



WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

# Environmental Studies Minor

Institute for Environmental Studies, College of Arts & Sciences

## Program of Study

Environmental Studies (ES) students matriculating under WIU's fall 2009 academic catalog will choose a program of study built around one of three foundation areas: (1) Environmental and Earth Sciences, (2) Human Dimensions and Environmental Interactions, and (3) Environmental Management and Decision-making. Typically, ES minors take Envr 201 (Introduction to Environmental Studies) within their first four regular semesters of enrollment. Students then focus on foundation area requirements and complete the ES minor by successfully completing the capstone course, Envr 401.

## Faculty

As an interdisciplinary minor, courses are taught by faculty from academic disciplines representing the College of Arts & Sciences' three core areas of concentration: physical and natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities. This framework provides students with a unique, integrated, and holistic approach to understanding environmental challenges.

## Special Opportunities

Students have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities, including WIU's Environmental Summit, service learning projects conducted in close coordination with the local community, sustainability groups, and other environmentally relevant activities sponsored by individual departments. Through the Institute for Environmental Studies, WIU has formal agreements with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which provides opportunities for students to assist with real-world research being conducted on the Mississippi River and its tributaries.

## After College

The ES minor supports a diverse array of options for future careers as well as additional graduate-level study. Depending on an individual's major and ES minor foundation area, students can prepare for a wide range of environmentally related careers. Representative examples include natural resource management (wildlife biologist), environmental policy (policy analyst), environmental advocacy (professional lobbyist), and environmental journalism or technical writing.

Employers in government, commercial, and nonprofit sectors understand the importance of fostering environmental stewardship in their organizations and policies. These groups regularly cite the need for employees who understand the complexity of environmental problems and are grounded in environmental planning, policy, regulations, and science. Regardless of an individual student's major and ES foundation area, all ES students gain essential skills that are highly sought by employers and graduate programs alike; these include graduates with diverse and multiple perspectives who are strong communicators, who understand the various dimensions of problems, and who can apply a variety of critical thinking and problem solving skills aimed at the solution of real-world problems.

## For More Information

For more information, please see the IES website at [wiu.edu/ies](http://wiu.edu/ies) or contact our office at (309) 298-1632 or [IES@wiu.edu](mailto:IES@wiu.edu).

HIGHER VALUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

### Leslie F. Malpass Library

The library and its five branches house more than one million cataloged volumes, 3,300 current journal subscriptions, and 25 foreign and domestic newspapers. In addition, the library provides computer access to resources worldwide, including 800 other Illinois libraries with more than 22 million volumes. When necessary, the interlibrary loan program can have materials in students' hands within a day or two.

### Higher Values in Higher Education

Located in Macomb (population 20,000), with a campus in the Quad Cities (Moline, IL), Western Illinois University offers a caring and supportive learning environment to more than 13,000 students in west-central Illinois. Western students have all the advantages of a large public university—strong faculty, state-of-the-art technology and facilities, and a wide range of academic and extracurricular opportunities—in an atmosphere free from distractions. Western Illinois University is a member of the NCAA and competes at the Division I level, sponsoring 20 intercollegiate sports in a broad-based athletics department. Western's presence in the Quad Cities spans more than 40 years, and that campus offers undergraduate and graduate programs to more than 1,500 students. The core values that are at the heart of the University are academic excellence, educational opportunity, personal growth, and social responsibility.

Western's GradTrac and Cost programs guarantee that students can achieve their degrees within four years while paying a fixed rate for tuition, fees, room, and board.

Western Illinois University is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity employer with a strong commitment to diversity. In that spirit, we are particularly interested in receiving applications from a broad spectrum of people, including, but not limited to, minorities, women, and individuals with disabilities. WIU has a non-discrimination policy that includes sex, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, or veteran status.

### Campus Visits

The Admissions Reception Center (Sherman Hall 115) is open most weekdays from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM when the University is in session. Group information sessions are available at 10:00 AM and 1:00 PM, and campus tours are conducted at 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM daily. Individual appointments with an admissions counselor, advisers/faculty, or a financial aid adviser may be arranged during the week. The Admissions Reception Center is open from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM most Saturdays when the University is in session. A group information session is available at 10:00 AM, and a campus tour is conducted at 11:00 AM. An individual appointment with an admissions counselor may be arranged. You may schedule your visit or tour online at [admissions.wiu.edu](http://admissions.wiu.edu) by selecting "Visit Campus." You may also schedule a visit, tour, or individual appointment by calling toll free (877) PICKWIU [742-5948] or (309) 298-3157, or by e-mailing [admissions@wiu.edu](mailto:admissions@wiu.edu).



[wiu.edu/ies](http://wiu.edu/ies)

### Institute for Environmental Studies

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