

# BA in Interdisciplinary with Emphasis in Environmental Studies

Program is no longer admitting students. Discontinued as of Fall 2025.

## Degree Program Description

The Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary with an emphasis in Environmental Studies is an individually-designed major for students interested in acquiring a broad understanding of environmental issues and the complex causes underlying them. Students design their major to reflect their own interests and goals in the field. Individualized majors of this kind require a higher level of commitment than is typical of traditional majors because students must do the work of building their own degree. The program prepares students for graduate study and careers in education, law, business, public policy, humanitarian aid, non-profit organizations, and government. The majority of students with the degree work in areas such as advocacy and outreach as well as policy and regulation.

## Major Program Requirements

Students in this major must complete 5 specified Core courses to fulfill College of Arts and Science Foundation Requirements and an additional 31 hours minimum for the major. A minimum cumulative GPA in all major coursework is 2.0.

In addition to University (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/universityrequirements/>), general education (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/generaleducationrequirements/>), and College of Arts and Science (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/#undergraduatetext>) requirements, students must also meet the following major program requirements. All major requirements in the College of Arts and Science must be completed with grades of C- or higher unless otherwise indicated.

- A total of 31 hours is required for the major.
- Students must complete 21 hours numbered 2000 or higher in the major.
- 15 hours numbered 3000 level or higher are required in the major.
- D-range grades are not allowed in the major.
- A minimum grade of C- is required for courses taken for the major.
- Complete 15 hours of coursework in either Natural Dimensions courses or Social-Cultural Dimensions courses.
- The course levels will be determined by the academic advisor.

### Required Core Coursework

Biological, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences:

Complete a general education approved Biological Sciences course. The following are recommended.

BIO_SC 1010	General Principles and Concepts of Biology	3-5
or BIO_SC 1200	General Botany with Laboratory	
or BIO_SC 1500	Introduction to Biological Systems with Laboratory	

Complete a general education approved Geology course. The following are recommended.

GEOL 1100	Introduction to the Earth with Laboratory	4
or GEOL 1200	Environmental Geology with Laboratory	

One lecture with a corresponding laboratory must be completed.

Laboratories should be taken with the corresponding lecture or after the lecture is completed, but not before completing the corresponding lecture course.

Social Sciences:

Complete a general education approved Economics or Agricultural Economics course. The following are recommended.

ECONOM 1014	Principles of Microeconomics	3
or ECONOM 1015	Principles of Macroeconomics	
or ABM 1041	Applied Microeconomics	
or ABM 1042	Applied Macroeconomics	

Complete a general education approved Geography course. The following is recommended.

GEOG 2660	Environmental Geography	3
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### Major Requirements

Natural Dimensions:

ANTHRO 3560	Plagues and Peoples	3
ANTHRO 4320	Ecological and Environmental Anthropology	3
ATM_SC 3600	Climates of the World	3
BIO_SC 2100	Infectious Diseases	3
BIO_SC 3650	General Ecology *	5
ENV_SC 2600	Sustainability Foundations: An Introduction to Sustainability	3
ENV_SC 3330	Environmental Land Use Management	3
ENV_SC 4400	Environmental Law, Policy, and Justice *	3
ENV_SC 4600	Sustainability Science Problem Solving	3
ENV_ST 2070	Introduction to Ecological Economics	3
GEOG 2610	Climate, Landforms and Vegetation: Introduction to Physical Geography	3
GEOG 3560	Native American Geographies	3
GEOG 3630	Earth Surface Systems	3
GEOG 4560	Resources and Indigenous Peoples	3
GEOG 4620	Biogeography: Global Patterns of Life *	3
GEOL 2400	Surficial Earth Processes and Products with Laboratory	4
GEOL 2600	Mineral and Energy Resources of the Earth	3
GEOL 3110	Geology of Missouri	3
GEOL 4120	Engineering Geology	3
NAT_R 1070	Ecology and Conservation of Natural Resources	3
NAT_R 2160	Issues in Natural Resources and the Environment	3
NAT_R 4353	Natural Resource Policy/Administration	3
Social-Cultural:		
ANTHRO 3560	Plagues and Peoples *	3
ANTHRO 4320	Ecological and Environmental Anthropology	3
ARCHST 2100	Understanding Architecture and the American City	3
ARCHST 2620	People, Places and Design	3

ARCHST 4435	History of the Designed Environment to 1750	3
ART_VS 4051	Environmental Art	3
BL_STU 2830	Environment and Development in Africa	3
ECONOM 3271	Introduction to Applied Econometric Practice	3
ECONOM 4318	Environmental Economics *	3
GEOG 2720	The City	3
GEOG 3560	Native American Geographies	3
GEOG 3570	Indigenous Peoples of Alaska	3
GEOG 3580	Placewriting *	3
GEOG 4450	Health, Healthcare Access, and Geography	3
GEOG 4560	Resources and Indigenous Peoples *	3
GEOG 4580	Decolonizing Methodologies	3
HIST 2422	Nature's Nation: Disease, Disaster, and Ecology in American History	3
HIST 2590	Epidemics and Society	3
HIST 4430	The Great West in American History	3
HIST 4440	History of the American Environment	3
ENV_SC 2600	Sustainability Foundations: An Introduction to Sustainability	3
ENV_SC 3330	Environmental Land Use Management	3
ENV_SC 4600	Sustainability Science Problem Solving	3
ENV_ST 2070	Introduction to Ecological Economics	3
NAT_R 4024	Foundations of Environmental Education	3
NAT_R 4353	Natural Resource Policy/Administration	3
P_HLTH 3560	Public Health and Environmental Justice	3
PHIL 2900	Environmental Ethics	3
POL_SC 4550	Environmental Conflict	3
REL_ST 2100	Indigenous Religions	3
REL_ST 3230	Buddhism and Environmental Ethics	3
SOCIO 1120	Population, Environment and Sustainability	3
SOCIO 1500	Introduction to Native American and Indigenous Studies	3
SOCIO 2281	Nuclear Weapons: Environmental, Health and Social Effects	3
SOCIO 3330	Environmental Justice	3
SOCIO 3720	Settler Colonialism and Native American/ Indigenous Communities	3
T_A_M 2400	Global Consumers	3
T_A_M 2500	Social Psychology of Dress and Fashion	3
T_A_M 2520	History of Western Dress *	3
T_A_M 3520	19th and 20th Century Western Dress	3

**Capstone Experience**

- Complete 3 hours of Service Learning, Internships, & Readings, or 3 hours of 4000-level coursework.
- The Capstone must be completed in the final 45 hours of coursework.
- Students must earn a C- or higher to fulfill the Capstone requirement.
- Students must have a Capstone approved by their academic advisor.

- Students may complete an Internship or Readings that is not used as a Capstone.
- Students may not earn retroactive credit for internships.

**Internships 4940**

- Students must have a 2.0 cumulative GPA to apply for approval of an internship project.
- Students must not have any active Student Conduct holds.
- Students may not complete an internship at an existing position.
- Students must work 50 hours for each credit hour earned.
- During the Internship period, students must submit the following assignments:
  - a well-written proposal outlining the details of the internship must accompany the application
  - a carefully-prepared factual report about the internship which addresses the questions outlined in the student's internship proposal
  - a résumé which includes the student's internship experience and documents the tangible skills they attained while working
  - an interpretative essay in which students connect what they have learned from their internship experience with their academic work in their individualized major
- Internship supervisors must submit a performance evaluation.
- Internships receive a grade of S or U (pass/fail).
- The Office of Multidisciplinary Degrees reserves the right to deny internship project approval to any student it believes will not be a good representative of the University.

**Readings 4960**

Students work independently with MU faculty on research and/or professional projects. A student finds a campus professor with whom to work. Together, they create concrete objectives for a meaningful project. The professor guides and supervises the student towards completion of the project and is responsible for awarding a letter grade for the course.

**Service-Learning 4970**

Service-Learning provides hands-on experience in service experiences that are coordinated in collaboration with MU and the community. Service-Learning experiences create valuable learning environments for students as they connect with the community in partnerships that provide effective and far-reaching assistance to those in need. To apply, students must have a 2.5 GPA or higher.

**Semester Plan**

First Year			
Fall	CR	Spring	CR
Math and Quantitative Reasoning		3 ENGLISH 1000	3
Missouri State Law Requirement: Social Science from Arts and Science		3 Approved Biological Science course for major	3
GEO 1200		4 ECONOM 1014 ( )	3
Humanities		3 Behavioral Science	3

		GEOG 2660	3
		<b>13</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Second Year</b>			
<b>Fall</b>	<b>CR</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>CR</b>
Second Language Requirement		4 Second Language Requirement	4
Biological, Physical, or Mathematical Science		3 Humanities from Arts and Science	3
Behavioral Science, 2000+ level		3 Social Science, 2000+ level	3
Environmental Studies major core course, 2000+ level		3 Environmental Studies major core course, 3000+ level	3
First Writing Intensive		3 Biological or Physical Science lab	3
		<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Third Year</b>			
<b>Fall</b>	<b>CR</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>CR</b>
Second Language Requirement		4 Environmental Studies major core course, 3000+ level	3
Environmental Studies major core course, 3000+ level		3 Humanities, 2000+ level	3
Environmental Studies major core course, 3000+ level		3 Social Science	3
Biological, Physical, or Mathematical Science		3 Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective	3
Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective		3 Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective	3
		<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Fourth Year</b>			
<b>Fall</b>	<b>CR</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>CR</b>
Environmental Studies major core course, 3000+ level		3 Environmental Studies major capstone course	3
Humanities		3 Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective	3
Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective		3 Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective	3
Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective		3 Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective	3
Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective		3 Second Major, Minor, Certificate, or Elective	2
		<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>

**Total Credits: 120**