



Environmental Studies

College of Liberal Studies

The Environmental Studies minor is part of a campus-wide effort to enhance environmental awareness at UW-La Crosse. Open to students in all majors, the minor is intended to help undergraduate students 1) become more environmentally aware and responsible, 2) understand environmentalism in an interdisciplinary context, and 3) enhance their career options in environmentally-related fields. While housed in the College of Liberal Studies, instructors for the program come from across campus and have expertise in the natural sciences, the social sciences, and/or the humanities.

Undergraduate Program

Minor:

- Environmental Studies

This minor is interdisciplinary, case-based, and experiential in its scope. Students appreciate the hands-on learning relative to other classes.

Program Features

The Environmental Studies minor has two major curricular components. The first component is a 3-course series that moves students from a basic understanding of environmentalism to a senior-level course in environmental action. The second component of the minor is a range of courses that have environmental themes. Students may select from classes in anthropology, archaeology, biology, chemistry, economics, education, English, geography, health, history, philosophy, political science, recreation, sociology, and women's studies.

Environmental Studies is proud to be a genuinely interdisciplinary program. Rather than having an environmental studies faculty, the Environmental Studies minor has faculty members from other departments bring their expertise to issues on the environment. More and more students come to UW-La Crosse wanting the opportunity to grow in ecological literacy. This interdisciplinary program works well for these students.

Career Opportunities

As a minor, the Environmental Studies program's primary purpose is environmental literacy, not employment training. The program, however, does serve as supplemental training for a variety of fields where environmental literacy is an asset. Examples include teachers with an interest in environmental education, recreation professionals with an interest in outdoor education and adventure programming, students of any of the social sciences with an interest in environmental action, students majoring in biology and chemistry with a desire for a broader view, business people with an interest in environmental compliance, philosophers with an interest in environmental ethics, geographers with an interest in humankind's relationship with the natural world, and English majors interested in nature writing and conservation journalism.

A number of students have advanced to pursue graduate work in environmental studies.

Environmental Studies Office
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