ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Bachelor of Science



Introduction to the Major

Environmental Science (ES) explores the impacts of human activity on earth's natural systems and the implications for humans and other species.

ES majors gain a solid foundation in diverse disciplines including biology, ecology, geoscience, chemistry, physics, statistics, economics, sociology, and policy. Putting learning into action through coursework and extracurriculars, students take part in research and internships on campus and beyond. Our planet needs action that is informed by the best available science and grounded in a collaborative spirit and sound critical thinking. This vision is central to our program.

Highlights

We train students to explore problems from multiple angles, to think critically about root causes and sustainable solutions, and to work with diverse stakeholders. We investigate environmental change on all seven continents. Majors chart a path that aligns with their passions and goals.



"ES connects diverse fields, from economics to ecology, which is crucial as we develop sustainable solutions to today's environmental challenges."

- Dr. Christopher Williams, ES Faculty



What can I do with my major?

JOBS & EMPLOYERS

ES graduates have landed jobs with Mass Audubon, National Grid, EPA, U.S. Geological Survey, Daymark Energy Advisors, state agencies, and consulting firms.

Potential career paths include management, fieldwork, or laboratory careers; conservation biology; teaching; environmental planning, protection, or regulation; and policy development.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Alumni have pursued graduate study in civil and environmental engineering, environmental health and management, forestry, public policy analysis, business, and more.

Foundational Courses & Major Tracks

ES majors complete a set of common core courses in Biology, Environmental Science, and Geography, in addition to choosing one of four tracks:

- Earth System Science
- Environmental and Conservation Biology
- Environmental Science and Policy
- Environmental Engineering











Year 1



Explore the ES major

Learn about the four program tracks and the diverse courses offered in ES. Attend a major orientation meeting during Advising Week. Meet ES faculty and staff.



Get connected

Check out Clark's environmental clubs. Attend Practicing Environmental Science events in the Spring. Explore student resources related to academic support, campus life, career development, diversity and inclusion, and health and wellness.



Develop foundational skills

Practice teamwork and collaboration through class assignments, exam preparation, club activities, or athletics. Use coursework and extracurriculars to develop oral and written communication skills.

Year 3



Represent, serve, and lead

Consider a leadership role in a student group. Visit community engagement fairs to find opportunities to serve the community and build your experience and connections.



Strengthen your networks

Connect with alumni at the Practicing ES event. Join the CCC's Alumni Job Shadow program to experience a day on the job in a field of interest.



Plan for senior year and beyond

Consider applying to the 4+1 Accelerated Master's Degree. Check in with your faculty adviser and your career adviser to create a plan.

Dedicate yourself to doing great work that represents who you are, what you care about, and what you are capable of.

Year 2



Dig in and define your interests

Continue sampling ES courses and talk with peers, your adviser, and faculty for support and guidance.



Explore resources and opportunities

Access the ES Forum online to learn about jobs and careers, summer research, and funding. Use Handshake to discover internship opportunities and career-related events.



Build your resume and start networking

Join the ES Student Action Council. Attend departmental talks and events. Introduce yourself to more faculty and peers.

Get started on your career exploration by visiting the Career Lab in ASEC to work on your resume or check out the Career Resources Library online. Attend a workshop or schedule an individual session at the Career Connections Center (CCC).

Year 4



Explore service opportunities

These might include the Student Conservation Association, AmeriCorps, the Peace Corps, Teach for America, or the U.S. Department of State.



Get published

Consider writing a popular science article or op-ed to share your knowledge on a topic you care about. Submit a scholarly manuscript for publication.



Begin your launch

Apply to job and internship opportunities by early spring. Meet with a CCC adviser to plan your strategy. Update your resume and LinkedIn profile. Learn how to pitch your skills and experiences in a succinct and compelling way.