

Major in Environmental Studies

Major In Environmental Studies for the Bachelor of Arts Degree

Environmental Studies is an applied major designed to give students knowledge of and the ability to develop solutions to environmental problems. Students can focus on one of two areas:

1. environmental policy and planning, or
2. environmental interpretation / education.

Students in option 1 investigate the causes, results, and solutions to environmental problems from a policy perspective. They study regulations influencing environmental protection and degradation; they also gain practical skills useful in the field.

Students in option 2 specialize in community interaction and will qualify for careers as naturalists with parks and other outdoor agencies and as environmental educators in schools and non-profit organizations.

The program culminates with an internship experience in which the student applies knowledge, gains practical experience; it often constitutes a first job in an environmental career. To earn a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies, students must complete 24 credit hours of core requirements and 18 credit hours of approved electives. Up to nine hours of credit from other relevant fields may be accepted toward the major, with advisor approval.

GES Environmental Studies B.A. Web Site (<https://www.neiu.edu/academics/college-of-arts-and-sciences/departments/geography-environmental-studies/environmental-studies-ba/>)

University Core Curriculum Requirements

General Education Distribution Area	Cr. Hrs.
Fine Arts (FA)* 2 courses, from at least two of the following areas of study: Art, CMT (Mass Media or Theatre), Music (includes Dance).	6
Humanities (HU)* 3 courses, from at least two of the following areas of study: CMT (Communication), English, Linguistics, Philosophy, Women's and Gender Studies, World Languages and Cultures, (Note: No more than two foreign language courses may be used to fulfill this requirement.)	9
Behavioral/Social Sciences (SB)* 3 courses, from at least two of the following areas of study: African & African American Studies, Anthropology, Computer Science, Economics, Geography & Environmental Studies, History, Justice Studies, Latino & Latin American Studies, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work	9
Natural Sciences (NS and NSL)** 3 courses, from at least two of the following areas of study; one course must have a laboratory component (NSL): Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Environmental Science, Physics (Note: If an FYE ANTH that counts as Natural Science is taken, only one Biology course may be used for Natural Science).	9

Engaged Learning Experiences

Students must complete, at Northeastern, three courses designated as Engaged Learning Experiences courses. One of the Engaged Learning Experiences courses must be at the 300-level, and one Engaged Learning Experiences course must be designated as "Boundary Crossing".

Discipline Specific (ELE-DS)

These courses have pre-requisites that are specific courses within a program of study. Discipline Specific courses give students a deeper understanding of how knowledge is created and applied in their field.

Boundary Crossing (ELE-X)

These are courses that cross disciplinary boundaries and/or cross boundaries through engagements outside the classroom or University allowing students to see how knowledge gained in one field might inform other fields or other aspects of society.

Math/Quantitative Reasoning (MA)

1 Math course, that has intermediate Algebra as prerequisite OR is a course listed on the General Education Distributive Learning List of Approved Courses. Any 3 hour college level math course, beyond Intermediate Algebra, meets this requirement.

* Majors in Fine Arts, Humanities or Social/Behavioral Sciences, may waive up to 6 credit hours of General Education requirements in the corresponding distribution area.

** Majors in Natural Sciences may waive up to 9 credit hours of General Education requirements in the Natural Sciences distribution area.

Students should also be aware of all other university requirements to obtain a degree - NEIU requirements (<http://catalog.neiu.edu/graduation-requirements/bachelors-degree/>)

Major in Environmental Studies requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
GES-150	Introduction To Environmental Studies	3
GES-205	Physical Geography	3
GES-218	Conservation Of Natural Resources	3
GES-250	Writing Intensive Program: Writing in GES	3
GES-374	Research Methods	3
GES-383	Internship In Geography And Environmental Studies	3
Select two of the following:		6
GES-307	Environmental Education	
GES-309	Principles And Methods Of Environmental Interpretation	
GES-319	Environmental And Natural Resources Policy	
GES-359	Environmental Planning	
SUBTOTAL		24
Approved Electives		18
Total Hours		42

This sample curricular map is provided to guide you in the planning of your progression for this major. This guide should not replace regular consultations with your program advisor. For specific recommendations of courses not identified, please consult your program advisor.

First Year

Term	Code	Title	Hours
Term 1	GES-150	Introduction To Environmental Studies	3
	General Education Course		3
	General Education Course		3
	General Education Course		3
	General Education Course (MATH)		3
Term Hours			15
Term 2	GES-109B	First Year Experience: Humans And The Chicago Environment	3
	ENGL-101	Writing I	3
	General Education Course		3
	General Education Course		3
	General Education Course		3
Term Hours			15

Second Year

Term 1		
GES-218	Conservation Of Natural Resources	3
General Education Course		3
General Education Course		3
General Education Course		3
Elective/Minor		3
Term Hours		15

Term 2		
GES-205	Physical Geography	3
General Education Course		3
General Education Course		3
Minor/Elective		3
Minor/Elective		3
Term Hours		15

Third Year

Term 1		
GES-250	Writing Intensive Program: Writing in GES	3
Env. Studies Elective		3
Env. Studies Short List		3
Minor/Elective		3
Minor/Elective		3
Term Hours		15

Term 2		
GES-374	Research Methods	3
Env. Studies Elective		3
Env. Studies Short List		3
Minor/Elective		3
Minor/Elective		3
Term Hours		15

Fourth Year

Term 1		
GES-383	Internship In Geography And Environmental Studies	3
Env. Studies Elective		3
Env. Studies Elective		3
Minor/Elective		3
Minor/Elective		3
Term Hours		15

Term 2		
Env. Studies Elective		3
Env. Studies Elective		3
Env. Studies Elective		3
Minor/Elective		3
Minor/Elective		3
Term Hours		15

Total Hours: 120