

Economics/ Environmental Studies, BA



2011-2012

What Is the Economics/Environmental Studies Major?

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 climate 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:

Pre-major: Any student may declare as an Environmental Studies pre-major. The forms are available at the Huxley College office in ES 539.

Students planning to major in Economics should declare their major as early as possible, preferably their first year at Western.

Admission to programs in the College of Business and Economics (CBE) is selective and based upon prior academic performance and other evidence of high promise. For admission to CBE as a full Economics major, a student must have completed the following requirements:

- Confirmed admission to Western Washington University
- Achieved a 2.5 cumulative college GPA (including transfer work)

Complete the online application form at: <http://www.cbe.wvu.edu/College/Applications.asp>

Admission to Huxley College and its majors is selective and based upon the following four criteria:

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

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.

Contact Information:

Economics Website:

<http://www.cbe.wvu.edu/econ>

Huxley College of the Environment Website:

<http://www.wvu.edu/huxley/>

Economics Major Information Academic Department Manager

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Sample Careers:

Environmental Consulting
Economics/Environmental
Researcher
Environmental Advocacy for
Non-profits
Environmental Affairs-Business
Environmental Protection-
Government

Major/Career Resources:

http://www.careers.wvu.edu/students_choosingamajor.shtml

Economics/Environmental Studies, BA (103-104 credits)

Students are advised to see the department for GPA requirements within the major.

Preparatory Courses (18-19 credits)

- One course from:
 - BIOL 101 - INTRODUCTION TO BIOLOGY
 - BIOL 204 - INTRODUCTION TO EVOLUTION, ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY
- CHEM 121 - GENERAL CHEMISTRY I
- One course from:
 - MATH 114 - PRECALCULUS I
 - MATH 156 - ALGEBRA WITH APPLICATIONS TO BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
- Additional Lab Science course in BIOL, CHEM, GEOL or PHYS

Major (85 credits)

- ECON 206 - INTRODUCTION TO MICROECONOMICS
- ECON 207 - INTRODUCTION TO MACROECONOMICS
- ECON 303 - THE HISTORY OF ECONOMIC THOUGHT
- ECON 306 - INTERMEDIATE MICROECONOMICS
- ECON 307 - INTERMEDIATE MACROECONOMICS
- ECON 383 - ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS
- ECON 384 - ENERGY ECONOMICS
- ECON 483 - RESOURCE ECONOMICS
- ECON 493 - SENIOR SEMINAR: ECONOMICS, THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
- ESTU 464 - UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY
- ESTU 468 - ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
- One course from:
 - DSCI 205 - BUSINESS STATISTICS
 - MATH 240 - INTRODUCTION TO STATISTICS
 - MATH 341 - PROBABILITY AND STATISTICAL INFERENCE
- One course from:
 - EGEO 310 - DEVELOPING WORLD
 - EGEO 311 - POPULATION AND RESOURCES
 - EGEO 312 - GEOGRAPHY OF THE WORLD ECONOMY
- One course from:
 - ESCI 302 - ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION
 - ESCI 310 - ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS
 - ESCI 325 - FUNDAMENTALS OF ECOLOGY
 - ESCI 392 - INTRODUCTION TO GLOBAL CHANGE
- One course from:
 - ESCI 309 - EXPLORING ENVIRONMENTAL DATA
 - ESCI 321 - OCEANOGRAPHY
 - ESCI 330 - NATURAL HISTORY OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST
 - ESCI 333 - INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL TOXICOLOGY
 - ESCI 361 - WATER QUALITY
 - ESCI 463 - WETLANDS FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT

Major Continued

- One course from:
 - ESTU 436 - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
 - ESCI 436 - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
- One course from:
 - MATH 124 - CALCULUS AND ANALYTIC GEOMETRY I
 - MATH 157 - CALCULUS WITH APPLICATIONS TO BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
- Electives under advisement (15-18 credits)
 - ECON 300- and 400-level
 - ESTU 300- and 400-level
- Take one Communication Focus (CF) course and a minimum of three writing proficiency points in approved upper-division writing proficiency courses (WP-3 points) at WWU with a minimum grade of C-. The CF course must be taken within the College of Business and Economics, while the WP requirement can be met with courses from any of the combined major departments. These requirements can be completed as part of the above required and elective credits. Consult the Timetable of Classes for the specific course sections that fulfill the CF and WP requirements.

Other Economics Options

Economics Minor

Economics, BA

Economics/Accounting, BA

Economics/Mathematics, BA

Economics/Political Science, BA

Economics/Social Studies, BA

Financial Economics, BA

Politics/Philosophy/Economics, BA

Geography- Environmental and Resource Management, BA

Planning and Environmental Policy, BA

General University Requirements (GUR):

The courses below are offered within this major and may also be used to satisfy GUR or Writing Proficiency Requirements.

QSR: MATH 114, 124, 156, 157, 240

SSC: ECON 206, 207; EGEO 312

LSCI: BIOL 101, 204; CHEM 121

WP: Three Writing Proficiency points are required for graduation (noted as WP1,2 and 3). Check *Classfinder* or *Online Timetable* for departmental offerings each quarter.

Academic Advising Center, a unit of Academic and Career Development Services
Old Main 380 360.650.3850 advising@wwu.edu

This document has been created for advising purposes only. Please contact the appropriate department for updates and changes.