

# ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, B.A.

The Bachelor of Arts in environmental studies prepares students to address complex environmental problems requiring knowledge from multiple social and scientific disciplines. Students learn to evaluate environmental challenges and to develop just and sustainable solutions that integrate social and economic needs with scientific and technical understanding. The program offers an interdisciplinary and collaborative approach that encourages students to combine coursework in sustainability, anthropology, political science, geography, history, economics, business, media arts and journalism to create an individually tailored curriculum.

Environmental studies majors are prepared to work in areas ranging from sustainable business practices to advocacy and integration of data into policymaking. Strong analytical and communication skills prepare students for graduate or professional school and/or a range of career options in environmental policy, compliance, conservation, resource management and sustainability in the private sector and non-profit or governmental organizations.

## Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of fundamental concepts in environmental studies.
2. Students will be able to utilize information from more than one discipline related to environmental studies, and be able to synthesize that information to analyze interdisciplinary environmental problems.
3. Students will demonstrate effective writing skills.
4. Students will demonstrate effective oral communication skills.

## Admission, Progression and Transfer Standards

Environmental Studies majors may enroll in a course for major credit a maximum of twice to earn the required grade of C or higher. For the purposes of this standard of progression, withdrawal with a W does not constitute enrollment.

## Special Opportunities

The major endorses the use of independent study courses to further students' intellectual pursuits in alternative ways. Before students may register for an independent study course, they must submit a completed independent study contract which has been approved by their major advisor and the Director of Undergraduate Studies. No student may apply more than 6 hours of independent study credits toward the degree. A grade-point average of 2.50 or greater is required to enroll in independent study courses

## Admissions

### Entrance Requirements

New freshmen who meet University admissions standards are eligible for admission to degree programs offered by the college. A student who wishes to enter the College of Arts and Sciences from another college on the Columbia campus must be in good standing and have a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or higher. A student who wishes to enter the College of Arts

and Sciences from another USC campus must fulfill one of the following requirements:

1. Be in good standing, meet the admission requirements for a baccalaureate degree on the Columbia campus, and have a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or higher.
2. Be in good standing and have completed 30 semester hours with a GPA of 2.00 or higher on a USC campus.

Some programs in the College of Arts and Sciences have special admission requirements established by the department or committee that supervises the specific degree program, for example, Cardiovascular Technology, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Economics, Environmental Science, the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies, and the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies. These requirements are listed in the sections of this bulletin that describe department and special degree programs.

## Degree Requirements (120 hours)

### Program of Study

Requirements	Credit Hours
1. Carolina Core	32-44
2. College Requirements	15-18
3. Program Requirements	21-37
4. Major Requirements	36-37

### Founding Documents Requirement

All undergraduate students must take a 3-credit course or its equivalent with a passing grade in the subject areas of History, Political Science, or African American Studies that covers the founding documents including the United State Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation and one or more documents that are foundational to the African American Freedom struggle, and a minimum of five essays from the Federalist papers. This course may count as a requirement in any part of the program of study including the Carolina Core, the major, minor or cognate, or as a general elective. Courses that meet this requirement are listed here (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/founding-document-courses/>).

## 1. Carolina Core (32-44 hours)

### CMW – Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Written (6 hours)

*must be passed with a grade of C or higher and completed in the first 60 hours*

- any CC-CMW courses (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

### ARP – Analytical Reasoning and Problem Solving (6-8 hours)

- any CC-ARP courses (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

### SCI – Scientific Literacy (8 hours)

Select two from the following:

- BIOL 101\* & BIOL 101L\* or MSCI 102\*
- BIOL 102\* & BIOL 102L\*
- CHEM 111\* & CHEM 111L\*

- GEOL 101\*
- GEOL 103\*
- MSCI 101\*
- MSCI 210\* & MSCI 210L
- PHYS 201\* & PHYS 201L\* or PHYS 211\* & PHYS 211L\*

#### **GFL – Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Foreign Language (0-6 hours)**

Demonstration of proficiency in one foreign language equivalent to the minimal passing grade on the exit examination in the 122 course is required. Students can demonstrate this proficiency by successfully completing Phase II of the Proficiency Test or by successfully completing the 122 course, including the exit exam administered as part of that course.

- CC-GFL courses (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

*It is strongly recommended that students continuing the study of a foreign language begin college-level study of that language in their first semester and continue in that language until their particular foreign language requirement is completed.*

#### **GHS – Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Historical Thinking (3 hours)**

- any CC-GHS course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

#### **GSS – Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding: Social Sciences (3 hours)**

- any CC-GSS course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

#### **AIU – Aesthetic and Interpretive Understanding (3 hours)**

- any CC-AIU course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

#### **CMS – Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Spoken Component <sup>1</sup> (0-3 hours)**

- any overlay or stand-alone CC-CMS (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)course

#### **INF – Information Literacy <sup>1</sup> (0-3 hours)**

- any overlay or stand-alone CC-INF course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

#### **VSR – Values, Ethics, and Social Responsibility <sup>1</sup> (0-3 hours)**

- any overlay or stand-alone CC-VSR course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/>)

<sup>1</sup> **Carolina Core Stand Alone or Overlay Eligible Requirements** – Overlay-approved courses offer students the option of meeting two Carolina Core components in a single course. A maximum of two overlays is allowed. The total Carolina Core credit hours must add up to a

minimum of 31 hours. Some programs may have a higher number of minimum Carolina Core hours due to specified requirements.

## **2. College Requirements (15-18 hours)**

### **Foreign Language (0-3 hours)**

- only if needed to meet 122-level proficiency

### **History (3 hours)**

The College of Arts and Sciences requires one additional GHS course beyond the Carolina Core GHS requirement.

- If the Carolina Core GHS requirement is fulfilled by a **U.S. history** course, the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement must be fulfilled by a **non-U.S. history** course.
- If the Carolina Core GHS requirement is fulfilled by a **non-U.S. history** course, the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement must be fulfilled by a **U.S. history** course.

Please select the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement from the approved list of U.S. and non-U.S. history courses (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/history-requirement/>).

### **Social Science and Fine Arts or Humanities (12 hours)**

- **Social Science (3 hours)**
  - The College of Arts and Science requires one 3- hour Social Science Course (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/courses-acceptable-social-science/>)
- **Fine Arts/Humanities (9 Hours)**
  - A Bachelor of Arts from the College of Arts and Sciences requires three 3-hour Fine Arts/Humanities Courses (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/courses-acceptable-fine-arts-humanities/>)

## **3. Program Requirements (21-37 hours)**

### **Supporting Courses (4 hours)**

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Select one additional science from the following:</b>		
BIOL 101 & 101L	Biological Principles I and Biological Principles I Laboratory (*)	4
	or MSCI 102 The Living Ocean	
BIOL 102 & 102L	Biological Principles II and Biological Principles II Laboratory (*)	4
	or MSCI 311 Biology of Marine Organisms	
CHEM 111 & 111L	General Chemistry I and General Chemistry I Lab (*)	4
ENVR 101 & 101L	Introduction to the Environment and Introduction to the Environment Lab (*)	
GEOL 101	Introduction to the Earth (*)	4
GEOL 103	Environment of the Earth (*)	
GEOG 201	Landform Geography (*)	4
MSCI 101	The Ocean Environment (*)	
MSCI 210 & 210L	Oceans and Society and Oceans and Society Laboratory (*)	4
PHYS 201 & 201L	General Physics I and General Physics Laboratory I (*)	

PHYS 211 & 211L	Essentials of Physics I and Essentials of Physics I Lab	
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>4</b>

Note: BIOL 301 is required for MSCI 311

### Cognate or Minor (0-18 hours) *Optional*

This major does not require a cognate or minor.

An optional minor may be added to a student's program of study. A minor is intended to develop a coherent basic preparation in a second area of study. Courses applied toward general education requirements cannot be counted toward the minor. No course may satisfy both major and minor requirements. All minor courses must be passed with a grade of C or higher. At least half of the courses in the minor must be completed in residence at the University. A list of minor programs of study can be found at Programs A-Z. An optional additional major may also be added to a student's program of study. **Additional majors must include all major courses as well as any prescribed courses noted (\*) in the bulletin.** Prescribed courses noted in the bulletin may be shared with Carolina Core, College requirements, and Program requirements in the primary program.

A list of minor programs of study can be found at Programs A-Z (<https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/programs-az/>).

### Electives (17-33 hours)

120 (or 128) degree applicable credits are required to complete any degree at UofSC. After the cognate, minor or second major is complete, any additional credits needed to reach 120 (or 128) total credits can be fulfilled by electives. No courses of a remedial, developmental, skill-acquiring, or vocational nature may apply as credit toward degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences. The College of Arts and Sciences allows the use of the Pass-Fail option on elective courses. Further clarification on inapplicable courses can be obtained from the College of Arts and Sciences.

## 4. Major Requirements (36-37 hours)

*a minimum grade of C is required in all major courses*

### Major Courses (27 hours)

All majors must complete at least 36-37 hours of approved courses, including the core requirements of 27 hours. Majors must complete enough additional hours from the selected courses to bring them to the required 36-37 hours total. Students are required to develop a program of study in consultation with their advisor. A minimum grade of C is required for all courses used to fulfill major requirements.

*Please see current University of South Carolina undergraduate course catalog for information about prerequisites required to enroll in many of these courses.*

Course	Title	Credits
ENVR 201	Environmental Science and Policy I	4
ENVR 202	Environmental Science and Policy II	4
ENVR 480	Capstone Seminar in Environmental Science and Environmental Studies	3
Environmental and Society- Select two from the following:		6
ENVR/ENHS 321	Environmental Pollution and Health	

ENVR/PHIL 322	Environmental Ethics	
ENVR 331	Integrating Sustainability	
ENVR/ANTH 342	Environmental Anthropology: Cross-cultural Perspectives on Environmental Change	
ENVR 348	Environmental Racism and Justice	
ENVR 352	Energy, Society and Sustainability	
ENVR 540	Decolonizing the Environment: Race, Nature, Power	
ENVR 548	Environmental Economics	
ENVR/GEOG 538	Global Food Politics	
HIST 360	Into the Wild: Global Conservation since 1800	
HIST 448	American Environmental History	
POLI 478	Environmental Policy	
MSCI 390	Policy and Marine Science	
ENGL 434	Environmental Literature	
GEOG 321	Sustainable Cities	
GEOG 343	Environment and Society	
GEOG 347	Water as a Resource	
GEOL 560	Earth Resource Management	
ANTH 525	Ethnoecology	
Laboratory Science-Select one of the following:		4
BIOL 301 & 301L	Ecology and Evolution and Ecology and Evolution Laboratory (Advising note: BIOL/MSCI prerequisites)	
GEOL/MSCI 335	Processes of Global Environmental Change	
GEOL 315	Surface and Near Surface Processes (Advising note: PHYS prerequisite)	
GEOG 202	Weather and Climate	
Skills-Select one of the following		3-4
ENVR 460	Congaree National Park: Field Investigations in Environmental Science	
GEOG 363	Geographic Information Systems	
GEOG 551	Principles of Remote Sensing	
JOUR 507	Health Communication: The Science and Practice	
MART 371	The Moving Image (Advising note: this course has prerequisites which should be taken as AIU classes)	
POLI 475	Survey Research	
SOCY 391	Sociological Research Methods	

**Total Credit Hours** **24-25**

### Major Electives (minimum 12 hours)

Students, in consultation with their advisor, will develop a program of study to meet their educational goals in environmental studies courses.

- Students should select four courses from the list of major courses.
  - At least six hours must be at 400-level or above.
  - At least six hours must have an ENVR designator above ENVR 230.

Note: The six hours of 400-level or above credit and the six hours of ENVR 230+ credit may overlap, as long as a total of 12 credit hours are completed.

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Select four courses from the following (in consultation with advisor): 12</b>		
ENVR 231	Introduction to Sustainability Management and Leadership	
ENVR 295	Green Technology in Germany	
ENVR/ENHS 321	Environmental Pollution and Health	
ENVR/PHIL 322	Environmental Ethics	
ENVR/ENHS 323	Global Environmental Health	
ENVR 331	Integrating Sustainability	
ENVR/ANTH 342	Environmental Anthropology: Cross-cultural Perspectives on Environmental Change	
ENVR 348	Environmental Racism and Justice	
ENVR 352	Energy, Society and Sustainability	
ENVR 399	Independent Study	
ENVR 460	Congaree National Park: Field Investigations in Environmental Science	
ENVR 490	Special Topics in Sustainability and the Environment	
ENVR 499	Research in Environmental Science	
ENVR 500	Environmental Practicum	
ENVR 501	Special Topics in the Environment	
ENVR 533	Sustainability Projects Course	
ENVR 538	Global Food Politics	
ENVR 540	Decolonizing the Environment: Race, Nature, Power	
ENVR/ECON 548	Environmental Economics	
ENVR/BIOL 571	Conservation Biology	
ENVR/BIOL 572	Freshwater Ecology	
AFAM/ENVR 348	Environmental Racism and Justice	
ANTH 208	Anthropology of Globalization and Development	
ANTH 212	Food and Culture	
ANTH 213	Ethnobotany: Plants and Peoples	
ANTH 513	Anthropological Ethnobotany	
ANTH 525	Ethnoecology	
ANTH 569	International Development and the Environment	
BIOL 301	Ecology and Evolution	
BIOL 525	Marine Plants	
BIOL 526	The Fall Flora	
BIOL 527	The Spring Flora	
BIOL 528	The Summer Flora	
BIOL 534	Animal Behavior	
BIOL 570	Principles of Ecology	
BIOL/ENVR 571	Conservation Biology	
BIOL/ENVR 572	Freshwater Ecology	
ECHE 573	Next Energy	
ECON 500	Urban Economics	
ECON 508	Law and Economics	
ECON 509	Economics of Sustainable Development	
ECON 548	Environmental Economics	
ECON 594	Introduction to Econometrics	
ENGL 434	Environmental Literature	
ENGL 462	Technical Writing	
ENHS/ENVR 321	Environmental Pollution and Health	
ENHS 592	Advanced Special Topics in Environmental Health	
ENHS 660	Concepts of Environmental Health Science	
ENHS 665	Biofilms in Environmental Health and Disease	
ENHS 670	Environmental Pollutants and Human Health	
GEOG 202	Weather and Climate	
GEOG 313	Economic Geography	
GEOG 321	Sustainable Cities	
GEOG 330	The Geography of Disasters	
GEOG 343	Environment and Society	
GEOG 345	Interpretation of Aerial Photographs	
GEOG 346	Climate and Society	
GEOG 347	Water as a Resource	
GEOG 348	Biogeography	
GEOG 360	Geography of Wind	
GEOG 363	Geographic Information Systems	
GEOG 365	Hurricanes and Tropical Climatology	
GEOG 370	America's National Parks	
GEOG 371	Air Pollution Climatology	
GEOG 510	Special Topics in Geographic Research	
GEOG 516	Coastal Zone Management	
GEOG 530	Environmental Hazards	
GEOG 545	Synoptic Meteorology	
GEOG 546	Applied Climatology	
GEOG 547	Fluvial Geomorphology	
GEOG 549	Water and Watersheds	
GEOG 551	Principles of Remote Sensing	
GEOG 552	LiDARgrammetric and Photogrammetric Digital Surface Mapping	
GEOG 563	Advanced Geographic Information Systems	
GEOG 564	GIS-Based Modeling	
GEOG 566	Social Aspects of Environmental Planning and Management	
GEOG 567	Long-Term Environmental Change	
GEOG 568	Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change	
GEOG 569	International Development and the Environment	
GEOG 570	Geography of Public Land and Water Policy	
GEOG 571	Microclimatology	
GEOG 573	Climatic Change and Variability	
GEOL 302	Rocks and Minerals	
GEOL 315	Surface and Near Surface Processes	

GEOL 335	Processes of Global Environmental Change
GEOL 371	A View of the River
GEOL 501	Principles of Geomorphology
GEOL 520	Isotope Geology and Geochronology
GEOL 560	Earth Resource Management
GEOL 570	Environmental Hydrogeology
GERM/ENVR 295	Green Technology in Germany
HIST 360	Into the Wild: Global Conservation since 1800
HIST 398	Sustainability in World History from Early Times to the Anthropocene
HIST 448	American Environmental History
HRTM 383	Ecotourism
HRTM 428	Sustainable Foodservice Systems
HRTM 482	Sustainable Tourism Planning and Policy
HRTM 485	Sustainable Tourism
JOUR 205	History and Philosophy of the Mass Media
JOUR 303	Law and Ethics of Mass Communications
JOUR 306	Theories of Mass Communications
JOUR/WGST 311	Minorities, Women, and the Mass Media
JOUR 501	Freedom, Responsibility, and Ethics of the Mass Media
JOUR 542	Public Opinion and Persuasion
JOUR 507	Health Communication: The Science and Practice
MART 321	Media Writing
MART 371	The Moving Image
MART 380	New Media Art
MSCI 311	Biology of Marine Organisms
MSCI/GEOL 335	Processes of Global Environmental Change
MSCI 390	Policy and Marine Science
PHIL 320	Ethics
PHIL 321	Medical Ethics
PHIL/ENVR 322	Environmental Ethics
PHIL 323	Ethics of Science and Technology
PHIL 324	Business Ethics
PHIL 325	Engineering Ethics
PHIL 535	Ecofeminism
POLI 365	State Government
POLI 368	Interest Groups and Social Movements
POLI 370	Introduction to Public Administration
POLI 373	Regulatory Policies
POLI 374	Public Policy
POLI 431	Science, Technology, and Public Policy
POLI 465	Psychology and Politics
POLI 470	Federalism and Intergovernmental Relations
POLI 477	Green Politics
POLI 478	Environmental Policy
PSYC 487	Community Psychology
SOCY 308	Community Organization
SOCY 310	Social Demography

SOCY 311	Ecology of Human Social Systems
SOCY 315	Global Population Issues
SOCY 514	Urbanization
SPCH 331	Organizational Communication
SPCH 464	Speechwriting

**Total Credit Hours** **12**

## Major Map

A major map is a layout of required courses in a given program of study, including critical courses and suggested course sequences to ensure a clear path to graduation.

Major maps are only a suggested or recommended sequence of courses required in a program of study. Please contact your academic advisor for assistance in the application of specific coursework to a program of study and course selection and planning for upcoming semesters.

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