

What you can do with your Environmental Studies MAJOR



Major Skills



Intercultural Humility

You recognize and appreciate a diversity of viewpoints, ethical commitments, and disciplinary approaches to environmental concerns across various scales from the local to the global.



Professionalism & Work Ethic

You apply principles of ethical and professional conduct, demonstrate personal accountability and effective work habits, and act responsibly with the interests of the larger community in mind.



Critical & Analytical Thinking

You interpret the meanings, values, and aesthetics that are created, shaped, and revealed as humans interact with and modify the environments they inhabit.



Teamwork

You build and maintain collaborative relationships within and beyond the classroom to work effectively toward common goals, while appreciating diverse viewpoints and shared responsibilities.



Problem-Solving

You examine information from many disciplines to define and analyze environmental problems, identify trade-offs of alternate outcomes; and understand and analyze interconnections underlying environmental systems and sustainability issues.



Written & Oral Communication

You articulate ideas clearly and effectively in written and oral communications; you explain ecological processes and fundamental principles of environmental sciences relating to humanity's key environmental challenges of the past, present, and future.

Supplement Your Skills With



International Study,
Work/Internship & Language
Practice



Lab or Field Research,
Internships, Volunteering
or Part-Time Work



Career & Self Development
Opportunities



Engagement in Student
Organizations &
Community Groups

Chart Your Path Forward

Activate Your Handshake Account

for connections to jobs,
internships, employer &
alumni networking.

Explore Career Communities

to discover a wide variety of fields
where you can turn your major
into success.

Get Career & Internship Advising

from SuccessWorks to make a
plan, whether you're a first-year
student or about to graduate.

Get Started: successworks.wisc.edu

Put your Environmental Studies major to WORK

Recent Grads' Career Plans

- 75%** Employment
- 20%** Continuing Education, Graduate School
- 3%** Volunteer/Service Program/Military
- 2%** Other

Industries of Employment

1. Education
2. Government
3. Information Technology
4. Engineering
5. Healthcare
6. Natural Resources
7. Non-profit
8. Arts & Entertainment
9. Legal
10. Life Sciences

Where Alumni Live & Work

- 35%** Wisconsin
- 9%** Illinois
- 9%** Minnesota
- 8%** California
- 5%** Colorado
- 34%** Other



“In my career, I depend on skills I developed in the major, such as analyzing, responding to, and integrating differing perspectives. The interdisciplinary nature [of the ES major] has been surprisingly beneficial, too, as I use knowledge and skills gained from my business major regularly as well.”

Jane McCurry, 2018
Executive Director, Clean Fuels Michigan
Lansing, MI



“My B.A. gave me a wide and varied base of knowledge that kept me prepared for the different work places I’ve found myself. My Environmental Studies major gave context to the climate crisis we face now and different ways to approach stakeholders.”

Rebecca Biggs, 2019
Land Steward, Milwaukee County Parks
Milwaukee, WI



“My Environmental Studies major paved the way for where I am today. Every day, I lean on the experiences and connections I made during my undergraduate career. I am forever grateful to be a part of the Nelson Institute family and their sustainability community.”

Maggie Radl, 2017
Communications Specialist, Sustain Dane
& Relay Network
Madison, WI

Career Communities for Environmental Studies Majors

SuccessWorks has eight Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources and programs. Here are a few suggestions on where Environmental Studies majors can start.

- Consulting, Finance & Business Roles
- Nonprofit & Education
- Government, Policy, International Affairs, & Law
- Healthcare & Wellbeing

Not inspired by these options? Visit SuccessWorks to explore more widely.