Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of General Studies in Environmental Studies

Why study environmental studies?

The Environmental Studies Program at the University of Kansas, established in 1971, is one of the oldest environmental studies programs in the country. The KU Environmental Studies Program provides a rigorous interdisciplinary education and stimulates exchange concerning the environment from natural science, social science, and humanities perspectives. Learning Pathways (http://esp.ku.edu/pathways), thematic areas of study that match student interest to the environmental expertise of our faculty, are a key aspect of our unique program.

Undergraduate Admission

Admission to KU

All students applying for admission must send high school and college transcripts to the Office of Admissions. Unless they are college transfer students with at least 24 hours of credit, prospective students must send ACT or SAT scores to the Office of Admissions. Prospective first-year students should be aware that KU has qualified admission requirements that all new first-year students must meet to be admitted. Consult the Office of Admissions (http://admissions.ku.edu) for application deadlines and specific admission requirements.

Visit the Office of International Student and Scholar Services (http://www.iss.ku.edu) for information about international admissions.

Admission to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Admission to the College is a different process from admission to a major field. Some CLAS departments have admission requirements. See individual department/program sections for departmental admission requirements.

Requirements for the B.A. or B.G.S. Major

Environmental Studies Introduction to Science and Culture (16-18)

Majors must complete both of the following: 10

- Global Environment I: The Discovery of Environmental Change. Satisfied by:
  - EVRN 140 Global Environment I: The Discovery of Environmental Change
  or EVRN 144 Global Environment I: Discovery of Environmental Change, Honors
- Global Environment II: The Ecology of Civilization. Satisfied by:
  - EVRN 142 Global Environment II: The Ecology of Human Civilization

or EVRN 144 Global Environment II: The Ecology of Human Civilization, Honors

Research Methods. Satisfied by one of the following: 3-4

- UBPL 538 Environmental Planning Techniques
- ECON/EVRN 550 Environmental Economics
- EVRN 410 Environmental Applications of Geographic Information Systems
- EVRN 510 Advanced Environmental Applications in Geospatial Techniques
- GEOL 351 Environmental Geology
- Statistics. Satisfied by one of the following: 3-4
  - MATH 365 Elementary Statistics
  - GEOG 316 Methods of Analyzing Geographical Data
  - BIOL 570 Introduction to Biostatistics

Environmental Studies Core Knowledge and Skills (12)

Majors must complete a course in each of the following areas:

- Environmental Policy Analysis. Satisfied by:
  - EVRN 320 Environmental Policy Analysis 3
  - EVRN 332 Environmental Law 3
- Field Ecology. Satisfied by:
  - EVRN 460 Field Ecology 3
- Capstone Experience. Satisfied by:
  - EVRN 615 Capstone Project 3

Environmental Studies Required Electives/Options (0)

Majors must select an option or design their own. Self-designed emphases must be approved in their entirety by an environmental studies advisor and the undergraduate studies director before implementation. Each option requires 4 courses at the 300+ level.

Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

Major Hours

Satisfied by 40 hours of major courses.

Major Hours in Residence

Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Hours

Satisfied by a minimum of 30 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Graduation GPA

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa).

A sample 4-year plan for the BA degree in Environmental Studies can be found here: Environmental Studies (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/environmental-studies/ba-bgs/ba-environmental-studies), or by using the left-side navigation.

Sample 4-year plans for the BGS degree in Environmental Studies can be found here: Environmental Studies (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-
Departmental Honors

To graduate with honors in environmental studies, an undergraduate must maintain a minimum overall grade-point average of 3.25 and 3.5 in the major. The student must also complete an individual honors research project in cooperation with a faculty mentor. This project normally represents 2 semesters of original work, the completion of 3 credit hours of EVRN 624 Independent Study, and 3 credit hours of EVRN 625 Honors Research in Environmental Studies. All 6 hours may be applied to the 12 hours of environmental studies electives required for the major. Upon completion of the research project, honors candidates are required to present the results of their work at the department’s Undergraduate Research Colloquium.