ENVIROMENTAL
STUDIES MAJOR

WHY CHOOSE AN
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
MAJOR?

The Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies is one of
the world's leading institutions for environmental studies and is the
administrative home for the major. The major offers a robust and
interdisciplinary curriculum that spans all contemporary disciplines that
touch upon the environment. The curriculum includes biological sciences,
physical sciences, and social sciences, as well as humanities, history,
health, and modern culture.

The environmental studies major, offered by the College of Letters &
Science and administered by the Nelson Institute for Environmental
Studies, provides unique opportunities for undergraduate students to
broaden their studies through interdisciplinary coursework related to
the environment. The major must always be completed in tandem
with a second major. This requirement is unique to the environmental
studies major and allows undergraduates the opportunity to both broaden
and deepen the focus of their other major with a perspective on the
environment that spans a wide range of topics, and involves varying depths
of application.

The major includes experiential learning opportunities via the capstone
course and the field requirement, and encourages global interaction
through study or internships abroad. With numerous travel abroad
possibilities and ongoing access to a large selection of extracurricular
events, graduates have countless combinations available to them. The
outcome is a solid academic foundation in the study of the environment
and access to a network of multidisciplinary problem-solving colleagues.

In today's world, the program prepares students to address modern
challenges using interdisciplinary problem-solving approaches, applying
both an understanding of, and practical experience beyond, a single
academic discipline. Employers purposefully seek individuals with
interdisciplinary and international preparation, and environmental studies
students are ready to meet that need.

Click here to see a complete list of faculty and staff affiliated with the
Nelson Institute (http://nelson.wisc.edu/people/).

The Nelson Institute also offers two undergraduate certificates:

Environmental Studies Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
environmental-studies/environmental-studies/environmental-studies-
certificate/)

Sustainability Certificate (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/
environmental-studies/environmental-studies/sustainability-certificate/)