



# Environmental Studies

## The Passion

Based on the view that the natural world is crucial to human life, the Environmental Studies major seeks to foster an awareness of human interactions with the environment. The Environmental Studies major offers a diverse but integrated curriculum based in the natural sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities, and complimented by an interdisciplinary introductory course and capstone seminar. Set among some of the most beautiful and important natural areas in North America, the Environmental Studies major offers courses, speakers, and special events aimed at advancing an intellectual understanding of and practical solutions for environmental problems. Students pursuing the Environmental Studies major have opportunities to undertake Service Learning in the outdoors, work with Environmental Community Partners, and collaborate with Gonzaga's on-campus environmental organizations such as the Gonzaga Environment Organization (GEO), the Advisory Committee on Sustainability and Stewardship (ACSS), and the AmeriCorps Campus Environmental Coordinator.

## The Program

The Environmental Studies (ENVS) major allows students to link together courses from different departments in order to understand the scientific, ethical, social, and political aspects of the environment. Students may begin the 36-credit major with the introductory interdisciplinary course, ENVS 101, which builds cohesion and a sense of community for the major. Students take three science courses specifically designed for non-science majors: in Biology, either ENVS 102/BIOL 102; 103/BIOL 123, or ENVS 199/199 (Conservation Biology); in Chemistry, ENVS 104/CHEM 123; and in Environmental Science, ENVS 200. All students complete the program with a Senior Symposium in Environmental Studies (ENVS 499). Students take six additional courses: Environmental Ethics (ENVS 458/PHIL 458), two upper-division courses in the social sciences, two upper division courses in the humanities, and one upper division elective. Environmental Studies majors are encouraged to take more than 36 credits, especially if considering postgraduate study.

In addition to the required courses, students can choose from courses such as:

- Old Testament and Ecojustice
- Field Botany
- Conservation Biology
- Water for Life: West Africa (GU Abroad)
- Economics of Environmental Protection
- Ecological Thought and Politics
- Global Environmental Politics
- State and Local Government

- Population and Society
- Native American Government and Politics
- Environmental Sociology
- Politics of the Pacific Northwest
- North American Environmental Policy
- Environmental Psychology
- History of Yellowstone
- Sacraments for a Just World
- Ethics of Global Warming

The ENVS program also sponsors public lectures on environmental topics and offers students a broad set of opportunities for service learning, internships, and volunteer positions.

## The Potential

The Environmental Studies major is designed for anyone interested in environmental issues. Students completing the major have gone on to graduate school, law school, and careers in government and policy. Many students completing the major do not plan careers directly related to the environment but simply have an interest in the relationship between humans and the natural world.

## The People

The Environmental Studies Director is Jonathan Isacoff, Associate Professor of Political Science, who specializes in global environmental politics and ecological thought and politics, in addition to Middle Eastern politics ([isacoff@gonzaga.edu](mailto:isacoff@gonzaga.edu)).

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#### Core Faculty:

**Julie Beckstead**, Associate Professor of Biology, specializes in conservation biology, community ecology, and genetic modification. (beckstead@gonzaga.edu)

**David L. Boose**, Associate Professor, Biology; specializes in conservation and evolutionary biology. (boose@gonzaga.edu)

**Brian Henning**, Associate Professor, Philosophy, specializes in environmental ethics and the ethics of global warming. (henning@gonzaga.edu)

**Kevin Henrickson**, Assistant Professor, Economics; specializes in economics of environmental protection. (henrickson@jepson.gonzaga.edu)

**Brian Steverson**, Associate Professor, Philosophy; specializes in environmental ethics. (steverson@calvin.gonzaga.edu)

**Fr. Michael Treleaven, S.J.**, Associate Professor, Political Science; specializes in North American and Pacific Northwest environmental politics and Native American politics. (treleaven@gem.gonzaga.edu)

#### Affiliated Faculty:

**Matthew Bahr**, Assistant Professor, Sociology; specializes in population and society. (bahr@gonzaga.edu)

**Andrea Bertotti Metoyer**, Assistant Professor, Sociology; specializes in environmental sociology. (bertottimetoyer@gonzaga.edu)

**Gary Chang**, Assistant Professor, Biology, specializes in human ecology. (chang@gonzaga.edu)

**Betsy Downey**, Professor, History; specializes in the history of Yellowstone. (downey@calvin.gonzaga.edu)

**Joseph Haydock**, Associate Professor, Biology; specializes in conservation biology and comparative physiology. (haydock@gonzaga.edu)

**Mary Jeannot**, Associate Professor, English as a Second Language, co-directs the WATER for Life: West Africa study abroad program. (jeannot@gonzaga.edu)

**Erica Johnson**, Assistant Professor, Economics, specializes in environmental economics. (johnson@jepson.gonzaga.edu)

**Hugh Lefcort**, Associate Professor of Biology, specializes in ecology and wildlife management. (lefcort@gonzaga.edu)

**Michael McBride**, Associate Professor, Psychology; specializes in environmental psychology. (mcbride@gonzaga.edu)

**Susan Norwood**, Professor, Nursing, co-directs the WATER for Life: West Africa study abroad program. (norwood@gu.gonzaga.edu)

**Linda Schearing**, Professor and Chair, Religious Studies; specializes in ecological interpretation of the Old Testament and ecojustice. (schearing@calvin.gonzaga.edu)

**Joanne Smieja**, Professor and Chair, Chemistry, specializes in environmental chemistry, inorganic chemistry, and organic chemistry. (smieja@gonzaga.edu)

**Jeff Watson**, Assistant Professor, Chemistry, specializes in environmental chemistry and biochemistry. (watson@gonzaga.edu)

**Michael Woods, S.J.**, Assistant Professor, Religious Studies, specializes in rural communities and sustainability, justice, and the Sacraments. (woodsm@gonzaga.edu)

**Sherry Wood**, Lab Coordinator, Biology, specializes in field botany. (woods@gonzaga.edu)

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