Environmental studies focuses on the relationships between the natural environment and social, economic, political, legal and humanistic aspects of society. As global population and consumption rise, understanding the interplay between environmental and social systems has become an increasingly important component of decision-making and planning. The program helps prepare students for careers that emphasize a dual awareness of scientific and social perspectives and their relationship to the natural environment.

The environmental studies curriculum at Saint Louis University is built upon a breadth-plus-depth model. All students entering the environmental studies program are required to complete a core set of preparatory science and skill development courses that provide a broad introduction to the environmental sciences. Students then choose a specialized track that provides more advanced instruction in their areas of interest to help prepare them for careers after graduation. The program has been developed through collaboration with many other departments on campus and provides considerable flexibility in course selection within the tracks. For most students, the program fuses an understanding of environmental science with the approximate equivalent of a self-designed minor in their specific area of interest.

Although many students in the program will take the majority of their upper-division classes in other departments, environmental studies students are hosted by the department of Earth and atmospheric sciences and have ready access to all departmental resources, including excellent computer laboratories, annual week-long environmental science field trips and a strengthening relationship with local internship opportunities.

### Program Overview

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### About the Faculty

The department of Earth and atmospheric sciences has a proud tradition of combining strong classroom and field-based instruction with an internationally recognized research faculty. The department frequently hosts visiting scientists from around the globe and sponsors technical and general environmental science seminars.

### Curriculum

Environmental studies students take a minimum of 38 credit hours of math and science core classes. Students then choose from one of the following concentrations:

- Philosophy, religion and ethics
- Economics, politics and public policy

A minimum of 27 credit hours is required for completion of the concentration.

All students must complete an internship or a capstone project.
Admission Requirements
Freshman: All applications are thoroughly and carefully reviewed. Solid academic performance in college preparatory course work is a primary criterion in reviewing a freshman applicant’s file. College admission test scores (ACT or SAT) are used as an additional indicator of the student’s ability to meet the University’s academic requirements and to qualify the student for certain University scholarship programs. To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, the applicant must be approaching graduation from an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer: Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED. An official high school transcript and official test scores are required only of those students who have attempted fewer than 24 transferable semester hours (or 30 quarter hours) of college credit. Those having completed 24 hours or more of college credit need only submit a transcript from previously attended college(s). In reviewing a transfer applicant’s file, the office of admission holistically examines the student’s academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student’s ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University.

Internships and Careers
Undergraduate students in the environmental studies program have the option to pursue internship opportunities through the department of Earth and atmospheric sciences or in collaboration with other departments on campus. Students also have the option to participate in a capstone project designed to provide a real-world perspective as part of their undergraduate training.

The environmental studies program prepares students for careers in business, law, government or wherever knowledge of scientific and social perspectives on the environment is important. Students also have the opportunity to prepare for more advanced degrees in a wide range of fields, including law, economics and public policy.

Scholarships and Financial Aid
There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:
+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.