

# ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES - B.A.

College of Arts and Sciences  
Department of Environmental Studies  
[www.kent.edu/geography](http://www.kent.edu/geography)

## About This Program

The Environmental Studies B.A. program combines scientific, social and policy perspectives to provide you with a comprehensive understanding of environmental issues. Enroll now and become an agent for positive change. Read more...

## Contact Information

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- Speak with an Advisor
  - Kent Campus
  - Stark Campus
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor: Kent Campus | Regional Campuses

## Program Delivery

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

## Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries\*

### 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

\* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes 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.

## 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 campuses 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. For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

**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 or minimum 48 PTE Academic score, or by completing the ELS level 112 Intensive Program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

**Transfer Students:** Students who have attended any other educational institution after graduating from high school must apply as undergraduate 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.

Admission policies for undergraduate students may be found in the University Catalog's Academic Policies.

Some programs may require that students meet certain requirements before progressing through the program. For programs with progression requirements, the information is shown on the program's Coursework tab.

## Program Requirements

### Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)</b>		
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) <sup>1</sup>	3
ESCI 21062	ENVIRONMENTAL EARTH SCIENCE (KBS)	3
Biological Sciences Elective, choose from the following:		3-4
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 30582	ORNITHOLOGY	
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	
Earth Science Elective, choose from the following:		3
ESCI 33025	WATER AND THE ENVIRONMENT	
ESCI 42065	WATERSHED HYDROLOGY	
ESCI 42066	PHYSICAL HYDROGEOLOGY	
ESCI 44040	EARTH'S ENERGY TRANSITION	
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	
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	
ESCI 42060	EARTH OBSERVING	
GEOG 40285	FIELD EXPERIENCE IN GEOGRAPHY	
GEOG 49070	GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE	
GEOG 49073	ENVIRONMENTAL DATA ANALYSIS IN R	
GEOG 49230	REMOTE SENSING	
SOC 32210	RESEARCHING SOCIETY (ELR) (WIC) <sup>1</sup>	
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	FOOD AND PLACE (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	
PACS 45060	ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE	
PH 30006	INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY	
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 10001	FLASHES 101	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)		35

**Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120**

<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>1</sup>

To complete the requirement, students need the equivalent of Elementary I and II in any language, plus one of the following options<sup>2</sup>:

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

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>13</b>
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
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
Semester Three		Credits
Geography Elective		3

Social Sciences Elective		3
Foreign Language		4
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
Semester Four		Credits
Biological Sciences Elective		3-4
Methods Elective		3-4
Foreign Language		4
Kent Core Requirement		3
General Elective		2
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
Semester Five		Credits
Earth Science Elective		3
Social Sciences Elective		3
Foreign Language		3
General Electives		6
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
Semester Six		Credits
ENVS 30105	CAREER PATHWAYS IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES	1
ENVS 32091	ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND SUSTAINABILITY	2
Social Sciences Elective		3
Foreign Language		3
General Electives		6
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
Semester Seven		Credits
Social Sciences Elective		3
General Electives		12
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
Semester Eight		Credits
ENVS 42099	INTEGRATIVE SENIOR PROJECT (ELR) (WIC)	3
Social Sciences Elective		3
General Electives		9
<b>Credit Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Minimum Total Credit Hours:</b>		<b>120</b>

## 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.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ 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 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course

Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.

Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
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Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.

Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours
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## 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
<b>Total Credit Hours:</b>	<b>36-37</b>

## 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.

## Full 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.