmental Studies, Bachelor of Arts - ENVS (<https://catalog.saintmarys.edu/undergraduate/programs/environmental-studies/environmental-studies-bachelor-arts/>)
- Environmental Studies, Minor - ENVS (<https://catalog.saintmarys.edu/undergraduate/programs/environmental-studies/environmental-studies-minor/>)
- Global Environmental Policy Concentration, Environmental Studies, Bachelor of Arts - ESGE (<https://catalog.saintmarys.edu/undergraduate/programs/environmental-studies/global-environmental-policy-concentration-bachelor-arts/>)
- Nature Culture Arts Concentration, Environmental Studies, Bachelor of Arts - ENSC (<https://catalog.saintmarys.edu/undergraduate/>)

[programs/environmental-studies/nature-culture-concentration-bachelor-arts/](https://catalog.saintmarys.edu/undergraduate/programs/environmental-studies/nature-culture-concentration-bachelor-arts/))

- Spirituality Justice Ethics Concentration, Environmental Studies, Bachelor of Arts - ESSJ (<https://catalog.saintmarys.edu/undergraduate/programs/environmental-studies/spirituality-justice-ethics-concentration-bachelor-arts/>)

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ENVS-Certified and Affiliated Faculty

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Student Learning Outcomes

A student *majoring* in Environmental Studies will:

- Understand and analyze the processes and principles of natural phenomena and the human actions underlying environmental challenges.
- Identify and analyze connections between the natural environment and social justice concerns due to the unequal impact of environmental challenges on groups, for example, as distinguished by genus, race, ethnicity, gender, class, culture, sexuality, or geography.
- Articulate the historical forces shaping cultural conceptions of nature.
- Understand the interplay between local and global scales of sustainability within natural and human systems.
- Integrate knowledge and skills from multiple disciplines to evaluate environmental challenges and potential solutions.
- Develop community, management, and leadership skills necessary for advocacy on environmental challenges.

A student *minoring* in Environmental Studies will:

- Understand and analyze the processes and principles of natural phenomena and the human actions underlying environmental challenges.
- Identify and analyze connections between the natural environment and social justice concerns due to the unequal impact of environmental challenges on groups, for example, as distinguished by genus, race, ethnicity, gender, class, culture, sexuality, or geography.
- Articulate the historical forces shaping cultural conceptions of nature.
- Understand the interplay between local and global scales of sustainability within natural and human systems.

Environmental Studies Courses

ENVS 101 Sustainable Living (1)

A practical course that offers an introduction to making sustainable life choices. Topics considered may include food, gardening, electronics, recycling, transportation, renewable energy, home energy efficiency, community-building, spirituality, and more.

ENVS 102 Outdoor Living (1)

Outdoor Living, a one-credit elective course, is an opportunity for all of us (including the instructors!) to expand our capabilities in outdoor activities, and to expand our capacity to integrate the outdoors into our daily lives. We will learn a variety of outdoor skills and experiment with a variety of ways to be outdoors, including both active and contemplative approaches. No matter what your skill or experience level with being outdoors, you should expect to expand your horizons in a safe and supportive environment in this class. There are three pillars to this course: # The Ten Essentials, which give us guidance on how to be safe outside. # The Leave No Trace Principles, which teach us how to respect the places we go and the plants, animals, soil, air, water, and people there. # The Outdoors Is For Everyone, which reminds us to be mindful of who has historically been able to be outdoors and who has been excluded from the outdoors, and which prompts us to take actions to make outdoor spaces a place for everyone. S/U grading

ENVS 111 FYS: The Sustainability Project (3)

Cities have been described as humankind's greatest invention. Most of the world's population lives in cities, with predictions for urban populations to more than double in size by 2050. This seminar addresses how cities can face the challenges of climate change, declining biodiversity, and social justice that accompany rapid urban growth. Through the study of best sustainability practices and a series of interactive projects, students develop solutions for cities culminating in the redesign of a real-life community in the South Bend area. Topics include affordable housing, transportation, fire and stormwater management, urban forests and open space, energy conservation, cultural identity, and environmental justice. Students are welcome to reflect on and employ their own experiences of the city and leave the course with the understanding and ability to influence sustainability in their own city.

ENVS 161 Introduction to Environmental Studies (3)

An interdisciplinary course on the systemic interaction of human beings with their environments. It identifies interests informing environmental decisions and introduces practices of environmental advocacy.

ENVS 171 Introduction to Environmental Science (3)

An interdisciplinary course that investigates the study of our environment from a scientific perspective. We will focus on principles of the nature of science, matter, energy, water, and life in terms of biology, chemistry, and geology.

ENVS 190 Special Topics (1-3)

The presentation of selected subjects of special relevance not included in regular departmental offerings. Prerequisites and attributes associated with major/minor concentrations established by the instructor and will vary by course topic. May be repeated with a different topic.

ENVS 203 Sustainability at Saint Mary's College and in the Holy Cross Charism (3)

This course will address sustainability in the context of the local academic community and its institutions. In conversation with the papal encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, *On Care for Our Common Home*, this course will provide students with interdisciplinary opportunities to explore the challenges of sustainability and develop collaborative strategies for making our common campus homes more sustainable. Students will be invited to examine the course materials in conversation with the mission of the Congregation of Holy Cross through immersion at each of the campuses and encounters with professionals whose work impacts sustainability. This course will also include a community-based / academic experiential learning component, in which Notre Dame and Holy Cross students will volunteer 2 hours per week and Saint Mary's students will volunteer 15 hours during the semester.

ENVS 213 Cultural Sust and Spirituality (3)

This course situates the learning within the field of cultural and spiritual sustainability and blends diverse concepts emerging from folklore, sociology, geology, and anthropology. To better understand this work, we will explore ways in which spirituality is embedded within a community's worldview and understand how recognition of these connections enhances sustainability efforts while promoting community engagement. We will consider Iceland and learn how her cultural and spiritual values work towards environmental solutions providing sustainable solutions through the harnessing of water, wind, and geothermal energy. Finally, as is with all Study Abroad experiences, we will go deeper in our understanding of the importance of learning beyond our borders as we interact with Icelanders and with other travelers.

ENVS 217 Environmental Policy (3)

This course introduces the processes by which policy is made at local, state, national, and international levels of government with attention to the special challenges of creating sound environmental policy. It examines the strengths and weaknesses of policies currently in place and prepares students to intervene constructively in the formation of environmental policy.

ENVS 232 The Shape of the City (3)

The course covers topics in the design and planning of the American metropolis – towns, cities, and suburbs. The fundamentals of urban design are explored at varied scales and within varied contexts of the built environment – from the individual building to the city block to the neighborhood to the community and larger region – in order to establish the basic principles of livable community design and planning. This course surveys the history of urban form and the socioeconomic, cultural, historical, and environmental forces that have shaped the city. Topics include public architecture and art, landscape architecture, open space and parks, multi-modal transportation, community health and safety, land use policy and regulations, real estate, and the impact of climate change. The process of urban design is explored including the role of multiple stakeholders - government, private sector, non-profit organizations, schools, neighborhoods, and the public. The neighborhood as human ecosystem is featured as a fundamental building block of cities and regions. Through the completion of a series of projects, students develop an understanding of urban design principles through engagement with a real-life neighborhood in the South Bend area. Sustainable design including connectivity, density, green infrastructure, and health receives special emphasis.

ENVS 235 Give Me Shelter (3)

This course surveys the design of human shelter, the house, and housing in history with particular focus on the influence of the environment on housing and, vice versa, the influence of housing on the environment. The house is explored from multiple perspectives – as an artifact of art and design, a home, human ecosystem, commodity, value statement, and a basic human right. Housing types, patterns, and designs throughout history and global geography are presented as are factors – climate, construction technology, materials, codes, socio-cultural, public policy, and economics - that shape housing. Various typologies of housing in North America will be examined from single-family dwelling to multifamily combinations. Special emphasis is placed on design and construction of housing for environmental sustainability. Through examination of case studies, field trips, and a house design project of their own, students are asked to reflect on their own experience of house and home and the changing nature of housing needs that come as one passes through life's generational stages. Students will learn how issues of race or ethnicity, age, class, family status, geography, and other characteristics affect availability of housing in urban America. Housing affordability and access is presented as an essential tenet of environmental sustainability.

ENVS 290 Special Topics (3)

The presentation of selected subjects of special relevance not included in regular departmental offerings. Prerequisites and attributes associated with major/minor concentrations established by the instructor and will vary by course topic. May be repeated with a different topic.

ENVS 315 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (3)

Visual representation of our world is a powerful tool for change. This course introduces students to Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as one such tool. GIS enables the user to integrate social and environmental data in a single map, yielding powerful graphics for analysis of the world's problems and potential solutions. GIS has become an important tool in a wide array of fields including public policy, environmental sciences, business, justice studies, humanities, public health, urban planning, and many others. Given its diverse applicability, this course is meant to provide a foundational understanding and capacity from which to begin developing fluency in applying spatial analysis techniques in your field of interest.

ENVS 321 Women, Leadership, and the Environment (3)

The course explores significant women who changed the way we design, plan, think about, and live in cities. Drawing upon the experience of women from a diverse set of socioeconomic, ethnic, professional, and personal backgrounds, this course features the unique contributions of each to shaping our cities through design and planning for environmental sustainability - from the individual building to the city block to the neighborhood to the community and larger region. Special emphasis is placed on the leadership qualities and competencies each woman possessed that led to their positive impact on the quality of life in our cities. Saint Mary's College alumnae who are leaders in design, environmental sustainability, and cities will also be featured. The course examines key leadership concepts and how successful women have navigated power and authority, applied knowledge and experience, and met challenges. The course validates the role of women leaders in design and the environment as essential for solving major challenges of climate change, environmental justice, and livable communities.

ENVS 331 Human Ecology and Spirituality (3)

An examination of the relationship of spirituality and ecology within several religious traditions. Particular attention is given to Christianity so that we may study at least one tradition in some depth. The course considers both how human spiritual experience is shaped by its context within particular ecosystems and how religious traditions shape humans' relation to the biosphere. Prerequisite: RLST 101. ENVS 161 or ENVS 171 highly recommended.

ENVS 333 Sustainable Food Systems (3)

Over the past 150 years, food systems have been transformed by developments in society, technology, science, and policy. At the same time that many of these changes have improved the human condition, they have also created new challenges. For instance, new technologies in farming equipment and synthetic fertilizers vastly increased the per acre output of farms, but also contributed to the collapse of rural communities and the eutrophication of water ways. We will examine the relationship between society, food and the environment with special attention to the intertwining forces of industrialization, urbanization, globalization, geopolitical conflict, and climate change.

ENVS 385 Interdisciplinary Environmental Research (3)

This course provides an introduction to a suite of important methods of analysis in environmental studies. Within a framework of interdisciplinary problem solving, students will learn to define questions for investigation, and they will gain experience using quantitative, qualitative, and textual research tools to address environmental issues. We will discuss the ethics and politics of research and strategies for using environmental research to support environmental advocacy and action. Prerequisite: ENVS 161, ENVS 171.

ENVS 386 Current Issues in Environmental Studies (1)

This reading seminar surveys recent articles in the scholarly and popular presses on significant current environmental issues. Weekly readings for discussion are selected by faculty and by students. Discussions will analyze the methods and the rhetoric used in the articles in addition to examining the implications of the issues addressed and how interdisciplinary problem solving could be applied to each issue. Prerequisite: ENVS 161, ENVS 171.

ENVS 390 Special Topics (1-3)

The presentation of selected subjects of special relevance not included in regular departmental offerings. Prerequisites and attributes associated with major/minor concentrations established by the instructor and will vary by course topic. May be repeated with a different topic.

ENVS 395 Environmental Studies Capstone Seminar (1)

This capstone experience allows students to develop projects centered on a particular environmental issue of interest to the group. Prerequisite: Junior standing, ENVS 161, ENVS 171, and an additional course approved for the ENVS minor (may be taken concurrently).

ENVS 399 Internship (1-3)**ENVS 490 Special Topics (1-3)**

The presentation of selected subjects of special relevance not included in regular departmental offerings. Prerequisites and attributes associated with major/minor concentrations established by the instructor and will vary by course topic. May be repeated with a different topic.

ENVS 495 Comprehensive Project Seminar (3)

A collaborative research seminar that provides structure for students' work on their comprehensive projects for Environmental Studies. Prerequisite: ENVS 385 and ENVS 386.

ENVS 497 Independent Study (1-3)

May be repeated.

ENVS 499 Internship (1-3)
May be repeated.

Four Year Plans for Environmental Studies Programs

The following are sample four-year pathways for the various concentrations in Environmental Studies

- Environmental Studies, Environmental STEM Concentration, Sample Four-Year Path for Applied Math Track (p. 4)
- Environmental Studies, Nature Culture Arts Concentration (p. 5)
- Environmental Studies, Global Environmental Policy Concentration (p. 6)
- Environmental Studies, Spirituality Justice Ethics Concentration (p. 6)

Environmental Studies, Environmental STEM Concentration, Sample Four-Year Path for Applied Math Track

The Environmental STEM Concentration in the Environmental Studies major is a large major program that provides students with a strong grounding in the natural sciences. Students majoring in Environmental STEM at Saint Mary's who are also majoring in Engineering at Notre Dame follow an Earth and Water science track in the Environmental STEM major. *Students pursuing a dual degree in Engineering and Environmental STEM should build their path by consulting directly with both programs, rather than relying on a sample four-year path.*) Other students majoring in Environmental STEM follow the Applied Math track, described here. This track gives students expertise in mathematical analysis of environmental problems. Like other programs in natural science and mathematics, many of its courses require a sequence of prerequisites for which careful planning is required.

All ENVS major concentrations share the same core. The core begins with three foundation courses, ENVS 161, ENVS 171, and ENVS 217. These courses can be taken in any order, as long as they are completed by the fall semester of the Junior year, as they are prerequisites for ENVS 385, which students majoring in Environmental Studies generally complete in the spring of the Junior year as the prerequisite for ENVS 495, the Comprehensive Project Seminar, which is taken in the fall of the Senior year.

The Environmental STEM concentration includes 7 courses in addition to the ENVS core: three distributional electives in environmental science & ethics and four area courses in Applied Math or Earth and Water Science. For the Applied Math Track, there are also eight required supporting courses in Chemistry, Physics, and Math. Because this is a highly sequenced, credit-heavy major, it is not a highly flexible program: including a semester-long study-abroad experience will require careful planning. *Please note that this is only a sample four-year path.*

Students should contact Dr. Cassie Majetic, Chair of Environmental Studies, for individualized advising in the major.

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
First Semester		
General Education Language I (3cr)		3
General Education FYS (3cr)		3
AVE 101	College in Practice	1

MATH 131	Calculus I ¹	4
CHEM 121	Principles of Chemistry I ²	4
Credits		15
Second Semester		
General Education Language II (3cr)		3
General Education W (4cr)		4
PHYS 121	General Physics I: Mechanics and Waves	4
CHEM 122	Principles of Chemistry II	4
MATH 132	Calculus II	4
First Year Cumulative Total: 32 credits completed		
Credits		19
Second Year		
First Semester		
ENVS 161	Introduction to Environmental Studies ³	3
ENVS 217	Environmental Policy ⁴	3
PHYS 122	General Physics II: Temperature, Electricity, and Light	4
MATH 231	Calculus III	4
General Education Course (3cr)		3
Credits		17
Second Semester		
ENVS 171	Introduction to Environmental Science	3
PHIL 256	Environmental Ethics	3
MATH 326	Linear Algebra and Differential Equations	4
MATH 345	Probability (offered spring semesters)	3
Soph Year Cumulative Total: 64 credits completed		
Credits		13
Third Year		
First Semester		
ENVS 386	Current Issues in Environmental Studies	1
MATH 335 (3 cr) or MATH 336 in jr. spring		3
BIO 316 or BIO 323	Conservation Biology or Ecology	4
MATH 346		Statistics (offered fall semesters)
General Education course (3cr)		3
Credits		14
Second Semester		
ENVS 385		Interdisciplinary Environmental Research
MATH 336 (3 cr) or MATH 335 in jr. fall		3
PHIL 256		Environmental Ethics
General Education course (3cr)		3
General Education course (3cr)		3
Jr Year Cumulative Total: 96 credits completed		
Credits		15
Fourth Year		
First Semester		
ENVS 495		Comprehensive Project Seminar
ENVS 321		Women, Leadership, and the Environment
Credits		6
Second Semester		
MATH 381		Mathematical Modeling
General Education Course (3cr)		3

Senior Year Cumulative Total: 128 credits completed

Credits	6
Total Credits	105

¹ MATH 131 fulfills the Sophia LO1 requirement in Mathematical Arts. Students who have begun calculus in high-school may qualify to take MATH 133 in place of MATH 131 and 132.

² CHEM 121 fulfills the Sophia LO1 Natural Science (lab) requirement and is a CTS

³ ENVS 161 fulfills the Sophia LO1 requirement in Historical Perspectives. It also fulfills Sophia LO3 requirements in Social Responsibility and Global Learning. This course is offered every semester.

⁴ ENVS 217 fulfills the Sophia LO1 Social Science I requirement. It also fulfills the Sophia LO3 requirement in Social Responsibility. This course is offered in fall semesters.

⁵ ENVS 171 fulfills the Sophia LO1 requirement in Natural Science, no lab. This course is offered in spring semesters.

Environmental Studies, Nature Culture Arts Concentration, Sample Four Year Plan

The Nature Culture Arts Concentration in the Environmental Studies major has significant flexibility.

All ENVS major concentrations share the same core. The core begins with three foundation courses, ENVS 161, ENVS 171, and ENVS 217. These courses can be taken in any order, as long as they are completed by the fall semester of the Junior year, as they are prerequisites for ENVS 385, which students majoring in Environmental Studies generally complete in the spring of the Junior year as the prerequisite for ENVS 495, the Comprehensive Project Seminar, which is taken in the fall of the Senior year.

The Nature Culture Arts Concentration includes 7 courses in addition to the ENVS core: two distributional electives in "Environment and Society" and STEM, four "Explorations" courses and a Theoretical Applications course. A wide range of courses fulfill these concentration requirements, and they do not need to be taken in a particular order. The slots for these courses in the table below are all listed as "NCA Concentration Course." This sample four-year path suggests generally taking one NCA concentration course per semester beginning in the Sophomore year, but the pace can be varied to accommodate study abroad or work in a second major. A semester-long study abroad program is highly compatible with the Nature Culture Arts concentration, but some advance planning is needed.

Please note that this is only a sample four-year path. Students should contact Dr. Cassie Majetic, Chair of Environmental Studies, for individualized advising in the major.

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
First Semester		
ENVS 161	Introduction to Environmental Studies ¹	3
AVE 101	College in Practice	1
General Education course FYS (3cr)		3
General Education course Language I (3cr)		3
General Education course (Possible W) (3-4cr)		3-4
Credits		13-14

Second Semester

ENVS 171	Introduction to Environmental Science ²	3
General Education course Language II (3cr)		3
General Education course (Possible W) (3-4cr)		3-4
General Education course (3cr)		3
First Year Cumulative Total: 32 credits completed		

Credits **12-13**

Second Year

First Semester

ENVS 217	Environmental Policy ³	3
NCA Concentration Course ⁴		3
General Education course (3cr)		3

Credits **9**

Second Semester

NCA Concentration Course		3
General Education course (3cr)		3
General Education course (3cr)		3
Soph Year Cumulative Total: 64 credits completed		

Credits **9**

Third Year

First Semester

ENVS 321	Women, Leadership, and the Environment	3
ENVS 386	Current Issues in Environmental Studies	1
NCA Concentration Course		3

Credits **7**

Second Semester

ENVS 385	Interdisciplinary Environmental Research	3
NCA Concentration Course		3
NCA Concentration Course		3

Jr Year Cumulative Total: 96 credits completed

Credits **9**

Fourth Year

First Semester

ENVS 495	Comprehensive Project Seminar	3
NCA Concentration Course		3

Credits **6**

Second Semester

NCA Concentration Course		3
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Senior Year Cumulative Total: 128 credits completed

Credits **3**

Total Credits **68-70**

¹ ENVS 161 fulfills the General Education course requirement in Interdisciplinary Thinking. This course is offered every semester.

² ENVS 171 fulfills the General Education course requirement in Data, Analysis, and Problem Solving: Natural Science. This course is offered in spring semesters.

³ ENVS 271 fulfills the General Education course in Data, Analysis, and Problem Solving: Social Science. This course is offered in spring semesters.

⁴ Some NCA Concentration courses fulfill other General Education course requirements.

Environmental Studies, Global Environmental Policy Concentration, Sample Four-Year Path

The Global Environmental Policy Concentration in the Environmental Studies major is very flexible during the first two years, but careful planning for advanced courses during the Junior and Senior years is important.

All ENVS major concentrations share the same core. The core begins with three foundation courses, ENVS 161, ENVS 171, and ENVS 217. These courses can be taken in any order, as long as they are completed by the fall semester of the Junior year, as they are prerequisites for ENVS 385, which students majoring in Environmental Studies generally complete in the spring of the Junior year as the prerequisite for ENVS 495, the Comprehensive Project Seminar, which is taken in the fall of the Senior year.

The Global Environmental Policy concentration includes 7 courses in addition to the ENVS core: two distributional electives in Arts/Humanities and STEM, 2 introductory courses (ECON 252, and a course in Society and Environment), and 3 advanced courses. (MATH 214 is also a required supporting course.) This sample four-year path suggests generally taking one or two concentration courses per semester beginning in the Sophomore year, but the pace can be varied to accommodate study abroad or work in a second major. A semester-long study abroad program is highly compatible with the Global Environmental Policy concentration, but some advance planning is needed.

Please note that this is only a sample four-year path. Students should contact Dr. Cassie Majetic, Chair of Environmental Studies, for individualized advising in the major.

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
First Semester		
ENVS 161	Introduction to Environmental Studies ¹	3
AVE 101	College in Practice	1
General Education course FYS (3cr)		3
General Education course Language I (3cr)		3
General Education course (Possible W) (3-4cr)		3-4
Credits		13-14
Second Semester		
ENVS 171	Introduction to Environmental Science ²	3
General Education course Language II (3cr)		3
General Education course (Possible W) (3-4cr)		3-4
General Education course (3cr)		3
First Year Cumulative Total: 32 credits completed		
Credits		12-13
Second Year		
First Semester		
ENVS 217	Environmental Policy ³	3
ECON 252 or MATH 214	Principles of Microeconomics (Concentration Intro Course or Society & Env Elective) or Introduction to Statistics	3
General Education course (3cr)		3
Credits		9

Second Semester

General Education course (3cr)		3
General Education course (3cr)		3
ECON 252 or MATH 114	Principles of Microeconomics (Concentration Intro Course or Society & Env Elective) or Introduction to Statistics	3
Soph Year Cumulative Total: 64 credits completed		
Credits		9

Third Year

First Semester

ENVS 321	Women, Leadership, and the Environment	3
ENVS 386	Current Issues in Environmental Studies	1
Concentration Advanced Course or Distributional Elective ⁵		3
Credits		7

Second Semester

ENVS 385	Interdisciplinary Environmental Research	3
Concentration Advanced Course or Distributional Elective		3
ECON 252 or MATH 114	Principles of Microeconomics (Concentration Intro Course or Society & Env Elective) or Introduction to Statistics	3
Jr Year Cumulative Total: 96 credits completed		
Credits		9

Fourth Year

First Semester

ENVS 495	Comprehensive Project Seminar	3
Concentration Advanced Course or Distributional Elective		3
Credits		6

Second Semester

Concentration Advanced Course or Distributional Elective		3
Concentration Advanced Course or Distributional Elective		3
Senior Year Cumulative Total: 128 credits completed		
Credits		6
Total Credits		71-73

¹ ENVS 161 fulfills the General Education course requirement in Interdisciplinary Thinking. This course is offered every semester.

² ENVS 171 fulfills the General Education course requirement in Interdisciplinary Thinking. This course is offered in spring semesters.

³ ENVS 217 fulfills the General Education course in Data, Analysis, and Problem Solving: Social Science. This course is offered in fall semesters.

⁴ It is usually necessary to complete a general education MATH prerequisite prior to enrolling in MATH 114.

⁵ It is usually necessary to complete a general education MATH prerequisite prior to enrolling in MATH 114.

Environmental Studies, Spirituality Justice Ethics Concentration, Sample Four-Year Path

The Spirituality Justice Ethics Concentration in the Environmental Studies major is very flexible during the first two years, but careful planning for advanced courses during the Junior and Senior years is important.

All ENVS major concentrations share the same core. This core begins with three foundation courses, ENVS 161, ENVS 171, and ENVS 217. These courses can be taken in any order, as long as they are completed by the fall semester of the Junior year, as they are prerequisites for ENVS 385, which students majoring in Environmental Studies generally complete in the spring of the Junior year as the prerequisite for ENVS 495, the Comprehensive Project Seminar, which is taken in the fall of the Senior year.

The Spirituality Justice Ethics concentration includes 7 courses in addition to the ENVS core: two distributional electives in Arts/Culture and STEM; 3 foundation courses in Spirituality (RLST 240 or 251), Justice (JUST 250, GWS 240, or PHIL 254), and Ethics (PHIL 256); and 2 advanced courses. This sample four-year path suggests generally taking one or two concentration courses per semester beginning in the Sophomore year, but the pace can be varied to accommodate study abroad or work in a second major. A semester-long study abroad program is highly compatible with the Spirituality Justice Ethics concentration, but some advance planning is needed.

Please note that this is only a sample four-year path. Students should contact Dr. Cassie Majetic, Chair of Environmental Studies, for individualized advising in the major.

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
First Semester		
ENVS 161	Introduction to Environmental Studies ¹	3
AVE 101	College in Practice	1
General Education course Language I (3cr)		3
General Education course FYS (3cr)		3
General Education course (Possible W) (3-4cr)		3-4
Credits		13-14
Second Semester		
ENVS 171	Introduction to Environmental Science ²	3
General Education course Language II (3cr)		3
General Education course (3cr)		3
General Education course (Possible W) (3-4cr)		3-4
First Year Cumulative Total: 32 credits completed		
Credits		12-13
Second Year		
First Semester		
ENVS 217	Environmental Policy ³	3
General Education course (3cr)		3
Concentration Foundation Course. ⁴		3
Credits		9
Second Semester		
Concentration Distributional Elective		3
Concentration Foundation Course		3
General Education course (3cr)		3
Soph Year Cumulative Total: 64 credits completed		
Credits		9
Third Year		
First Semester		
ENVS 321	Women, Leadership, and the Environment	3
ENVS 386	Current Issues in Environmental Studies	1

Concentration Foundation Course		3
Credits		7
Second Semester		
ENVS 385	Interdisciplinary Environmental Research	3
Concentration Advanced Course		3
Concentration Distributional Elective		3
Jr Year Cumulative Total: 96 credits completed		
Credits		9
Fourth Year		
First Semester		
ENVS 495	Comprehensive Project Seminar	3
Credits		3
Second Semester		
Concentration Advanced Course		3
Senior Year Cumulative Total: 128 credits completed		
Credits		3
Total Credits		65-67

¹ ENVS 161 fulfills the General Education course requirement in Interdisciplinary Thinking. This course is offered every semester.

² ENVS 171 fulfills the General Education course requirement in Data, Analysis, and Problem Solving: Natural Science. This course is offered in spring semesters.

³ ENVS 217 fulfills the General Education course in Data, Analysis, and Problem Solving: Social Science. This course is offered in fall semesters.

⁴ The spirituality foundation course (RLST 240 or 251) fulfills the General Education course RLST 2 requirement.