

Environmental Studies, BA

The Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies degree is designed to provide students with a critical foundation in both the scientific and human foundation of environmental systems. It also prioritizes mastery of skills that will position students for future success as environmental professionals. In their first two years, all environmental studies majors complete introductory courses in critical scientific disciplines—including focusing on food, water, and climate resources—and in essential human dimensions—including sustainable development, environmental health, and environmental justice. Lastly, all students take required skill-building courses that are designed to promote success with desired co-op and career opportunities. Students then opt for one of five concentrations that build their training in courses from across the university. These concentrations are specifically designed to cover the breadth of areas where people and the environment intersect, including courses that draw on Northeastern's expertise in public health, environmental justice, environmental law, visualization and storytelling of environmental issues, and the green economy. Students interested in viewing environmental problems specifically through quantitative social and natural science lenses should consider the BS Environmental and Sustainability Sciences (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/science/marine-environmental/environmental-sustainability-sciences-bs/>) program.

Program Requirements

- Concentrations and course offerings may vary by campus and/or by program modality. Please consult with your advisor or admissions coach for the course availability each term at your campus or within your program modality.
- Certain options within the program may be *required* at certain campuses or for certain program modalities. Please consult with your advisor or admissions coach for requirements at your campus or for your program modality.

Complete all courses listed below unless otherwise indicated. Also complete any corequisite labs, recitations, clinicals, or tools courses where specified and complete any additional courses needed beyond specific college and major requirements to satisfy graduation credit requirements.

Universitywide Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the Universitywide Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/university-wide-requirements/>).

BA Language Requirements

All BA students are required to complete the BA degree language requirements, for a total of 12 semester hours of language study or demonstrated equivalent proficiency, as described in Additional Requirements for BA students (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/ba-requirements/>). Successful demonstration of proficiency does not reduce total minimum semester hours of study required to earn the BA degree.

NUpath Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the NUpath Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/>).

Environmental Studies Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
College		
ENVR 1000 or INSC 1000	Marine and Environmental Sciences at Northeastern Science at Northeastern	1
Core Courses		
<i>Introductory Courses</i>		
ENVR 1101	Environmental Science	4
Complete one of the following:		
ANTH 1101	Peoples and Cultures	4
ENVR 2401	Food Justice and Community Development	4
PHIL 1180	Environmental Ethics	4
SOCL 1246	Environment and Society	4
<i>Scientific Foundations of Environmental Systems</i>		
ENVR 1110	Global Climate Change	4
ENVR 3150	Food Security and Sustainability	4
ENVR 3200	Water Resources	4

Human Dimensions of Environmental Systems

ENVR 2515	Sustainable Development	4
ENVR 3540 or PHTH 2414	Environmental Psychology Environmental Health	4
SOCL 4522	Environmental Justice	4

Skills

ENVR 3300 and ENVR 3301	Geographic Information Systems and Lab for ENVR 3300	5
ENVR 4000	Science Communication and Professional Development	4

Research Methods

Complete one of the following:		4-5
ANTH 3410	Ethnographic Field Experience	
ECON 2350	Statistics for Economists	
ENVR 2500 and ENVR 2501	Biostatistics and Lab for ENVR 2500	
POLS 2400	Quantitative Techniques	
SOCL 2321	Research Methods in Sociology	

Capstone

Complete one of the following:		4
ENVR 4050	Solving Emerging Environmental Challenges through Capstone	
ENVR 4970 or ENVR 4971	Junior/Senior Honors Project 1 Junior/Senior Honors Project 2	
ENVR 4997	Senior Thesis	

Concentrations

Complete one of the following concentrations:

- Environmental and Human Health (p. 2)
- Environmental Ethics and Social Justice (p. 3)
- Environmental Law, Governance, and Management (p. 3)
- Communication and Visualization: Environmental Problems and Solutions (p. 4)
- The Green Economy: Business, Entrepreneurship, and Environmental Sustainability (p. 4)

Environmental Studies Major Credit Requirement

Complete 80 semester hours in the major.

Program Requirement

128 total semester hours required

CONCENTRATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND HUMAN HEALTH

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
EEMB 2302 and EEMB 2303	Ecology and Lab for EEMB 2302	5
EEMB 3466	Disease Ecology	4
PHTH 1270	Introduction to Global Health	4
PHTH 4202	Principles of Epidemiology in Medicine and Public Health	4
Electives		
Complete four of the following:		16
COMM 3500	Environmental Issues, Communication, and the Media	
EEMB 3460	Conservation Biology	
ENVR 4505	Wetlands	
ENVR 5450	Applied Social-Ecological Systems Modeling	
ENVR 5750	Urban Ecology	
INTL 5100	Climate and Development	

PHTH 4120 or PHTH 5120	Global Perspectives on Discrimination and Health Race, Ethnicity, and Health in the United States
PHTH 5214	Environmental Health
POLS 2395	Environmental Politics and Policy
SOCL 2485	Environment, Technology, and Society

CONCENTRATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
COMM 3500	Environmental Issues, Communication, and the Media	4
PHIL 1180	Environmental Ethics	4
POLS 2395	Environmental Politics and Policy	4
SOCL 2485	Environment, Technology, and Society	4
Electives		
Complete four of the following:		16
BUSN 3110	The Consulting Environment	
COMM 3532	Theories of Conflict and Negotiation	
EEMB 4000	Applied Conservation Biology	
ENVR 3151		
ENVR 4504	Environmental Pollution	
ENVR 5350	Sustainable Energy and Climate Solutions	
ENVR 5450	Applied Social-Ecological Systems Modeling	
ENVR 5800	Climate Adaptation and Nature-Based Solutions	
HUSV 3570	The Nonprofit Sector, Philanthropy, and Social Change	
INTL 5100	Climate and Development	
PHIL 2001	Ethics and Evolutionary Games	
PPUA 5268	International Environmental Policy	
PPUA 5270	Food Systems and Public Policy	
PPUA 5390	Special Topics in Public Policy and Urban Affairs	

CONCENTRATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW, GOVERNANCE, AND MANAGEMENT

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
LPSC 1101	Introduction to Law	4
LPSC 2301	Introduction to Law, Policy, and Society	4
Complete one of the following:		4
POLS 2395	Environmental Politics and Policy	
PPUA 5268	International Environmental Policy	
Complete one of the following:		4
ENVR 5210	Environmental Planning	
ENVR 5220	Ecosystem-Based Management	
Electives		
Complete four of the following:		16
EEMB 3460	Conservation Biology	
EEMB 3475	Wildlife Ecology	
EEMB 4000	Applied Conservation Biology	
ENVR 3151		
ENVR 4505	Wetlands	
ENVR 5210	Environmental Planning	
ENVR 5220	Ecosystem-Based Management	
ENVR 5450	Applied Social-Ecological Systems Modeling	
ENVR 5700	Streams and Watershed Ecology	
LPSC 3303	Topics in Law and Public Policy	
POLS 2395	Environmental Politics and Policy	

POLS 3307	Public Policy and Administration
PPUA 5268	International Environmental Policy

CONCENTRATION IN COMMUNICATION AND VISUALIZATION: ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
ARTG 5110	Information Design History	4
COMM 3500	Environmental Issues, Communication, and the Media	4
Complete one of the following:		4
JRNL 3650	Science Writing	
JRNL 3700	Data Storytelling	
Complete one of the following:		4
ARTG 6330	Information Design Mapping Strategies	
CIVE 5280	Remote Sensing of the Environment	
ENVR 5563	Advanced Spatial Analysis	
Electives		
Complete four of the following:		16
ARTG 3451	Information Design 1	
ARTG 5130	Visual Communication for Information Design	
CIVE 5280	Remote Sensing of the Environment	
COMM 2555	Games for Change	
COMM 3532	Theories of Conflict and Negotiation	
ENVR 3201		
ENVR 3202		
ENVR 5450	Applied Social-Ecological Systems Modeling	
ENVR 5563	Advanced Spatial Analysis	
ENVR 5750	Urban Ecology	
GAME 2755	Games and Social Justice	
JRNL 3650	Science Writing	
JRNL 3700	Data Storytelling	

CONCENTRATION IN THE GREEN ECONOMY: BUSINESS, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
BUSN 1101	Applied Business Fundamentals	4
FINA 2720	Sustainability in the Business Environment	4
Complete one of the following:		4
ENVR 5210	Environmental Planning	
ENVR 5220	Ecosystem-Based Management	
Complete one of the following:		4
BUSN 3110	The Consulting Environment	
INNO 2206	Global Social Enterprise	
INNO 3520	Impact Investing and Social Finance	
Electives		
Complete four of the following:		16
BUSN 3110	The Consulting Environment	
CIVE 5275	Life Cycle Assessment of Materials, Products, and Infrastructure	
ECON 3423	Environmental Economics	
ENVR 3201		
ENVR 3202		
ENVR 3701	Energy in the Desert Ecosystem	
ENVR 5210	Environmental Planning	
ENVR 5220	Ecosystem-Based Management	
ENVR 5350	Sustainable Energy and Climate Solutions	
ENVR 5800	Climate Adaptation and Nature-Based Solutions	

HUSV 3570	The Nonprofit Sector, Philanthropy, and Social Change
ME 5645	Environmental Issues in Manufacturing and Product Use
MGMT 3530	Project Management
MKTG 2301	Marketing and Society

Plan of Study

Sample Plan of Study: Four Years, Two Co-ops in Spring/Summer 1

Year 1								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
ENVR 1000		1 ENVR 1110		4 General elective 1		4 General elective 3		4
ENVR 1101		4 ENVR 3150		4 General elective 2		4 General elective 4		4
ENVR 2515		4 PHTH 2414		4				
PHIL 1180		4 Intermediate language requirement		4				
Elementary language requirement		4						
		17		16		8		8
Year 2								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
ENVR 3200		4 Co-op		0 Co-op		0 General elective 5		4
ENVR 3300 and ENVR 3301		5				General elective 6		4
Concentration required course 1		4						
Concentration required course 2		4						
		17		0		0		8
Year 3								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours	Hours
SOCL 4522		4 Co-op		0 Co-op		0 Concentration elective course 2		4
Required research methods course		4				General elective 7		4
Concentration required course 3		4						
Concentration elective course 1		4						
		16		0		0		8
Year 4								
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours	Hours
Concentration required course 4		4 ENVR 4000		4				
Concentration elective course 3		4 ENVR 4050		4				
Concentration elective course 4		4 General elective 9		4				
General elective 8		4 General elective 10		4				
		16		16				

Total Hours: 130