

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES - B.A.

College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Geography
www.kent.edu/geography

Contact Information

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- Speak with an Advisor
 - Kent Campus
 - Stark Campus
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Fully Offered

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus
 - Stark Campus

Examples of Possible Careers*

Compliance officers

- 4.6% about as fast as the average
- 337,600 number of jobs
- \$71,100 potential earnings

Environmental science teachers, postsecondary

- 3.7% about as fast as the average
- 7,600 number of jobs
- \$84,740 potential earnings

Environmental scientists and specialists, including health

- 7.8% faster than the average
- 90,900 number of jobs
- \$73,230 potential earnings

Environmental science and protection technicians, including health

- 8.4% much faster than the average
- 34,700 number of jobs
- \$46,850 potential earnings

Forestry and conservation science teachers, postsecondary

- 2.2% slower than the average
- 2,100 number of jobs
- \$87,400 potential earnings

*Note

Source of occupation titles and labor data is from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics'

Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies prepares students to integrate concepts and knowledge on environmental issues from across multiple disciplines and to communicate about these in important ways. Basic scientific knowledge about environmental processes is used to inform different social goals. Students develop a set of key competencies in earth systems science, environmental social science, human-natural systems and sustainability science to be able to solve specific environmental problems.

Environmental Studies students may apply early to the M.S. degree in Geography and double count 9 credit hours of graduate courses toward both degree programs. See the Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program policy in the University Catalog for more information.

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students who graduated from high school three or more years ago.

First-Year Students on the Kent Campus: First-year admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon cumulative grade point average, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. Students not admissible to the Kent Campus may be administratively referred to one of the seven regional campus to begin their college coursework. For more information, visit the admissions website for first-year students.

First-Year Students on the Regional Campuses: First-year admission to Kent State's campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Twinsburg Academic Center, is open to anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent. Check with a regional campus admissions office to determine application requirements, as they may differ among campuses.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions) by earning a minimum 525 TOEFL score (71 on the Internet-based version), minimum 75 MELAB score, minimum 6.0 IELTS score, minimum 48 PTE score or minimum 100 DET score; or by completing the ESL level 112 Intensive Program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Transfer Students: For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students or graduates who have not attended another college or university since Kent State may complete the reenrollment or reinstatement form on the University Registrar's website.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the environment and how it relates to human activity, human resource needs and human cognition.
2. Analyze the interconnections between environmental and human systems and how those play out in particular problem areas.
3. Evaluate how environmental problems are framed and how public attitudes and policies can be harnessed to provide solutions to environmental degradation.

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Destination Kent State: First Year Experience | 1 |
| Course is not required for students with 25 transfer credits, excluding College Credit Plus, or age 21+ at time of admission. | |
| Diversity Domestic/Global (DIVD/DIVG) | 2 courses |
| Students must successfully complete one domestic and one global course, of which one must be from the Kent Core. | |
| Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR) | varies |
| Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience. | |
| Kent Core (see table below) | 36-37 |
| Writing-Intensive Course (WIC) | 1 course |
| Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course. | |
| Upper-Division Requirement | 39 |
| Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate. | |
| Total Credit Hour Requirement | 120 |

Kent Core Requirements

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Kent Core Composition (KCMP) | 6 |
| Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR) | 3 |
| Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each) | 9 |
| Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines) | 6 |
| Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory) | 6-7 |
| Kent Core Additional (KADL) | 6 |
| Total Credit Hours: | 36-37 |

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|--|---|--------------|
| Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA) | | |
| BSCI 10110 | BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (ELR) (KBS) (KLAB) | 4 |
| ENVS 22070 | NATURE AND SOCIETY (KSS) | 3 |
| ENVS 30105 | CAREER PATHWAYS IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES | 1 |
| ENVS 32091 | ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND SUSTAINABILITY | 2 |
| ENVS 42099 | INTEGRATIVE SENIOR PROJECT (ELR) (WIC) ¹ | 2 |
| ESCI 21062 | ENVIRONMENTAL EARTH SCIENCE (KBS) | 3 |
| Biological Sciences Elective, choose from the following: | | 2-4 |
| BSCI 30274 | FORESTRY | |

| | | |
|---|---|-----|
| BSCI 30275 | LOCAL FLORA (ELR) | |
| BSCI 30277 | ECONOMIC BOTANY | |
| BSCI 30360 | GENERAL ECOLOGY | |
| BSCI 30361 | BIOGEOGRAPHY | |
| BSCI 30362 | INTRODUCTION TO BIOLOGY OF THE TROPICS | |
| BSCI 30370 | CLIMATE CHANGE BIOLOGY | |
| BSCI 40170 | STREAM BIOLOGY | |
| BSCI 40222 | INVASION BIOLOGY | |
| BSCI 40365 | FIELD METHODS IN ORNITHOLOGY (ELR) | |
| BSCI 40375 | ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT | |
| BSCI 40525 | WILDLIFE RESOURCES (ELR) | |
| BSCI 40558 | MAMMALOLOGY | |
| BSCI 40560 | HERPETOLOGY | |
| Geography Elective, choose from the following: | | 3 |
| GEOG 41051 | NATURAL DISASTERS AND SOCIETY | |
| GEOG 41066 | GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE | |
| GEOG 41074 | RESOURCE GEOGRAPHY | |
| GEOG 41082 | GEOGRAPHY OF SOILS | |
| GEOG 41195 | SPECIAL TOPICS IN ENVIRONMENTAL GEOGRAPHY | |
| Earth Science Elective, choose from the following: | | 3 |
| ESCI 33025 | WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT | |
| ESCI 42065 | WATERSHED HYDROLOGY | |
| ESCI 42066 | PHYSICAL HYDROGEOLOGY | |
| Methods Elective, choose from the following: | | 3-4 |
| BSCI 40224 | QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN BIOLOGY | |
| ESCI 42030 | REMOTE SENSING | |
| ESCI 42035 | DATA ANALYSIS IN THE EARTH SCIENCES | |
| GEOG 49070 | GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE | |
| GEOG 49073 | ENVIRONMENTAL DATA ANALYSIS IN R | |
| GEOG 49230 | REMOTE SENSING | |
| SOC 32210 | RESEARCHING SOCIETY (ELR) (WIC) ¹ | |
| Social Sciences Electives, choose from the following: | | 15 |
| ARCS 30421 | ENVIRONMENTAL IMPERATIVES | |
| ECON 32084 | ECONOMICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT | |
| ENG 35105 | LITERATURE, CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT | |
| ENVS 30000 | ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION REGULATIONS AND ASSESSMENT | |
| ENVS 46092 | INTERNSHIP IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (ELR) | |
| ENVS 49195 | SPECIAL TOPICS IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES | |
| FDM 35012 | SUSTAINABILITY IN FASHION | |
| GEOG 31070 | POPULATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT | |
| GEOG 32023 | CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY GARDENS (ELR) | |
| GEOG 41073 | CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES | |
| GEOG 41077 | WATER AND SOCIETY | |
| GEOG 41800 | GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES | |
| GEOG 42064 | SETTLING THE NORTH AMERICAN ENVIRONMENT | |
| GEOG 45085 | URBAN TRANSPORTATION | |
| GEOG 46060 | FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY | |
| GEOG 46070 | URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING | |
| GEOG 46080 | URBAN SUSTAINABILITY | |
| PACS 35050 | ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION | |
| PHIL 30025 | ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS (ELR) | |
| PLST 35001 | ENVIRONMENTAL LAW FOR PARALEGALS | |

| | |
|------------|--|
| POL 30350 | ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION |
| POL 40440 | U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS AND POLICIES |
| POL 40540 | POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT (DIVG) |
| RPTM 36082 | INTERPRETATION OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES |
| RPTM 36083 | ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND CONSERVATION |
| SOC 42560 | SOCIOLOGY OF FOOD |
| SOC 42565 | ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY |

Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)

| | | |
|--|---|-------|
| UC 10097 | DESTINATION KENT STATE: FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE | 1 |
| Foreign Language (see Foreign Language College Requirement below) | | 14-16 |
| Kent Core Composition | | 6 |
| Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning | | 3 |
| Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (minimum one course from each) | | 9 |
| Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines) | | 3 |
| Kent Core Additional | | 6 |
| General Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 120 credit hours, including 39 upper-division credit hours) | | 37 |

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120

¹ A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.

Graduation Requirements

| Minimum Major GPA | Minimum Overall GPA |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 2.000 | 2.000 |

Foreign Language College Requirement, B.A.

Students pursuing the Bachelor of Arts degree in the College of Arts and Sciences must complete 14-16 credit hours of foreign language.¹

To complete the requirement, students need the equivalent of Elementary I and II in any language, plus one of the following options²:

1. Intermediate I and II of the same language
2. Elementary I and II of a second language
3. Any combination of two courses from the following list:
 - Intermediate I of the same language
 - ARAB 21401
 - ASL 19401
 - CHIN 25421
 - MCLS 10001
 - MCLS 20001
 - MCLS 20091
 - MCLS 21417
 - MCLS 21420
 - MCLS 22217
 - MCLS 28403
 - MCLS 28404

¹ All students with prior foreign language experience should take the foreign language placement test to determine the appropriate level at which to start. Some students may start beyond the Elementary I level and will complete the requirement with fewer credit hours and fewer courses. This may be accomplished by (1) passing a course beyond Elementary I through Intermediate II level; (2) receiving credit through

one of the alternative credit programs offered by Kent State University; or (3) demonstrating language proficiency comparable to Elementary II of a foreign language. When students complete the requirement with fewer than 14 credit hours and four courses, they will complete remaining credit hours with general electives.

² Certain majors, concentrations and minors may require specific languages, limit the languages from which a student may choose or require coursework through Intermediate II. Students who plan to pursue graduate study may need particular language coursework.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major. However, courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

| Semester One | | Credits |
|-----------------------|---|-----------|
| ENVS 22070 | NATURE AND SOCIETY (KSS) | 3 |
| UC 10097 | DESTINATION KENT STATE: FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE | 1 |
| Kent Core Requirement | | 3 |
| Kent Core Requirement | | 3 |
| Kent Core Requirement | | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 13 |

| Semester Two | | Credits |
|-----------------------|---|-----------|
| BSCI 10110 | BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (ELR) (KBS) (KLAB) | 4 |
| ESCI 21062 | ENVIRONMENTAL EARTH SCIENCE (KBS) | 3 |
| Kent Core Requirement | | 3 |
| Kent Core Requirement | | 3 |
| Kent Core Requirement | | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 16 |

| Semester Three | | Credits |
|--------------------------|--|-----------|
| Geography Elective | | 3 |
| Social Sciences Elective | | 3 |
| Foreign Language | | 4 |
| Kent Core Requirement | | 3 |
| Kent Core Requirement | | 3 |
| Credit Hours | | 16 |

| Semester Four | | Credits |
|------------------------------|--|-----------|
| ENVS 30105 | CAREER PATHWAYS IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES | 1 |
| Biological Sciences Elective | | 2-4 |
| Methods Elective | | 3-4 |
| Foreign Language | | 4 |
| Kent Core Requirement | | 3 |
| General Electives | | 4 |
| Credit Hours | | 17 |

| Semester Five | | Credits |
|--------------------------|--|-----------|
| Social Sciences Elective | | 3 |
| Earth Science Elective | | 3 |
| Foreign Language | | 3 |
| General Electives | | 6 |
| Credit Hours | | 15 |

| Semester Six | | Credits |
|--------------------------|--|---------|
| ENVS 32091 | ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND SUSTAINABILITY | 2 |
| Social Sciences Elective | | 3 |
| Foreign Language | | 3 |

| | |
|---|------------|
| General Electives | 6 |
| Credit Hours | 14 |
| Semester Seven | |
| Social Sciences Elective | 3 |
| General Electives | 12 |
| Credit Hours | 15 |
| Semester Eight | |
| ENVS 42099 INTEGRATIVE SENIOR PROJECT (ELR) (WIC) | 2 |
| Social Sciences Elective | 3 |
| General Electives | 9 |
| Credit Hours | 14 |
| Minimum Total Credit Hours: | 120 |