MINOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Program Learning Outcomes for the Minor in Environmental Studies

Upon completing the minor in Environmental Studies, students will be able to:

1. Understand the fundamental science that drives earth/natural systems, and that frames and makes comprehensible current environmental issues.
2. Evaluate the nexus of human activity with environmental processes to examine and understand sustainable (or unsustainable) practices.
3. Develop a cross-disciplinary perspective to better understand environmental issues and solutions through a focus within the natural sciences and/or engineering and a focus within the humanities, social sciences, and/or architecture.

Requirements for the Minor in Environmental Studies

Students pursuing the minor in Environmental Studies must complete:

- A minimum of 6 courses (18 credit hours) to satisfy minor requirements.
- A minimum of four courses (12 credit hours) at the 300-level or above.

The Environmental Studies minor was specifically created to provide undergraduates from a broad range of academic backgrounds with a cohesive program offering foundational literacy in the social, cultural, and scientific dimensions of environmental issues, and a cross-disciplinary holistic understanding of the challenges and solutions for creating a sustainable world. Students completing the minor will be able to synthesize frameworks, tools, and perspectives from multiple disciplines; master sustainability terminology; understand major environmental issues from multiple perspectives; develop and assess environmental solutions in an informed and logical manner; and convey knowledge and insights about environmental issues in multiple formats.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this minor. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the minor’s academic advisor (or official certifier). Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

Summary

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<th>Code</th>
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<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Credit Hours Required for the Minor in Environmental Studies</strong></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
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Minor Requirements

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Core Requirements

Core Course

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Elective Requirements

Schools of Architecture, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Select 2 from the following:

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Schools of Engineering and Natural Sciences

Select 2 from the following:

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EBIO 204 / ENST 204 | ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: THE DESIGN & PRACTICE OF COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE
EBIO 270 | ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT
EBIO 319 | TROPICAL FIELD BIOLOGY
EBIO 320 | ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION OF BRAZILIAN WETLANDS LABORATORY
EBIO 323 / ENST 323 | CONSERVATION BIOLOGY
EBIO 325 | ECOLOGY
EBIO 327 | BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
EBIO 370 | LAB MODULE IN AQUATIC ECOLOGY WITH SCUBA
EBIO 379 / ENST 379 | LAB MODULE IN AQUATIC ECOLOGY WITH SCUBA
ELEC 365 / MSNE 365 | NANOMATERIALS FOR ENERGY
ESCI 321 | EARTH SYSTEM EVOLUTION AND CYCLES
ESCI 340 / EBIO 340 / ENST 340 | GLOBAL BIOGEOCHEMICAL CYCLES
ESCI 380 / FOTO 390 | VISUALIZING NATURE
ESCI 407 | INTRODUCTION TO BIOGEOCHEMISTRY II
ESCI 425 / CHEM 425 / ENST 425 | ORGANIC GEOCHEMISTRY
ESCI 450 / CEVE 450 | REMOTE SENSING
ESCI 452 | GIS FOR SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS

Total Credit Hours 18

Footnotes and Additional Information

1. Current/former EBIO majors are eligible to substitute EBIO 325 in place of EBIO 124 to meet the introductory course requirement from the natural sciences.

2. Given the wide range of courses at Rice related to Environmental Studies, students are encouraged to contact the Minor Director to suggest courses to include on the list of approved electives.

Policies for the Minor in Environmental Studies

Program Restrictions and Exclusions

Students pursuing the minor in Environmental Studies should be aware of the following program restriction:

- As noted in Majors, Minors, and Certificates (ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-opportunities/majors-minors-certificates), i.) students may declare their intent to pursue a minor only after they have first declared a major; and ii.) students may not major and minor in the same subject.

Transfer Credit

For Rice University's policy regarding transfer credit, see Transfer Credit (ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/transfer-credit). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. The Office of Academic Advising maintains the university's official list of transfer credit advisors on their website: http://oaa.rice.edu. Students are encouraged to meet with their academic program's transfer credit advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.

Program Transfer Credit Guidelines

Students pursuing the minor in Environmental Studies should be aware of the following program-specific transfer credit guidelines:

- Requests for transfer credit will be considered by the program director (and/or the program's official transfer credit advisor) on an individual case-by-case basis.

For additional information, please see the Environmental Studies Minor page, on the Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences website: http://culturesofenergy.com/enst-minor/.

Opportunities for the Minor in Environmental Studies

Academic Honors

The university recognizes academic excellence achieved over an undergraduate's academic history at Rice. For information on university honors, please see Latin Honors (ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university) (summa cum laude, magna cum laude, and cum laude) and Distinction in Research and Creative Work (ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university). Some departments have department-specific Honors awards or designations.

For additional information, please see the Environmental Studies Minor page, on the Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences website: http://culturesofenergy.com/enst-minor/.