



Environmental Studies

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, integrated curriculum with offerings drawing from the natural sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities. An interdisciplinary introductory course and a capstone seminar provide bookends to the Environmental Studies curriculum. The Environmental Studies major at Gonzaga also offers courses, speakers, and special events aimed at advancing an intellectual understanding of environmental problems and practical solutions for addressing them.

THE PROGRAM

The 39-credit **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.

All students take five required lower-division courses:

- ENVS 101 - Introduction to Environmental Studies
- ENVS 102 - Environmental Politics and Policy
- ENVS 103 - Conservation Biology
- ENVS 104 - Environmental Chemistry
- ENVS 200 - Case Studies in Environmental Science

All students complete the program with two required upper-division courses:

- ENVS 358 - Environmental Ethics
- ENVS 499 - Symposium in Environmental Studies (Capstone)

Students then select their remaining five upper-division courses from a wide array of choices, including:

- Ecological Thought and Politics
- Economics of Environmental Protection
- Environmental History of the Western United States
- Environmental Psychology
- Environmental Sociology
- Ethics of Eating
- Ethics of Global Climate Change
- North American Environmental Policy
- Politics of the Pacific Northwest
- Population and Society

ENVS majors may also take an additional lab science course to count as an upper-division elective.

OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITIES

Gonzaga, situated in the Inland Northwest, is in an ENVS major's dream location. More than a dozen National Parks, National Forests, and National Recreation Areas are within a day's drive from Spokane, including some of the literal wonders of the world. The region has the deepest canyon in North America (Hells Canyon), as well as not just one, but two UN World Heritage Sites (Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks). Did you know that the largest floods ever to occur in the history of the planet passed right through Spokane—less than 10,000 years ago? At Gonzaga, you'll have opportunities to study these places and events.

The ENVS program also sponsors **public lectures** on environmental topics and offers students many opportunities for service-learning, internships, and volunteer positions. Students also have opportunities to work with environmental community partners and collaborate with Gonzaga's on-campus environmental organizations, such as the **Gonzaga Environmental Organization (GEO)**, the Outdoor Pursuits living-and-learning community in Marian Hall, and the Gonzaga Outdoors program.

OUTCOMES

Environmental Studies students have gone on to graduate school, law school, and careers in government and policy. Students completing the major have a wide range of career interests—both directly and indirectly related to the environment. Whatever career a student wishes to pursue, the Environmental Studies major is well suited for those interested in the relationship between humans and the natural world.

On the backside, find examples of graduate programs and career opportunities recent Environmental Studies graduates have chosen to pursue.

Graduate Programs

- Alaska Pacific University - Environmental Science
- Oregon State University - Environmental Science
- Oregon State University - Public Policy/Environmental Policy
- Texas A&M University - Behavioral Ecology
- University of California, Irvine - Evolutionary Biology, Ph.D. program
- University of Kentucky - Entomology, Ph.D. program
- University of Washington - Evans School of Public Affairs
- University of Washington - School of Law

Government/Public Service Positions

- Craters of the Moon National Monument - Idaho
- Olympic National Park (seasonal) - Washington
- Petersburg National Battlefield (seasonal) - Virginia
- Sawtooth National Recreation Area (seasonal) - Idaho
- United States Army
- United States Department of Energy (seasonal)
- University of Idaho, Lab Researcher
- Washington State Department of Ecology

Environmental Organizations

- Bay Area Climate Corps - San Francisco, CA
- Catholic Charities of Spokane Vinegar Flats Community Farm
- Friends of Cedar River Watershed - Seattle, WA
- Northwest Earth Institute - Portland, OR
- Northwestern Energy - Bozeman, MT

- Upper Columbia United Tribes, Biological Field Technician - Washington

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