

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

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**The Minor Program in Environmental Studies
(23 credits)**

Departments from each of the University's three colleges are committed to providing effective responses to contemporary environmental challenges. This is a complex undertaking precisely because these challenges operate at the intersection of physical, biological, and cultural systems. Impactful solutions require an interdisciplinary understanding of phenomena operating across these systems. The environmental studies minor is designed to integrate diverse perspectives in the liberal arts and sciences curriculum in order to provide the academic breadth necessary for an understanding of the issues that are profoundly altering biotic systems across the planet.

Program Objectives:

1. To provide an opportunity for students to understand and access the complexity of environmental challenges from an interdisciplinary perspective and to design and implement solutions to these challenges.
2. To provide courses and course-project activities that are oriented toward offering policy options and other potential solutions to decision makers at the university, community, state, federal and international levels.
3. To offer a program that will document the student's sustained commitment to the interdisciplinary study of the environment.

Program Requirements:

The minor in environmental studies requires successful completion (with a C or better) of a minimum of 23 credits in the following courses.

1. CHEM 103 or 121;
2. CHEM 111L;
3. BIOL 115* or 212;
4. BIOL 109L or 212L;
5. IDST 220;
6. ECON 203;
7. ENGL 313;
8. GOVT 371W;
9. PHIL 376.

*BIOL 115 is offered as Topics in Ecology course with a focus that is dependent on the instructor each term. Students must receive permission from the environmental studies director prior to registering for this course.

THE CURRICULUM IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES**IDST 220. Introduction to Environmental Studies
(3-3-0)***Fall.*

This course offers an introduction to environmental issues and challenges as seen from the perspective of the arts and humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences. Through study of a variety of topics and problems related to the natural environment and our relationship to it, students will gain an interdisciplinary overview of the field that will serve as a foundation for further coursework in the field. Examples of topics may include natural resources, ecology, and sustainability; environmental politics, economics and law; global climate change; and social, literary, and cultural influences on environmental thought.

The following course descriptions appear in appropriate sections throughout the catalog.

Core

IDST 220 Introduction to Environmental Studies

Electives

BIOL 115*	Topics in Ecology and the Environment
BIOL 109L	General Biology Laboratory
BIOL 212	Principles of Biology II
BIOL 212L	Principles of Biology II Laboratory
CHEM 103	Introductory Chemistry I
CHEM 121	General Chemistry I
CHEM 111L	Environmental Studies Chemistry Lab
ECON 203	Environmental Economic Literacy for the Citizen
ENGL 313	Literature and Social Issues
GOVT 371	WI: Public Administration and Policy
PHIL 376	Environmental Ethics