

2009-2010

B.A. in Economics/Environmental Studies

**College of Business and Economics
Huxley College of the Environment**

What Is the Major Economics/Environmental Studies?

Economics deals with how people living in a world of scarcity make choices. These choices inevitably involve costs. Questions examined in environmental economics include efficient resource use, preservation of wilderness and biological diversity, local and regional air pollution, global climatic change, and treatment of toxic substances. Students learn how to use economic principles to help understand the causes of environmental problems and to identify potential remedies.

Environmental Studies draws on basic knowledge of how natural systems work and is applied to solving problems largely created by human activities. Often these problems are represented by disturbances in the functioning of natural systems. In addition to the study of the natural environment, a study of laws and policy related to the environment provides a foundation for solving environmental problems

Why Should I Consider This Major?

A combined major in Economics/Environmental Studies is available to students having a strong interest in the economic aspects of environmental studies and natural resources. The degree awarded is a B.A. in Economics.

How to Declare:

Admission to programs in the College of Business and Economics (BCE) is selective and based upon prior academic performance and other evidence of high promise. Students may apply for admission to the College any time after they are offered admission to Western Washington University.

Students interested in Economics Major Programs, please see the Economics Department in Parks Hall 315 for information.

Any student may declare as an Environmental Studies pre-major. The forms are available at the Huxley College office in ES 539. Admission to Huxley College and its majors is selective and based upon the following four criteria:

1. Completion of required preparatory course work
2. Academic performance (GPA)
3. A brief essay in response to a given question, and
4. Relevant experience

Applications should be received by the Huxley College office by April 25 for summer or fall quarter admission; October 6 for winter quarter; and January 15 for spring quarter.

Mid-Program Checkpoint:

Students intending to complete a major in Environmental Studies/Economics within four years should complete the following courses by the start of their junior year. Students are expected to follow all prerequisite requirements for courses and seek early departmental advisement

Coursework:

CHEM 121

BIOL 101 or 204

MATH 114 or 156

Additional lab science in Biology,
Chemistry, Geology or Physics

If possible, also take:

ECON 206 and 207

MATH 157 or 124 or equivalent

One course from:

DSCI 205 or equivalent

MATH 240, 341

Contact Information:

Huxley College of the
Environment Website:
<http://www.wwu.edu/huxley/>

Economics Website:
<http://www.cbe.wwu.edu/deptHome.asp?dept=ECON>

Economics Department Chair:
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Environmental Studies
Faculty Advisor:
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Sample Careers:

Environmental Consulting

Economics/Environmental
Researcher

Environmental Advocacy for
Non-profits

Environmental Affairs-
Business

Environmental Protection-
Government



Academic Advising Center Old Main 380

360.650.3850

Advising@wwu.edu

**This document has been created for advising purposes only. Please contact the appropriate department for major and graduation requirements.*

Economics/Environmental Studies Major Requirements: 103-104 Credits

Background Required Preparatory Courses:

BIOL 101 Introduction to Biology (4)

Or BIOL 204 Introduction to Evolution, Ecology and Biodiversity (4)

CHEM 121 General Chemistry (5)

A third course (including a laboratory) in general biology, chemistry, geology, or physics (4-5)

MATH 114 Precalculus (5)

Or MATH 156 Algebra with Applications to Business and Economics (4)

15-18 upper-division credits of electives in Economics or Environmental Studies under faculty advisement to satisfy the 85 total required credits.

Take one Communication Focus (CF) course and complete the upper-division Writing Proficiency (WP) requirement. The CF and WP courses must be taken within CBE and can be completed as part of the above required and elective courses.

Students applying to this major must have a 2.5 minimum GPA.

Huxley Core Requirements: 26-30 credits

ESTU 436 Environmental Impact Assessment (5)

Or ESCI 436 Environmental Risk Assessment (5)

ESTU 464 United States Environmental Policy (4)

ESTU 468 Environmental Law (4)

Ecological Processes: One of the following (3-4 credits)

ESCI 302 Environmental Pollution (4)

ESCI 310 Environmental Systems (4)

ESCI 325 Fundamentals of Ecology (3)

ESCI 392 Introduction to Global Change (3)

Applied Environmental Science: One of the following (3-4 credits)

ESCI 309 Exploring Environmental Data (3)

ESCI 321 Oceanography (4)

ESCI 330 Natural History of the Pacific Northwest (4)

ESCI 333 Introduction to Environmental Toxicology (4)

ESCI 361 Water Quality (3)

ESCI 463 Wetlands for Wastewater Treatment (3)

One of the following: (3-4 credits)

EGEO 310 Developing World (4)

EGEO 311 Population and Resources (3)

EGEO 312 Geography of the World Economy (4)

Economics Requirements: 44 credits

ECON 206 Introduction to Microeconomics (4)

ECON 207 Introduction to Macroeconomics (4)

ECON 303 The History of Economic Thought (4)

ECON 306 Intermediate Microeconomics (4)

ECON 307 Intermediate Macroeconomics (4)

ECON 383 Environmental Economics (4)

ECON 384 Energy Economics (4)

ECON 483 Resource Economics (4)

MATH 157 Calculus with Applications to Business and Economics (4)

Or MATH 124 Calculus & Analytic Geometry (5) [or equivalent]

DSCI 205 Business Statistics (4)

Or MATH 240 Introduction to Statistics (4)

Or MATH 341 Probability and Statistical Inference (4) or equivalent

ECON 493 Senior Seminar: Economics, the Environment and Natural Resources (4)

These courses are offered within this major and may be used to satisfy GUR or Writing Proficiency requirements.

QSR: MATH 114 or 156

SSC: ECON 206, 207

LSCI: BIOL 101, CHEM 121,
Additional Lab Science

WP: Three Writing Proficiency points are required for graduation (they are noted as WP1, WP2, and WP3). Check [Classfinder](#) or [Online Timetable](#) for departmental offerings each quarter.

Other Economics and Environmental Studies Options:

B.A. Environmental Education (85 credits)

B.A. Planning and Environmental Policy (85 credits)

B.A. Environmental Studies/Journalism (84 credits)

B.A. Geography (85 credits)

B.A. Geography/Social Studies (88-93 credits)

B.A. in Economics (66-69 credits)

B.A. Financial Economics (94-96 credits)

B.A. Economics/Mathematics (94-95 credits)

B.A. Economics/Accounting (100-101 credits)

B.A. Economics/Political Science (94-95 credits)

B.A. Politics/Philosophy/Economics (83 credits)

B.A. Economics/Social Studies (90-91 credits)

Minor in Economics (24 credits)

Minor in Environmental Studies (24 credits)

Minor in Environmental Education (26 credits)

Minor in Sustainable Design (30-32 credits)