

Environmental Studies



What is the Environmental Studies Program?

Environmental studies is an exciting field of learning that involves an interdisciplinary approach to the study of human interaction with the environment. Students in this major examine the connections between social, scientific, economic, and legal aspects of environmental issues. The complex interaction that occurs between the natural and constructed environment requires the application of the biological and physical sciences in order to manage, coordinate, and solve these problems.

Students who major in environmental studies may find positions in a variety of fields. Individuals working in environmental careers use their skills and knowledge of science and policy to help protect and preserve the environment and human health. A person may be involved in cleanup of a polluted area, work in industry to reduce waste, or act as an advisor to legislators. They may also work in an office, classroom, laboratory, or in the field gathering data or monitoring specific environmental areas.

Students in this program will complete a multi-disciplinary core set of courses within a structured, exploratory program of environmental studies that prepares them for transfer to a four-year institution. Depending on career interests, students will be able to select courses from a list of electives that include science, policy, education, and government courses that focus on economic, social, and political aspects of environmental issues.

Additional information is available online at www.hagerstowncc.edu/environmentalstudies

What type of students excel in this program?

Students who do well in this program typically enjoy hands-on activities and exploring the environment through field studies. They have good analytical and problem-solving skills, enabling them to look at a variety of methods to approach a problem and use data to find an appropriate solution. They must have self-discipline and be self-motivated since they




often work independently. Excellent oral and written communication skills are essential for delivering information to a wide audience of people. Interpersonal skills are a must for working effectively with a team of people to complete a common goal.

What types of jobs can originate from the Environmental Studies Program?

There are a variety of jobs that can be pursued with a degree in environmental studies, and for which an associate degree or higher is preferred. Most students who major in Environmental Studies go on to obtain a four-year degree which leads them to careers as field analysts, research assistants, or laboratory and office technicians. Others may become environmental engineers, wastewater and water treatment plant operators, and environmental protection technicians. The areas of agriculture, forestry, and conservation require either a biology-related degree or a degree in environmental studies. Facilities such as hospitals have environmental health and safety engineers that monitor radiation/chemotherapy agents and biological, chemical, and hazardous wastes.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

 A.S. Degree, Environmental Studies

CAREER OUTLOOK

MEDIAN SALARY

\$76K

for Environmental Scientists and Specialists

EMPLOYMENT



80,000 jobs in U.S.
5% growth over next ten years

Heightened public interest in hazards facing the environment is projected to create demand for environmental scientists and specialists. These workers will continue to be needed to analyze environmental problems and develop solutions that ensure communities' health.

(source: www.bls.gov/ooh)

What are the program options?

Students can earn a two-year associate of science degree in Environmental Studies. Through transfer agreements with collaborating four-year institutions, students will be provided with seamless transfer options to allow them to complete their bachelor's degree in a timely manner.

Students majoring in environmental studies can pursue dual degrees with other STEM programs such as biology, chemistry, physics, and engineering.



Why choose HCC?

- The Environmental Studies Program provides a strong foundation in environmental science and policy, with opportunities to take electives that align with personal interests and career goals.
- HCC students enjoy small class size compared to most four-year colleges and universities.
- The environmental studies classes are taught by faculty with robust backgrounds in biology, political science, and environmental sciences.
- Hands-on learning and application of scientific method is employed in the laboratory classes, which are taught in the fully equipped facilities in the STEM Building.
- HCC offers articulation agreements that allows students earning a two-year degree in Environmental Studies to easily transfer to Frostburg University, Shepherd University, and other regional institutions.

A.S. Degree

Environmental Studies

The Environmental Studies Degree will provide students with the opportunity to study both the scientific and policy applications of environmental issues. Students in the program will complete a multi-disciplinary “core” set of courses within a structured, exploratory program of environmental studies that prepares them for transfer to a four-year institution. Depending on their intended career and/or transfer goals, students will be able to select courses from a list of electives. The environmental science

courses will involve students in the study of the natural sciences and the human context of environmental problems. Students who desire to focus more heavily on environmental policy can focus on the economic and political aspects of environmental issues.

Program Requirements 60 credits (Includes 29-30 General Education Requirements and 18 program requirements)

First Year Fall

BIO 113	Principles of Biology I.....	4
ENG 101	English Composition	3
<i>*ENG 101E and ENG 101P are approved substitutions for ENG 101. A minimum grade letter of “C” is required.</i>		
MAT 116	Statistical Reasoning.....	3

OR

MAT 161	Pre-Calculus II	4
CHM 101	Introductory College Chemistry.....	4

OR

CHM 103	General Chemistry I.....	4
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TOTAL 14

First Year Spring

Gen Ed	Arts/Humanities	3
Gen Ed	Behavioral/Social Sciences	3
<i>*ECO 201, ECO 202 or POL 101 are recommended</i>		

BIO 114	Principles of Biology II.....	4
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PHS 111	Earth Science.....	4
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TOTAL 14

Second Year Fall

Gen Ed	Behavioral/Social Sciences	3
<i>*ECO 201, ECO 202 or POL 101 are recommended</i>		

Gen Ed	Arts/Humanities.....	3
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ENV 201	Fundamentals of Environmental Science.....	4
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ENV 203	Environmental Policy and Regulations ...	3
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Choose elective in consultation with an advisor 3

TOTAL 16

Second Year Spring

Gen Ed Diversity	3
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**GEO 105 is recommended*

COM 108	Intro to Human Communication.....	3
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OR

COM 103	Public Speaking.....	3
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ENV 204	Public Health and the Environment.....	3
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Choose 2 electives in consultation with an advisor..... 7

TOTAL 16

Free Electives 12-13 Credits

Free electives should be selected in consultation with a transfer advisor and the transfer institution. Some recommended courses include:

Select any Biology (BIO) course with a laboratory (except BIO 106).....	4
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Select any Biotechnology (BTC) course	3-4
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Select any Chemistry (CHM) course.....	4
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AET 102	Introduction to Alternative Energy.....	3
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ELE 130	Introduction to Unmanned Systems.....	3
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ECO 201	Macroeconomic Principles.....	3
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ECO 202	Microeconomic Principles	3
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ENG 102	Advanced English Composition	3
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ENV 101	Introduction to Sustainable Agriculture.....	3
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GEO 105	World Regional Geography.....	3
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MAT 109	Statistics.....	3
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MAT 160	Precalculus I.....	3
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MAT 161	Precalculus II.....	4
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MAT 203	Calculus I	4
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MAT 204	Calculus II	4
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Select any Education (EDU) course	3
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Select any Engineering Science (EGR) course	3-4
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Select any Physics (PHS) course.....	3-4
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Select any Paralegal Studies (PLS) course.....	3
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Select any Political Studies (POL) course	3
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Degree Requirement..... 60

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