

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 Environmental Studies 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 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.

The Nelson Institute also offers two undergraduate certificates:

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

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