ENVTRO STUDIES, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description
The interdisciplinary minor in Environmental Studies gives students a broad-based introduction to the natural environment and human interactions with it. Students gain awareness and understanding of environmental issues from the perspectives of several disciplines in:

- relevant natural sciences (ecology, biology, geology, and/or environmental chemistry, for instance),
- the social sciences (environmental economics and/or public policy), and
- the arts and humanities (environmental history, ethics, and/or literature).

Core courses in environmental studies, emphasizing applied and experiential learning, serve to integrate and synthesize knowledge from the natural sciences, social sciences, and arts and humanities. The goal of the program is ‘ecological literacy.’ Students completing the minor gain sufficient awareness and understanding of environmental issues to put environmental problems in a variety of contexts and to apply pertinent skills and knowledge (from studies in both their major and the minor) in addressing those problems. The minor helps prepare students for employment in the private sector or with government agencies and environmental advocacy groups, or for postgraduate study in environmental science, public policy, the humanities, or law.

What is Environmental Studies?
Environmental Studies provides a broadly-based liberal arts background for the study of environmental issues, blending the principles of the natural sciences with the intellectual traditions of the humanities and the social sciences. Emphasis is placed on experiential learning, ecological literacy, and problem-solving with a goal towards purposeful action.

Program Requirements

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<th>Requirement</th>
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<td>Requirements for the Minor</td>
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Requirements for the Minor
A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10).

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
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<td>ENVST 100</td>
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<td>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</td>
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<td>ENVST 200</td>
<td>Research Methods in Environmental Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>or ENVST 400W Senior Seminar in Environmental Studies</td>
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Select 3 credits of the following:

- BIOL 110  Biology: Basic Concepts and Biodiversity
- BIOL 220W Biology: Populations and Communities
- CHEM 20   Environmental Chemistry
- CHEM 21   Environmental Chemistry Laboratory
- ECON 429  Public Finance and Fiscal Policy
- ENGL 180  Literature and the Natural World
- GEOSC 20  Planet Earth
- GEG 115   Landforms of the World
- HIST 453  American Environmental History
- PHIL 403  Environmental Ethics
- STAT 250  Introduction to Biostatistics

Supporting Courses and Related Areas
Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better
Select 9 credits (at least 6 credits at the 400-level) in consultation with an academic adviser, 3 credits in each area listed below:

a. Natural Sciences

- BIOL 240W Biology: Function and Development of Organisms
- BIOL 417 Invertebrate Zoology
- BIOL 427 Evolution
- BIOL 435 Ecology of Lakes and Streams
- BIOL 446 Physiological Ecology
- BIOL 450
- ENVST 497 Special Topics in Environmental Studies
- FOR 308 Forest Ecology
- FOR/WFS 430 Conservation Biology
- GEO 303 Introduction to Environmental Geology
- GEO 340 Geomorphology
- WFS 408 Mammalogy

b. Social Sciences

- ANTH 40 Biocultural Evolution
- ANTH 146 Indigenous North America
- ANTH 152 Hunters and Gatherers
- ANTH 456 Cultural Ecology
- ENVST 497 Special Topics in Environmental Studies
- GEG 423Y Historical Geography of North America
- GEG 340 Human Use of Environment
- PLSC 444 Government and the Economy
- PLSC 490 Policy Making and Evaluation
- STS 47 Wilderness, Technology, and Society

- ENGL 404 Mapping Identity, Difference, and Place
- ENGL 412 Advanced Fiction Writing
- ENGL 415 Advanced Nonfiction Writing
- ENGL 416 Science Writing
- ENGL 421 Advanced Expository Writing
- ENGL 430 The American Renaissance
- ENVST 497 Special Topics in Environmental Studies
- HIST/STS 151 Technology and Society in American History
- HIST/STS 428 The Darwinian Revolution

- ENGL 404 Mapping Identity, Difference, and Place
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- ENVST 497 Special Topics in Environmental Studies
- HIST/STS 151 Technology and Society in American History
- HIST/STS 428 The Darwinian Revolution
1. Other courses may be substituted with program approval.

2. When topic appropriate and with program approval:
   - ENGL 400
   - ENGL 401
   - ENGL 483
   - HIST 200
   - HIST 497

**Academic Advising**

The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/)

**Altoona**

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