The Major
Environmental studies is an interdisciplinary academic field, as well as a field of practical endeavor. Both fields address key interrelated social, scientific, political and ethical issues. Environmental studies educates students in the reciprocal interactions between humans, nature, and the built environment.

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. As part of the degree requirements, students choose a concentration in one of these three areas.

As a degree offered at St. Bonaventure University, with its Catholic Franciscan tradition, mission, and value of care for Creation, program requirements put to good use the natural setting of the campus and surrounding areas, as well as their built environments.

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.

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, and Journalism and Mass Communication.

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.

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.