



Environmental Studies & Sciences

Based on the view that the natural world is crucial to human life and intrinsically valuable, the degrees in Environmental Studies and Environmental Sciences foster an awareness of human interactions with the environment. Both majors offer a diverse, integrated curriculum drawing upon the natural sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities. Unification of these disciplines positions students to understand and care for our planet while advancing an intellectual knowledge of environmental problems and practical solutions. An interdisciplinary introductory course and a capstone seminar bookend the curriculum.

THE PROGRAM

The Environmental Studies and Sciences (ENVS) program offers two distinct majors. As an integrated liberal arts degree, the **BA in Environmental Studies (39 credits)** allows students to link together courses from different departments to understand the scientific, ethical, social, and political aspects of the environment to prepare students for a wide range of career paths. The **BS in Environmental Science (65 credits)** integrates three fundamental scientific disciplines: biology, chemistry, and earth science to prepare students for careers in government agencies, environmental consulting, and graduate programs.

All students take four required ENVS lower-division courses:

- Introduction to Environmental Studies
- Environmental Politics and Policy
- Environmental Biology
- Environmental Chemistry

All students complete the program with three required ENVS upper-division courses and a one-credit internship or research experience:

- Economics of Environmental Protection
- Environmental Ethics
- Internship
- Symposium in Environmental Studies (Capstone)

CURRICULUM

The Environmental Studies and Sciences (ENVS) program connects science with study of the historical, social, ethical, legal, and political issues that affect our natural world and how we interact with it. Students explore biology, environmental chemistry, conservation, and economics, while gaining a broad education in the social sciences and humanities.

Within this program, students have the opportunity to enroll in a wide array of courses that include:

- Climate Change Science & Politics
- Conservation Biology
- Environmental History
- Environmental Law & Policy
- Environmental Sociology
- Freshwater Biology
- GIS & Ecological Techniques
- Marine Biology
- Parks, Forests, & Wildlife
- Principles of Wildlife Management
- Stream Restoration
- Sustainable Systems & Design
- Ecotoxicology

OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITIES

Gonzaga is situated in the beautiful Inland Northwest, a **dream location** for studying nature and our relationship to it. We have **more than a dozen national parks, national forests, and recreation areas** within less than a day's drive from Spokane, including some of the literal wonders of the world. Our region has the deepest canyon in North America (Hells Canyon), as well as two UN World Heritage Sites: Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks. Did you know that the largest floods ever to occur in the history of the planet passed right through Spokane less than 10,000 years ago? At Gonzaga, students have opportunities to study these places and events.

The ENVS program sponsors public lectures on environmental topics and offers students many opportunities for student-led research, internships, and volunteer positions. Students have opportunities to work with environmental community partners and collaborate with Gonzaga's on-campus environmental organizations, such as the Gonzaga Environmental Organization (GEO), the Outdoor Pursuits living-learning community in Marian Hall, and the Gonzaga Outdoors program.



LEARNING OUTCOMES

Graduates of the B.A. in Environmental Studies program will possess and demonstrate:

- Problem Solving
- Interdisciplinary Integration
- Reflective Judgement
- Personal Action

Graduates of the B.S. in Environmental Science program will possess and demonstrate:

- Fundamental Knowledge and Skills in the Scientific Method
- Interdisciplinary Integration
- Effective scientific communication
- Reflective Judgement

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Examples of graduate schools and career opportunities recent Environmental Studies/Sciences graduates have chosen to pursue are listed below:

Graduate Programs

- Alaska Pacific University
- Oregon State University
- Texas A&M University
- University of California - Irvine
- University of California - Santa Barbara
- University of Kentucky
- University of Washington
- University of Wisconsin

Volunteer Organizations

- AmeriCorps
- Jesuit Volunteer Corps
- Student Conservation Association
- Teach for America
- United States Peace Corps

Employers

- Avista
- Bay Area Climate Corps
- Catalina Island Marine Institute
- City of Salem, OR
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife
- Davis Law Office, LLC
- Fair Trade, USA
- Inland NW Community Supported Agriculture Association
- King Conservation District
- The Lands Council
- Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
- Northern Plains Resource Council
- Save Our Wild Salmon
- Spokane County Department of Natural Resources
- University of Idaho
- Upper Columbia United Tribes
- U.S. Department of Agriculture



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