

Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies Major

Director: Dr. Sue Morra

The Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies Major prepares students to become environmental innovators in the workplace and in their communities. The major is designed for students seeking an environmental program outside the realm of a pure environmental science curriculum. It is ideal for students pursuing careers in areas such as environmental advocacy, marine and environmental education, environmental policy-making, and environmental law. Students in the program will approach environmental sustainability from an interdisciplinary perspective, with coursework and experiences that examine scientific, social, political, ethical, and educational views of the environment and its protection. This appropriate blend of science, social sciences and humanities courses prepares students to meet the rigors of a career analyzing complex environmental issues and effectively communicating their findings to diverse markets or constituencies. The program is distinctively set within the context of the Franciscan approach to environmentalism. One of the Franciscan Goals of Higher Education states, in part, "We care for the earth which is our home and work to protect and preserve it for future generations."

It should be noted that students desiring to pursue careers as marine or environmental biologists, with the intention of learning field and laboratory techniques that will place them in positions as scientists or in marine biology or environmental science graduate programs, should enroll in the Biology Department's Marine Biology or Environmental Science concentrations.

Students in the Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies Major choose from one of three concentrations: 1) **Marine Education**, designed for students planning for careers working with marine animals at aquariums, zoos, and other marine education facilities; 2) **Environmental Education**, designed for students planning for careers as environmental educators at parks, nature centers, and other environmental facilities; and 3) **Liberal Studies in the Environment**, designed for students planning for careers working in environmental advocacy, environmental policy-making, and environmental sociology.

All students in the Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies program are required to take the following set of core courses: BIOL 103 (Environmental Studies), CHEM 105 (Contemporary Chemistry), BIOL 111 and BIOL 112 (Biology I and II), BIOL 203 (Ecology), BIOL 218 (Marine Biology), SOC 305 (Environmental Sociology), PHIL 307 (Environmental Ethics), MGMT 101 (Introduction to Management), 9 Credits of Special Topics Environmental Seminar, and 6 Credits of Environmental Internships, Wallops Island Courses, or Service Projects.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN INTERDISCIPLINARY ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES /MARINE EDUCATION CONCENTRATION

Coordinator: Dr. Sue Morra

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Biology 103, 111, 112, 203, 208, and 218; Chemistry 105; Sociology 305; Philosophy 307, Management 101; 9 credits of Special Topics Seminar; 6 Credits of Internships, Wallops Island Courses, or Service Projects; three courses from the following: Biology 204, 211, 301, 302,

322, 326, 401 and 402; Math 111, Statistics 101, Psychology 101, and five courses from the following with no more than three courses in one area: EDUC 210, EDUC 302, ART 111, ART 115, ART 300, COMM 308, COMM 210, COMM 310, THTR 103, THTR 110-13, THTR 120, THTR 200, THTR 301, MGMT 302, PSYC 201, PSYC 302, PSYC 303, and PSYC 314. Highly recommended are Scuba certification, and first aid and CPR certification.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN INTERDISCIPLINARY ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES/ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CONCENTRATION

Coordinator: Dr. Lane Loya

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Biology 103, 111, 112, 203, and 218; Chemistry 105; Sociology 305; Philosophy 307, Management 101; 9 credits of Special Topics Seminar; 6 Credits of Wallops Island Courses, Environmental Internships or Service Projects; three courses from the following: Biol 204, Biol 208, Biol 322, Biol 326, Biol 402, Biol 403; Biol 301 or Biol 302; EDUC 210; COMM 210; Math 111; Statistics 101; three courses in the following subject areas: Education, Art, Communications, Theater—Choose from: EDUC 101, EDUC 301, ART 111, ART 115, COMM 308, COMM 310, THTR 103, THTR 110-113, THTR 200, THTR 301; 1 elective courses in Political Science, Sociology, or Marketing.

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN INTERDISCIPLINARY ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES/LIBERAL STUDIES IN THE ENVIRONMENT CONCENTRATION

Coordinator: Dr Tim Menta

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Biology 103, 111, 112, 203, 208, and 218; Chemistry 105; Sociology 305; Philosophy 307, Management 101; 9 credits of Special Topics Seminar; 6 Credits of Internships, Wallops Island Courses, or Service Projects; STAT 101; CPSC 101; ECON 102; RLST 311 or RLST 308; PHIL 313; SOC 208; and 24 credits of electives with the following recommended: BIO 322, COMM 210, ECON 205, ECON 302, EDUC 210, FNAR 115, HIST 375, MGMT 302, PHIL 402, PHIL 410, PLSC 312, PLSC 313, PSYC 304, SOC 303, RLST 301, RLST 306.

INTERDISCIPLINARY ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES — COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Please consult the respective departments in this catalog for complete course descriptions.

398-399. Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies Internship (3-15 credits)

Students integrate classroom theory with practical work experience by securing environmentally-oriented employment, either full- or part-time, and with or without pay. The student will secure the internship with the help of their advisor and the Office of Career Services. *Credit may vary from three to fifteen credits, but no more than six credits may be counted toward major requirements, with additional credits counted as free electives. Open only to Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies majors with approval of the department chair and the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Fall, Spring, Summer.*

412-416. Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies (3 credits)

Seminar course emphasizing a different aspect of environmental studies each year. Potential topics include environmental history, environmental literature, environmental economics, environmental policy, or environmental health. *Spring.*