Environmental Studies MAJOR (64-68 credits)
The Rhode Island College Environmental Studies Program takes an interdisciplinary approach, focusing on how humans interact with their environment and the essential and reciprocal relationship between humans and the natural world while exploring how to move towards a more sustainable future for human and natural systems. Drawing on courses offered in the Biology, Mathematics and the Physical Sciences students learn scientific principles that enable us to make accurate observations, document change, and to understand the dynamics of Earth system processes. In courses drawn from the Humanities, Social Sciences and Arts students learn about human behavior, cultural variation, and the function of our social, political, and economic institutions as they relate to the natural world.

Learning Outcomes
Students completing the degree in Environmental Studies will be able to:

- demonstrate an understanding of fundamental physical and biological principles that govern natural processes.
- demonstrate an understanding of fundamental concepts from the social sciences and the humanities underlying environmental thought and governance.
- integrate and apply perspectives from across the natural sciences, social sciences, and the humanities in the context of complex environmental problems.
- communicate integrated perspectives on complex environmental problems in the form of written and oral argument to both professional and lay audiences.
- design and conduct independent research that contributes to environmental thought and/or problem solving.

MAJOR  
(48-68 credits)

1. Foundational courses: (48 credits)

A. Environmental Studies  
(1 courses, 4 credits)
Goal: define environmental studies and examine the environment from an interdisciplinary approach.
ENST 200: Environmental Studies (Writing in the Discipline)

B. Statistics  
(1 course, 4 credits)
Goals: Students will be introduced to the applications and methods of mathematical analyses.
MATH 240: Statistical Methods I (pre: 3 units college prep math or MATH 120)

C. Professional Writing  
(1 course, 4 credits)
Goals: Building on the foundational skills in writing developed in FYW, students will continue focus on technical writing, taking concepts from the sciences and making them accessible to non-specialized audience.
Select one.
ENG 231: Writing for Digital and Multimedia Environments (pre: FYW)
ENG 232: Writing for the Public Sphere (pre: FYW)

D. The Natural Environment  
(3 courses, 12 credits)
Goals: In these courses students build a foundation for understanding of the natural environment. Students learn how the scientific method generates knowledge and they learn how to apply the methods of scientific research to understand the physical world.
Select one from each section
1. BIO 100: Fundamental Concepts of Biology NS
2. CHEM 105: General, Organic, and Biochemistry I NS
3. PSCI 212: Introduction to Geology NS
   PSCI 217: Introduction to Oceanography NS

E. The Cultural Environment  
(2 courses, 8 credits)
Goals: Students will learn how the environment shapes and is shaped by humans. These courses expose students to the diversity of behavioral adaptations humans have developed to the environment through space and time
Select one from each section
1. ANTH 101: Introduction to Cultural Anthropology SB
   ANTH 102: Introduction to Archaeology
   SOC 200: Society and Social Behavior
2. HIST 328: History of the American West (Gen Ed HIST or consent of chair)
   HIST 358: Environmental History (Gen Ed HIST or consent of chair)
F. The Human-Environment Interface  
(4 courses, 16 credits)

Goals: Students will be exposed to the responsibility humans must have to and for the environment, both locally and globally, both in the present and for the future.

Select one from each section

1. POL 202: American Government SB
   POL 203: Global Politics SB
2. PHIL 325: Environmental Ethics (pre: 30 college credits)
3. ECON 214: Microeconomics (pre: college math)
   GEOG 301: Natural Resource Management (pre: 100 or 200 GEOG)
4. ANTH 214: Amazonia
   COMM 240: Mass Media and Society
   GEOG 100: Introduction to Environmental Geography
   GEOG 201: Mapping Our Changing World
   SOC 204: Urban Sociology
   SUST 200: Introduction to Sustainability

2. Depth Courses  
(4 courses, 12-16 credits)

Goals: Students will explore in greater depth and the content areas A-F.

Select four, no more than 2 courses from any single department/program

ANTH 307: Human Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior (pre: BIO 100) AQR
ANTH 325: Regional Studies South Am Indians (pre: ANTH 101)
ANTH 334: Technology, Culture and Society (pre: 60 credits and and SB)
ANTH 338: Urban Anthropology (pre: ANTH 101)
ENG 315: Literature, Environment & Ecocriticism (ENG 202 for English Majors, ENST 200 for ENST majors)
GEOG 202: GIS I (pre: GEOG 201)
GEOG 206: Disaster Management SB
GEOG 301: Natural Resource Management (pre: 100 or 200 GEOG)*
GEOG 307: Coastal Geography (pre: 100 or 200 GEOG)
GEOG 338: People, Houses, Neighborhoods (pre: 100 or 200 GEOG)
HIST 357: Public History (Gen Ed HIST or consent of chair)
INGO 300/POL345: International Non-governmental Studies (pre: POL 203)
INGO 301: Applied Developmental Studies (pre: 200-level POL)
PHIL 320: Philosophy of Science (30 college credits or any 100- or 200-level PHIL course)
POL 300: Methods in Political Science (pre: POL 202 + gen ed math) AQR
POL 301: Foundations of Public Administration (pre: POL 202)
POL 341: Politics of Developing Nations (pre: POL 203)
POL 342: Politics of Global Economic Change (pre: POL 203)
POL 355: Policy Formation Process (pre: POL 202)
PSCI 340: Field Methods in Geology (pre: PSCI 212)
SOC 302: Social Research Methods (pre: 200 level SOC course) AQR

Appropriate topics from different departments

*GEOG 301 may not be taken for both Foundational and Depth credit.

3. Capstone  
(Writing in the Discipline)  
(4 credits)

Goals: Taken during the senior year, students will bring together the interdisciplinary content taken in Sections A-G.

Select one (Seminar, Internship, or Field Course)

1. ENST 461: Environmental Studies Seminar (pre: senior standing)
2. ENST 462: Internship in Environmental Studies
   POL 327: Internship in State Government
   POL 328: Field Experiences in the Public Sector
   INGO 303 & 304: Pre-Internship and Internship in INGO
   GEOG 463: Internship in Geography
3. ANTH 482: Anthropology Field Course: Archaeology
   ANTH 483: Anthropology Field Course: Biological Anthropology
### Total Credits:

**Foundational**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Environmental Studies</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Statistics</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Professional Writing</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. The Natural Environment</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. The Cultural Environment</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. The Human-Environment Interface</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Foundational Credits: 48 credits

**Depth:**

- 12-16 credits

**Capstone:**

- 4 credits

**Total:**

- 64 – 68 credits

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**Gen Ed:**

- 12-16 credits

**Gen Ed credits:**

- AQSR possible: 4 credits
- SB, NS, Math, H: 12 credits
- Gen Ed credits not included: FYS, FYW, Conn, A, L, Foreign Language

**Total (subtracting Gen Ed):**

- 48 – 56 credits
MINOR (20 credits)

Environmental Studies (1 courses, 4 credits)
ENST 200: Environmental Studies

The Natural Environment (1 course, 4 credits)
Select one course
- BIO 100: Fund Concepts of Biology
- CHEM 105: Gen, Organic, & Biochem I
- PSCI 212: Introduction to Geology
- PSCI 217: Introduction to Oceanography

The Human Environment (1 course, 4 credits)
Select one course that cannot count towards your major.
- ANTH 101: Intro to Cultural Anthropology
- ANTH 102: Intro to Archaeology
- ANTH 214: Amazonia
- COMM 240: Mass Media and Society
- ECON 214: Microeconomics
- GEOG 100: Intro to Environmental Geography
- GEOG 201: Mapping Our Changing World
- GEOG 301: Natural Resource Management
- HIST 328: History of the American West
- HIST 358: Environ History
- PHIL 325: Environmental Ethics
- POL 202: American Government
- POL 203: Global Politics
- SOC 200: Society and Social Behavior
- SOC 204: Urban Sociology
- SUST 200: Introduction to Sustainability

2. Depth Courses (2 courses, 8 credits)
Select 2 courses
- ANTH 307: Human Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior (pre: BIO 100) AQSR
- ANTH 325: Regional Studies South Am Indians (pre: ANTH 101)
- ANTH 334: Technology, Culture and Society (pre: 60 credits and and SB)
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- POL 355: Policy Formation Process (pre: POL 202)
- PSCI 340: Field Methods in Geology (pre: PSCI 212)
- SOC 302: Social Research Methods (pre: 200 level SOC course) AQSR
- XXXX 350: Appropriate topics from different departments

*GEOG 301 may not be taken for both Foundational and Depth credit.