ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES MINOR

Minor Requirements

Overview of Requirements

The requirement for a minor in environmental studies is a minimum of 21 credit hours taken from the three categories:

- **Introduction to Environment and Environmental Science Literacy**: Fundamental to exploring the problems which emerge through the human/nature interaction is an understanding of core scientific concepts and processes that underlie natural systems. Therefore, minors will take an environmental science course that provides a broad survey of core concepts as well as an environmental science course that provides a targeted focus on an environmental science topic.
- **The Socio-Cultural Context of Environmental Studies**: The core of the Environmental Studies minor is exploring the human/nature relationship and the challenges emerging from it through multiple disciplinary lenses, resulting in a truly interdisciplinary environmental studies experience.
- **The Senior Seminar capstone course**: The culminating experience for the environmental studies minor is the combined capstone, co-taught by two faculty members from different fields and joined by the environmental science and environmental management minors. With a small size, opportunities for experiential field trips and engagement with current environmental challenges, ENVT 400 creates an all hands on deck opportunity to demonstrate interdisciplinary competency in environmental studies and to make a difference with real environmental, sustainability, climate justice and resiliency problems.

No more than two courses from a single subject (e.g., GEOG, GEOL, ANTH, ENG) may count toward completion of the minor. Students wishing to complete more than one of the environment minors (environmental management (https://catalog.jmu.edu/programs/environmental-management-minor/), environmental science (https://catalog.jmu.edu/programs/environmental-science-minor/) and environmental studies) may receive dual credit for the capstone course (ENVT 400), but may not receive dual credit for any other courses that might be shared by the minors.

Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Introduction to Environment		
All students seeking the minor must have one broad survey course on the human/nature relationship.		
Choose one of the following:		3-4
BIO 103	Contemporary Biology [C3NS]	
BIO 250	Quantitative Ecology and Evolution	
ENVT 200	Environmental Systems Theory	
GEOG 210	Physical Geography (2, 2)	
GEOL 102	Environment: Earth [C3NS]	
GEOL 110	Physical Geology [C3NS]	
GEOL 115	Earth Systems and Climate Change [C3NS]	
GEOL 210	Applied Physical Geology [C3NS]	
ISAT 100	Environmental and Energy Sustainability [C3PP]	
ISAT 112	Environmental Issues in Science and Technology (2,3) [C3PP]	
Subtotal		3-4
Environmental Science Literacy		
The Environmental Literacy requirement ensures that Minors will have at least one course providing depth and focus on at least one environmental science topic.		
Choose one of the following:		3-4
BIO 457	Biological Applications of Geographic Information Systems	
BIO 459	Freshwater Ecology	
GEOG 327	Climatology	
GEOL 211	Introduction to Oceanography [C3NS]	
GEOL 230	Evolution of Earth (3, 2)	
GEOL 310	Environmental Impact	
GEOL 320	Meteorology	
GEOL 430	Environmental Soil Science (2, 2)	
ISAT 320	Fundamentals of Environmental Science and Technology I	
PHYS 215	Energy and the Environment [C3PP]	
GEOG/ISAT 429	Sustainability: An Ecological Perspective	
Subtotal		3-4
The Socio-Cultural Context of Environmental Studies		
Choose four courses (a minimum of 12 credit hours) from the following: [1]		12
ECON 305	Environmental Economics	
ECON 340	Economics of Natural Resources	
ENG 221	Literature and Ideas [C2L] (Lit, Nature, Env section only)	
ENG 371	Literature and the Environment	
ENG 390	The Environmental Imagination	
GEOL 310	Environmental Impact	
or GEOG 310	Environmental Issues	
GEOG 322	Agricultural Systems	
GEOG 325	Environmental Ethics	
GEOG 330	Weather, Climate and Society	
GEOG 427	Water Resources of the World	
HIST 427	U.S. Environmental History	
ISAT 290	Introduction to Systems Thinking for Complex Problems	
ISAT 421	Environmental Policy and Regulation	
ISAT 424	Natural Resource Management	
ISAT 474	Political Ecology	
PPA 484	Environmental Regulatory Policy and Politics	
PPA 485	Governance for Environmental Sustainability	
SCOM/WGSS 302	Third Wave Ecofeminism	
SCOM 354/ WRTC 326	Environmental Communication and Advocacy	
SOCI 311	Sociology of the Environment	
SOCI 357	Sociology of Disasters	

WRTC 416/ SCOM 465	Rhetoric of Environmental Science and Technology	
Approved special topics courses		
Approved internship programs		
Approved study abroad courses		
Subtotal		12
Senior Seminar Capstone Course		
ENVT 400	Capstone Seminar in Environmental Problem Solving	3
Subtotal		3
Total Credits		**21-23**

[1] Only two courses with the same course subject may be taken.