Environmental Studies

The Environmental Studies major equips students with the knowledge, tools, and opportunities needed to engage with environmental issues spawned from the dynamics of climate change, ecological degradation, globalization, economic activity, and societal values. Interdisciplinary programming covers science, policy, aesthetics, social, and economic aspects with options to emphasize any of those areas. Coursework, independent research, and internships prepare students with essential skills to solve complicated contemporary environmental problems.

Major Requirements

Five Core Courses:
EVS 100 Topics in Environmental Studies or EVS 101 Introduction to Environmental Studies
EVS 201 Global Environmental Issues
EVS Capstone Experience in Environmental Studies
BIO 320 Ecology or BIO 288 Conservation Biology
One of the following:
PHL 231 Environmental Ethics
HIS 274 World Environmental History
PPL 313 Environmental Policy/EVS 315 International Environmental Policy

Five elective courses, including:
One each from a group of Natural and Social Science courses (details in College Catalog) and three from the following (if not already applied): ENG 222, MTH 125, MUS 245, PHL 231, and HIS 274.

The Capstone Experience in Environmental Studies requires EVS 400 Research Methods in Environmental Studies and then one of three options:
• approved 160-hr internship;
• upper-level research course in an EVS-affiliated department;
• or EVS 500/501 Independent Study

Minor Requirements

EVS 101 Introduction to Environmental Studies
EVS 201 Global Environmental Issues
EVS 315 International Environmental Policy
And three additional electives:
One from Natural Sciences, one from Social Sciences and one of the following: ENG 222, HIS 274, PHL 231, MTH 125 or MUS 245

A full list of courses and descriptions can be found online in the College catalog.

Beyond the Classroom

Students have many opportunities for research, internships, conferences, and networking beyond the classroom that give them an advantage to prepare for life after W&J.

Research and Internships

• Matador Wildlife Management Area, Central Texas
• Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance, Wyoming
• Southwestern Pennsylvania Environmental Health Project, Canonsburg
• Civil & Environmental Consultants, Pittsburgh
• Luce Initiative on Asian Studies and the Environment

Careers

• Environmental consulting (reclamation, mitigation, compliance)
• Environmental law/policy
• Urban planning/sustainability
• Environmental advocacy/education
• Local/state/national/international agencies managing natural resources

Alumni Achievements

• Rhode Island, Department of Environmental Management
• Michigan, Environmental Lawyer
• Pennsylvania, GAI Consultants
• Texas, Environmental Planner
• Africa and Latin America, Peace Corps
• Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Protection