COMMUNITY, ENVIRONMENT, AND DEVELOPMENT, B.S.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Program Description

Community, Environment, and Development is a multidisciplinary program that brings together economics and sociology to help students understand and address issues related to economic and community development, the environment and natural resources, and international development, and the critical interactions between these, both locally and globally. The major emphasizes critical thinking, core knowledge, and skills required for professional success working on community-level issues. Foundation (Level I) courses introduce students to key concepts in economics and sociology, and examine how these disciplines contribute to the basic content knowledge encompassing community and economic development and environmental economics and sociology. Level II courses build on the Foundation courses by extending the content knowledge to address the interrelationship between environment and natural resources and community and economic development. Coursework in Methods, Quantification and Communication is also required, including methods and techniques such as Geographical Information Systems and Geographical Information Analysis, statistics and survey research methods. Finally, students select among four options:

1. Community and Economic Development,
2. Environmental Economics and Policy,
3. International Development,

Students specialize in an option that further allows them to develop skills and competencies matching their specific education and career goals. Around 40 percent of students completing the program continue on to graduate school or law school, while others choose employment after graduation.

You Might Like this Program If...

- You are passionate about domestic or international development, environmental quality, or sustainability
- You would like a problem-oriented, customizable major that blends together economics, sociology, and other disciplines to give you a wide skillset
- You want small classes where professors know your name, and that emphasize discussion
- You are a "people person" and want a career that betters people's lives
- You want a solid foundation for going to law school or graduate school