

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

-- Margaret Mead



The idea of "creative tension" that inspires us to strive for a better tomorrow from our honest assessment of our world today was also the inspiration for this painting. It celebrates human ingenuity and asks that we confront environmental challenges in thoughtful, honest, empowering ways.

Carolyn Loeb and Isaac Holt, Class of 2008

Environmental Studies is an interdisciplinary department based on a holistic understanding of environmental issues occurring at the local, national, and global level. The department teaches students to use the tools and perspectives of the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences to understand the causes and consequences of environmental problems and to develop solutions to these problems.

HISTORY

The Environmental Studies (ES) concentration began in 1973. Students were required to take 6 courses in one department, 6 supporting courses, and 2 new ES courses - a senior seminar and an introductory course. Students could graduate with this concentration alone, or they could also obtain a major in the other department (students at Macalester were able to graduate with a concentration only until the late 1990s when the faculty voted to require a major for graduation).

In 1982, the Environmental Studies Coordinating Committee revised the major and made the requirements more stringent. The new set of requirements, which were continued with only minor modifications until 2000, required students to complete a major (or core) in an approved department, as well as some additional course requirements (Principles of Economics, Physical Geography, Physical Geology, and Ecology or Biodiversity), an internship and a senior capstone course.

A new ES Director was hired at the start of the 1998-9 academic year. This position was added as part of a general expansion of the size of the faculty during which a number of interdisciplinary programs, including ES, were granted their first “stand alone” positions. New courses were added as requirements: an introductory Environmental Science course and a junior-level course in Environmental Policy Analysis. New requirements for the major were also developed.

In 2004, the current ES program was converted to an interdisciplinary department. In 2005 two new faculty members were hired, one with expertise in Environmental History and the other in Environmental Policy. In addition, the Biology Department agreed that one of its Ecology positions would be structured in such a way that the person holding that position would contribute 0.5 FTE of his/her position to ES.

In 2006 the Macalester Faculty approved the development of a minor in Environmental Studies.

In 2007 the ES Department received approval for a third full-time position. The department hired a Climate Scientist. The department is now staffed with 3.5 FTE and will continue to draw on courses from faculty in other departments.



MAJOR CONCENTRATION

The Environmental Studies Major has four major components that together form the basis for a robust background for our students.

1. Introductory Courses: These courses are meant to introduce students to the range of topics and approaches utilized in studying environmental issues.

- * ENVI 133 – Environmental Science or
ENVI 140 – The Earth’s Climate System
- * ENVI 215 – Environmental Politics and Policy
- * ENVI 235 – Environmental History

2. Intermediate Courses: These courses are designed to give students an overview of the important texts that scholars and practitioners use as the basis of their understanding of environmental issues and to give students a “real world” experience working in the environmental field. The courses are also meant to allow students to reflect on their goals as majors in environmental studies.

- * ENVI 280 – Environmental Classics
- * ENVI 489 – Environmental Leadership Practicum
- * ENVI 490 – Environmental Studies Leadership Seminar

3. Capstone Courses: These courses are intended to provide students the opportunity to utilize their background in environmental studies to address an environmental issue as part of an interdisciplinary team.

- * ENVI 488 – Senior Seminar in Environmental Studies or
ENVI 477/GEOG 488 – Comparative Environment and
Development Studies or ENVI 494/GEOG 488 – Cities of
the 21st Century or ENVI 644 – Honors Project in
Environmental Studies

4. Disciplinary or Interdisciplinary Emphasis: The emphasis or “core” allows students to gain depth in a particular disciplinary approach to examining environmental issues or



in a particular environmental theme or problem considered from an interdisciplinary perspective. The core includes a series of 6 courses to provide the depth and a methods course to insure students have the appropriate “tools” to implement their area of study.

The Environmental Studies major consists of ten courses (38 credits) in environmental studies and related subjects plus a seven-course emphasis.

The ten course requirement is distributed as follows:

- Three introductory courses:
 - * ENVI 133 – Environmental Science or
ENVI 140 – The Earth’s Climate System
 - * ENVI 215 – Environmental Politics and Policy
 - * ENVI 234 – American Environmental History

- Four required Environmental Studies courses:
 - * ENVI 280 – Environmental Classics
 - * ENVI 488 – Senior Seminar in Environmental Studies or
ENVI 477/GEOG 488 – Comparative Environment and
Development Studies or ENVI 494/GEOG 488 – Cities
of the 21st Century or ENVI 644 – Honors Project in
Environmental Studies
 - * ENVI 489 – Environmental Leadership Practicum
(preferred) or ENVI 624 – Internship
 - * ENVI 490 – Environmental Leadership Seminar

- One Natural Science course:
 - * ENVI 120 – Environmental Geology
 - * ENVI 130 – Science of Renewable Energy
 - * ENVI 133 - Environmental Science
 - * ENVI 140 – The Earth’s Climate System
 - * ENVI 144 – Lakes, Streams and Rivers
 - * ENVI 150 - Climate and Society
 - * ENVI 285 – Ecology



* ENVI 194, 294, and 394 natural science topic courses
Other natural science courses require prior approval by the Environmental Studies Department Chair.

■ One Social Science course:

- * ENVI 225 – 100 Words for Snow: Language and Nature
- * ENVI 231 – Environmental Economics and Policy
- * ENVI 232 – People and the Environment
- * ENVI 252 – Water and Power
- * ENVI 258 – Geography of Environmental Hazards
- * ENVI 270 – Psychology of Sustainable Behavior
- * ENVI 333 – Economics of Global Food Problems
- * ENVI 335 – Science and Citizenship
- * ENVI 365 – Environmental Anthropology
- * ENVI 368 – Sustainable Development and the Global Future
- * ENVI 477 – Comparative Env. and Development Studies
- * ENVI 494 – Cities of the 21st Century
- * ENVI 194, 294, and 394 social science topic courses

Other social science courses require prior approval by the Environmental Studies Department Chair.

■ One Humanities course:

- * ENVI 229 – Environmental Ethics
- * ENVI 236 – Consumer Nation: American Consumer Culture in the 20th Century
- * ENVI 237 – Environmental Justice
- * ENVI 262 - Studies in Literature and the Natural World
- * ENVI 265 – Justice
- * ENVI 340 – U.S. Urban Environmental History
- * ENVI 343 – Imperial Nature: The United States and the Global Environment
- * ENVI 345 – Car Country: The Automobile and the American Environment
- * ENVI 370 – Education and the Challenge of Globalization
- * ENVI 194, 294, and 394 humanities topic courses

Other humanities courses require prior approval by the Environmental Studies Department Chair.



Disciplinary or Interdisciplinary Core: Seven courses

■ Disciplinary Option:

- * 6 courses in a discipline (2 must be 300-level courses)
- * 1 methods course related to the core's focus

Disciplinary cores in departments other than Anthropology, Biology, Chemistry, Economics, Geography, Geology, History, Philosophy, Political Science or Physics must be approved by the chair.

■ Interdisciplinary Option:

- * 6 courses organized around a clear theme or environmental problem (2 must be 300-level courses)
- * 1 methods course related to the core's focus

Examples of interdisciplinary core plans might be: Environmental Science, Global Citizenship, Environmental Justice, Natural Resources Management

Preapproved cores can be found on the Environmental Studies web site www.malester.edu/environmentalstudies/advising.htm.

MINOR CONCENTRATION

Requirements for the Minor Concentration

Five courses (20 credits) in Environmental Studies: two from the introductory sequence (Environmental Studies 133, 140, 215, or 234) and three additional Environmental Studies courses, not including internships or independent studies, selected in consultation with a department faculty member and approved by the department chair.



STUDY ABROAD

Study abroad at Macalester College means both high academic performance and an acute awareness of diversity that is uniquely fostered by international experience. It enhances education in the liberal arts by engaging well prepared students in rigorous and stimulating learning experiences in a variety of countries outside the United States. Study abroad enables students to encounter foreign cultures through contact with faculty, students and the general public of the host country, and, in societies where the native language is not English, provides them with a useful and consciousness-expanding proficiency in a second language. ES majors have studied abroad at the following locations:

Program

Assoc. Colleges of the Midwest (ACM)

Denmark's International Studies
Program (DIS)

Inst. for Study Abroad, Butler (IFSA)

Macalester-Pomona-Swarthmore
Consortium Globalization and the
Natural Env. @ Univ. of Capetown

Marine Biological Laboratory: Env.
Sciences Research Semester

Minnesota Studies in International
Development (MSID)

Sea Education Association (SEA)

School for International Training (SIT)

Location

Chicago, IL

Copenhagen, Denmark

Buenos Aires

Capetown, South Africa

Woods Hole, MA

Senegal

Oceanographic
Research, MA

Australia, Granada,
Panama, and Brazil



INTERNSHIPS

An internship is required for Environmental Studies majors. It is an excellent way for students to apply knowledge learned in the classroom and laboratory, to learn more in an environmental area, and to explore career options. ES majors have interned at the following places.

Site

Intern Title

Aurora/St. Anthony Dev. Corp.	Central Corridor Intern
Central Corridor Partnership	Business Outreach Intern
Clean Water Action	Perfluorocarbon Coordinator
Eco Education	Urban Env. Education Intern
Eureka Recycling	Outreach Intern, Waste Reduction Intern, Social Marketing Intern
Friends of the Mississippi River	Outreach Intern
Global Warming 101.Com	Emerging Leaders Intern
Great River Greening	Outreach Intern
Green Institute	Green Building Intern, Community Energy Intern
Izzak Walton League of America	Sustainable Community Challenge
KidWind Project	Education Intern
Land Stewardship Proejct	Community Based Food Systems Intern, Policy Intern
Minnesota Environmental Initiative	Climate Change Policy Intern
Minnesota House of Representatives	Legislative Intern
Neighborhood Energy Connection	Energy Efficiency Pricing Study
Office of the Mayor	Environmental Intern
The Minnesota Project	Biofuels Intern, Local Food Intern
Transit for Livable Communities	Medial Relations & Comm. Intern
United Auto Workers-Ford Plant	Research Intern, Student Organizer, Community Outreach Intern
University National Bank	Community Investing Intern
U-PLAN	LEED Certified Buildings Intern
Wisdom Ways	Soul Conference Intern



HONORS THESIS

Honors in the Environmental Studies Program is awarded to ES majors who produce a thesis that meets these three conditions: a) scholarly excellence through original research worthy of publication in a peer-reviewed journal; b) it has an environmental issue as main topic; and c) it is based on an interdisciplinary approach to that topic. Approaches that encompass two or more disciplines across different areas of knowledge, i.e., social sciences, natural sciences, humanities, are particularly encouraged.

Students pursuing the Honors Thesis are expected to make a major commitment in terms of time and effort. This endeavor should be undertaken only by those with strong research interests and the ability to focus intellectually in scholarly production.

WHERE ALUMNI GO AFTER GRADUATION

<u>Title</u>	<u>Employer</u>
Air Policy Specialist	MN Pollution Control Agency
Naturalist/Partner	EverGreen Escapes
Environmental Scientist	U.S. EPA
Environmental Specialist	Dept. of Env. Resources
Executive Director	E4, Inc.
Natural Resources Specialist	MN Dept. of Natural Resources
Environmental Planner	City of San Diego
Program Coordinator	The Watershed Project
Green Building Consultant	KEMA, Inc.
Env. Education Teacher	Farm in the City
Environmental Strategies Researcher	Env. Monitoring/Agenda 21
Environmental Organizer for Public Education	Sierra Club
Director of Business Development	Eureka Recycling
Environmental Compliance Coordinator	Ceridian Corporation



FACULTY AND STAFF

The Environmental Studies major is interdisciplinary, which means that in addition to the Environmental Studies courses in the catalog, majors have the opportunity to take courses in a broad range of departments and programs. There is a member of the Environmental Studies faculty in each of the departments in which students can choose to core, minor, or major as part of their Environmental Studies major. In addition to these faculty, the Department Chair is available to assist students in designing their majors and choosing courses.



Louisa Bradtmiller
Asst. Prof. of
Environmental
Climatology



Jerald Dosch
Visiting Asst. Prof.
of Biology



Ann Esson
Department
Coordinator



Dan Hornbach
DeWitt Wallace Prof. of
Biology & Chair



Christie Manning
Visiting Asst. Prof.
of Environmental
Psychology



Marianne Milligan
Visiting Asst. Prof. of
Environmental Studies
& Linguistics



Roopali Phadke
Assoc. Prof. of
Environmental Studies
Policy & Politics



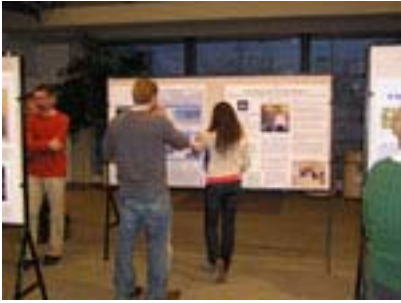
Chris Wells
Asst. Prof. of
Environmental Studies
History



Affiliated Faculty:

- Paula Cooley, Religious Studies
- Amy Damon, Economics
- Mark Davis, Biology
- James Dawes, English
- Jim Doyle, Physics
- Arjun Guneratne, Anthropology
- Theresa Krier, English
- Ruthanne Kurth-Schai, Educational Studies
- Keith Kuwata, Chemistry
- Scott Legge, Anthropology
- Kelly MacGregor, Geology
- Diane Michelfelder, Philosophy
- Jamie Monson, History
- Bill Moseley, Geography
- Suzanne Savanick Hansen, Sustainability Office
- Wang Ping, English
- Sarah E. West, Economics





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