



Environmental Science

at Benedictine University

Why study environmental science at Benedictine?

- As Americans become more aware of the urgent need to recognize and solve environmental problems, environmental scientists have become increasingly in demand, and this trend is expected to continue.
- We have received more requests from local industries for students to fill internships in environmental science than we have had students to fill the demand, and graduates with internship experience have been able to find permanent employment.
- Students who major in Environmental Science will be able to enter graduate school or look for employment after earning the bachelor's degree.

An Environmental Science graduate will:

- Have a solid, multi-disciplinary understanding of environmental problems and solutions.
- Be able to integrate the many different aspects of environmental science and relate underlying scientific theory to how environmental considerations affect our everyday lives.
- Have an understanding of the principles (natural science) and practice (for example – economics, politics, ethics, history) involved in environmental problems.
- Be skilled in the areas of critical-reasoning, problem-solving and communication (written and oral).
- Earn Occupational Safety and Health Administration Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response certification.

What careers are available with a degree in Environmental Science?

Career choices made by recent graduates in Environmental Science include:

- Local, state and federal government agencies (EPA, ILDNR, DOE, NPS, USDA)
- Research
- Environmental education
- Medical school
- Professional school
- Environmental consulting
- Graduate school
- Pollution mitigation
- Law school
- Public health

Current research

- Interaction of bacteria and heavy metals.
- Behavioral, physiological and chemical ecology of insect-plant interactions.
- Chemical ecology of insect-plant interactions.
- Molecular ecology of invasive plants and old-growth forests.
- Ecological predictors for mass extinctions in the fossil record.

What does a degree in Environmental Science at Benedictine offer?

Students majoring in Environmental Science choose a major that has a solid foundation in the sciences (biology, chemistry and physics) and incorporates a strong liberal arts education, stressing critical-thinking, problem-solving and communication.

Our world is facing an increasing array of environmental problems and concerns. These problems tend to be multi-disciplinary in nature, often involving a combination of science, economics and politics. There is a growing need for trained professionals to deal with these problems. Benedictine tradition emphasizes a dedication to responsible stewardship of the Earth. The Environmental Science major at Benedictine University strives to fulfill the University's mission of preparing students for a lifetime as active, informed and responsible citizens and leaders in the world community.

Recommended Program

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science

FRESHMAN

Writing Colloquium	3
College Trigonometry (MATH 111)	3
General Chemistry I and Lab	4
Principles of Organismal Biology	3
Elective	3
	16

Research Writing	3
Basic Speech	3
General Chemistry II and Lab	4
Principles of Biology and Lab	4
	14

JUNIOR

Physiology	4
College Physics I and Lab	4
Philosophical (QPL) course	3
Social Scientific II: Political, Global and Economic Systems (QPE)	3
Electives	0-3
	14-17

Environmental Science elective	3-4
OSHA Training	1
College Physics II and Lab	4
Human Dignity and the Common Good (IDS 301)	3
Elective	3
	14-15

SOPHOMORE

Historical (QHT) course	3
Environmental Science	3
Organic Chemistry I and Lab	4
Catholic and Benedictine Intellectual Traditions (IDS 201)	3
Elective	3
	16

Advanced Botany	3
Biostatistics	3
Organic Chemistry II and Lab	4
Religions/Theological (QRT) course	3
Electives	3
	16

SENIOR

Ecology and Lab	4
Environmental Science elective	3
Literary and Rhetorical (QLR) course	3
Electives	3-6
Capstone Internship	1
	14-17

Environmental Science elective	3
OSHA Refresher	1
Artistic and Creative (QCA) course	3
Electives	6
Capstone Internship	1
	14

Inquiry (Q) courses may be taken in any order. One elective or Q course must have a "Global" designation and one must be Writing Intensive.

Demonstrate your social conscience with a certificate in Environmental Studies.

Students with an interest in the environment can earn a certificate in Environmental Studies by choosing specific environmental-focused courses from the anthropology, biochemistry, biology, environmental science, geography, global studies, humanities, literature, management, natural science, philosophy, political science, religious studies, sociology and theology disciplines. Students will learn about the scientific, humanistic, educational and business aspects of sustainability.