



B.A. in Environmental Studies

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The Major

Environmental studies is an interdisciplinary academic field, as well as a field of practical endeavor. Both address key interrelated social, scientific, political and ethical issues.

Environmental studies educates students in the reciprocal interactions between humans, nature, and the built environment. Program requirements put to good use the natural setting of the campus and surrounding areas.

The major encompasses and integrates study in three core areas: basic principles of ecology and environmental sciences; environmental ethics and aesthetics; and environmental social policy and science.

The environmental studies program gives students the flexibility to select courses that approach environmental issues from a perspective of interest to them, from business to natural resources conservation to philosophy and theology.

Students who are passionate about sustainable development can combine this major with a minor or even a second major in an area that reflects their skills and career interests. Recent graduates have successfully completed second majors or minors in biology, chemistry, psychology, international studies, international business, political science, English, and journalism/communication.

Although housed in the School of Arts and Sciences, St. Bonaventure's environmental studies program is interdisciplinary, with the degree built upon existing and new courses in the schools of Arts and Sciences, Business, Education, Communication, and Health Professions.

The Minor

Students who are interested in exploring connections between their field of study and the environment can minor in environmental studies. The minor requires only 18 credits and it is often possible for 3-6 credits in the minor to also satisfy a student's major requirements.

'Green' Certificates

St. Bonaventure offers four 12-credit certificates in areas of environmental studies. These include environmental law, alternative energy, business, and environmental reporting. Nonmajors can enhance their undergraduate experience with these course sequences, which provide the fundamental theories of sustainability while focusing on an area of interest within the field. Students may earn up to two certificates.

Careers

Environmental studies majors go on to careers in industry, government, and the nonprofit sector, as well as to graduate and professional programs in environmental studies and sustainability.

The breadth of this program will prepare students for a wide range of careers, such as "green" business initiatives, environmental law and policy, natural resource conservation, environmental education, environmental journalism and marketing, and work with governmental and other organizations working to build a more sustainable future.

For More Information

Contact Kevin Vogel, lecturer of biology and director of the environmental studies program, at kvogel@sbu.edu or (716) 375-2558.