

Bachelor of Science 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 International Support Services (<http://www.iss.ku.edu>) for information about international admissions.

Students considering transferring to KU may see how their college-level course work will transfer on the Office of Admissions (<http://credittransfer.ku.edu>) website.

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.S. Degree

General Education Requirements

In addition to degree and major requirements, all students must complete the KU Core.

Environmental Studies Prerequisite or Co-requisite Knowledge

Code	Title	Hours
Mathematics		
Majors must complete the following:		
Calculus. Satisfied by one of the following:		
MATH 115 & MATH 116	Calculus I and Calculus II	
MATH 121	Calculus I	
Statistics. Satisfied by one of the following:		
MATH 365	Elementary Statistics	

GEOG 316	Methods of Analyzing Geographical Data
BIOL 570	Introduction to Biostatistics

Supporting Laboratory Science

Majors must complete one of the following:

Principles of Physical Geography and Intro Lab to in Physical Geography. Satisfied by:

GEOG 104 Introduction to Physical Geography & GEOG 105 and Introductory Laboratory in Physical Geography

Introduction to Geology, Honors and Geological Fundamentals Laboratory. Satisfied by:

GEOG 102 The Way The Earth Works, Honors & GEOG 103 and Geology Fundamentals Laboratory

Introduction to Geology and Geological Fundamentals Laboratory. Satisfied by:

GEOG 101 The Way The Earth Works & GEOG 103 and Geology Fundamentals Laboratory

Fundamentals of Organic Chemistry and Organic Chemistry Laboratory. Satisfied by:

CHEM 310 Fundamentals of Organic Chemistry & CHEM 331 and Organic Chemistry I Laboratory

Or

CHEM 330 Organic Chemistry I & CHEM 331 and Organic Chemistry I Laboratory

Biology and Ecology

Majors must complete the following:

Principles of Molecular and Cellular Biology. Satisfied by:

BIOL 150 Principles of Molecular and Cellular Biology or BIOL 151 Principles of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Honors

Principles of Organismal Biology. Satisfied by:

BIOL 152 Principles of Organismal Biology or BIOL 153 Principles of Organismal Biology, Honors

Principles of Ecology. Satisfied by:

BIOL 414 Principles of Ecology

Chemistry

Majors must complete the following:

Foundations of Chemistry I. Satisfied by:

CHEM 130 General Chemistry I or CHEM 190 Foundations of Chemistry I, Honors & CHEM 191 and Foundations of Chemistry I Laboratory, Honors

Foundations of Chemistry II. Satisfied by:

CHEM 135 General Chemistry II or CHEM 195 Foundations of Chemistry II, Honors & CHEM 196 and Foundations of Chemistry II Laboratory, Honors

Environmental Studies Core Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Environmental Studies Introduction to Science and Culture		
Majors must complete both of the following: 10		
Global Environment I: The Discovery of Environmental Change. Satisfied by one of the following:		
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 one of the following:

EVRN 142	Global Environment II: The Ecology of Human Civilization	
or EVRN 144	Global Environment II: The Ecology of Human Civilization, Honors	

Environmental Studies Core Knowledge and Skills

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

Environmental Policy Analysis. Satisfied by:

EVRN 320	Environmental Policy Analysis	3
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Environmental Law. Satisfied by:

EVRN 332	Environmental Law	3
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Field Ecology. Satisfied by:

EVRN 460	Field Ecology	3
or EVRN 660	Summer Field Ecology	

Capstone Experience. Satisfied by:

EVRN 615	Capstone Project	3
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Environmental Studies Required Electives/Options

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 32 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 24 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>).

Below is a sample 4-year plan for students pursuing the BS in Environmental Studies. To view the list of courses approved to fulfill KU Core Goals, please visit the KU Core website (<http://kucore.ku.edu/courses>).

Freshman

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
Goal 2.1 Written Communication (First Course, 2 Crs Required)	3 Goal 2.1 Written Communication (Second Course, 2 Crs Required)	3
Goal 2.2 Oral Communication	3 MATH 103 (Pre-requisite for Major Requirement)	2
MATH 101 (Goal 1.2 Quantitative Reasoning, Pre-requisite for Major Requirements)	3 EVRN 142 (Goal 3 Natural Science, Major Requirement) ³	5

EVRN 140 (Goal 3 Natural Science, Major Requirement)	5 CHEM 130 (Goal 1.2 Quantitative Reasoning or Goal 3 Natural Science, Major Requirement)	5
Elective (Total Hours)		3
		14
		18

Sophomore

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
MATH 115 (Goal 1.2 Quantitative Reasoning, Major Requirement)	3 MATH 116 (Major Requirement)	3
CHEM 135 (Goal 1.2 Quantitative Reasoning or Goal 3 Natural Science, Major Requirement)	5 MATH 365, GEOG 316, or BIOL 570 (Major Requirement)	3-4
BIOL 150 (Goal 3 Natural Science, Major Requirement)	4 BIOL 414 (Major Requirement)	3
BIOL 152 (Goal 3 Natural Science, Major Requirement)	4 EVRN Supporting Laboratory Science LEC (Goal 3 Natural Science, Major Requirement) ¹	3
EVRN Supporting Laboratory Science LAB (Major Requirement) ¹		2
		16
		14-15

Junior

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
Goal 1.1 Critical Thinking	3 Goal 3 Social Science	3
Goal 3 Humanities	3 Goal 4.1 US Diversity	3
EVRN Elective 300+ (Major Requirement) ²	3 EVRN 320 (Major Requirement) ³	3
Elective 300+ (Total Hours)	3 EVRN Elective 300+ (Major Requirement) ²	3
Elective (Total Hours)	3 Elective 300+ (Total Hours)	3
		15
		15

Senior

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
Goal 4.2 Global Awareness	3 Goal 5 Social Responsibility & Ethics	3
EVRN 332 (Major Requirement) ³	3 EVRN 615 (Goal 6 Integration & Creativity, Major Requirement)	3
EVRN 460 or 660 (Major Requirement)	3 EVRN Elective 300+ (Major Requirement) ²	3
EVRN Elective 300+ (Major Requirement) ²	3 Elective 300+ (Total Hours)	3
Elective 300+ (Total Hours)	3 Elective 300+ (Total Hours)	3
		15
		15

Total Hours 122-123

¹ Refer to the Degree Requirements tab for a list of courses that can fulfill this major requirement.
² A total of 12 hours of EVRN 300+ electives are required for the major. Students are encouraged to choose courses based on an emphasis area in consultation with an advisor.

³ EVRN 332 and EVRN 460 are Fall only courses. EVRN 142 and EVRN 320 are Spring only courses. EVRN 660 is a summer only course.

Please note:

All students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are required to complete 120 total hours of which 45 hours must be at the Jr/Sr (300+) level.

The same course cannot be used to fulfill more than one KU Core Goal. However, overlap of a KU Core course with a major or degree-specific requirement is allowed. Overlapping is recommended to allow more opportunities to explore other majors and/or minors.

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.