Bi-College Department of Environmental Studies
Academic Advising

Introduction:

Majoring or minoring in Environmental Studies is an opportunity to study the social, humanistic, and scientific aspects of the environment. Through these programs, students will gain an interdisciplinary perspective on the theoretical and empirical approaches to local and global environmental challenges.

The Environmental Studies Major:

The ES major begins with an introductory course which offers in-depth investigation of the theoretical and applied foundations of the study of the environment from all divisions. At the 200 level, the major incorporates praxis community-based learning and core courses that examine the theoretical and empirical approaches that the natural sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities bring to local and global environmental questions. In addition, ES majors pursue an individually selected area of environmental expertise, a focus area, in order to gain a depth of knowledge, and to develop a sense of their own agency in addressing what most concerns them. Finally, the senior experience as an Environmental Studies major is based on a collaborative capstone course in which students apply their knowledge and skills as part of a collaborative effort.

The requirements for the Environmental Studies major are:

• A one-semester introductory course (ENVS 101);
• Four one-semester ES courses at the 200-level (ENVS 201, 202, 203, and 204);
• Five credits in a “focus area” that is designed in concert with an academic advisor;
• A one-semester capstone course (ENVS 397).

The introductory course in Environmental Studies, ENVS 101, is offered at least once every semester. Students may choose to take ENVS 101 at either Haverford or Bryn Mawr, or the equivalent course at Swarthmore (ENVS 001).

First-year students who are interested in majoring in Environmental Studies are strongly encouraged to take ENVS 101 during their first year, preferably in the fall. Students who may be interested in pursuing a minor in Environmental Studies should take the intro class by their third semester.

The Environmental Studies Minor:

The ES minor consists of six courses and can be take in conjunction with any major:

• A one-semester introductory course (ENVS 101), usually completed by the end of the second year of study;
• Four elective courses, two from each of the following categories: Environmental Science, Engineering, and Math; and Environmental Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts;
• An advanced (300-level or above, or its equivalent at Swarthmore) elective course in Environmental Studies that can be from either of the two categories listed above.
Planning Guide:

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<th>Student is:</th>
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| Considering an Environmental Studies MAJOR: | • Take ENVS 101, preferably in fall semester;  
• Begin 200-level course sequence in the spring;  
• Consult with advisor about “focus area” possibilities;  
• Satisfy distribution requirements and prerequisites for upper-level courses. | • Continue and complete 200-level course sequence;  
• Proceed with “focus area” options;  
• Satisfy distribution requirements and prerequisites for upper-level courses.  
• Declare ES major in the spring. |
| Considering an Environmental Studies MINOR: | • Take ENVS 101 when schedule permits;  
• Satisfy distribution requirements and prerequisites for upper-level courses. | • Begin taking elective courses in ES categories.  
• Declare ES minor in the spring. |
| Curious about ES: | Consider taking ENVS 101 when schedule permits. |

Faculty Contacts (in alphabetical order):

Don Barber, Bryn Mawr  
Associate Professor of Geology on the Harold Alderfer Chair in Environmental Studies

Carla May Dhillon, Bryn Mawr  
Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies on the Nan Alderfer Harris ’51 Professorship in Environmental Studies

Sara J. Grossman, Bryn Mawr  
Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies on the Johanna Alderfer Harris and William H. Harris, M.D Professorship in Environmental Studies

Carol Hager, Bryn Mawr  
Professor of Environmental Studies and Political Science on the Clowes Professorship in Science and Public Policy

Joshua Moses, Haverford (on sabbatical 2018–2019)  
Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Environmental Studies

Helen White, Haverford  
Associate Professor of Chemistry and Environmental Studies, Chair of Environmental Studies

Jonathan Wilson, Haverford (on sabbatical 2018–2019)  
Associate Professor of Environmental Studies