

Environmental Policy and Planning, BA

Learning Outcomes

Graduates will:

- recognize the connections and relationships between human and environmental activities and outcomes across space and time;
- identify key stakeholders and sources of information in the natural and social sciences to consider in developing solutions to environmental problems;
- be able to explain the role of policy and planning in addressing environmental issues locally, regionally, and globally;
- be capable of working collaboratively in interdisciplinary teams to design approaches to managing environmental problems; and
- understand and be able to implement key tools and methods for environmental planning and policy making.

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in environmental policy and planning requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including at least 55 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They must also complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core. Transfer students must complete a minimum of 15 s.h. of School of Earth, Environment, and Sustainability coursework in the major.

The BA with a major in environmental policy and planning requires the following coursework.

Requirements	Hours
Shared Courses	43-45
Track Courses	12

Shared Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
Introductory Courses		
All of these:		
SEES:1035	Our Digital Earth	3
SEES:1070	Contemporary Environmental Issues	3
SEES:1085	Fundamentals of Environmental Science	4
SEES:2010	Interdisciplinary Environmental Seminar	1
SEES:2013/ BUS:2013/ URP:2013	Introduction to Sustainability	3
SEES:2050	Foundations of GIS	4
ANTH:2261	Human Impacts on the Environment	3
ECON:1100	Principles of Microeconomics	4
Intermediate Courses		
This course:		
POLI:3111	American Public Policy	3

One of these:

AMST:1290/ GHS:1290/ HIST:1290/ NAIS:1290	Native American Foods and Foodways	3
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ANTH:3103	Environment and Culture	3
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One of these:

SEES:2950	Environmental Conservation	4
SEES:3350	Urban Ecology	3

Methods Courses

One of these:

PSQF:4143/ STAT:4143	Introduction to Statistical Methods	3
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STAT:1020/ PSQF:1020	Elementary Statistics and Inference	3
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STAT:1030	Statistics for Business	4
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STAT:2010	Statistical Methods and Computing	3
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STAT:2020	Probability and Statistics for the Engineering and Physical Sciences	3
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STAT:3510/ IGPI:3510	Biostatistics	3
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Communications Courses

One of these:

CNW:3664/ ENGL:3764	Writing About Science	3
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JMC:1800	Environmental Communication	3
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JMC:3185	Topics in Understanding Media	3
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Research and Experiential Learning

At least one of these (for a total of 3 hours):

SEES:3400	Iowa Environmental Policy in Practice	3
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SEES:3992	Undergraduate Research (Or ICIGO)	1-3
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SEES:4995	Honors Thesis	arr.
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CCP:1201	Academic Internship	1-3
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Tracks

Students must complete one of two tracks: planning or policy. Each track consists of two required courses and at least 6 s.h. in elective courses. Students may not use any course to satisfy more than one requirement.

Planning Track

Course #	Title	Hours
Both of these:		
SEES:3920/ URP:3001	Planning Livable Cities	3
SEES:4750/ URP:4750	Environmental Impact Analysis	3
At least 6 s.h. from these:		
SEES:2930	Water Resources	3
SEES:3250/ CPH:3400	Health, Work, and the Environment	3
SEES:3315	Ecosystem Ecology	4
SEES:3350	Urban Ecology	3

SEES:3400	Iowa Environmental Policy in Practice	3
SEES:3520/ IGPI:3520	GIS for Environmental Applications	3
SEES:3540/ IGPI:3540	Geographic Visualization	3
SEES:3760/ GHS:3760	Hazards and Society	3
SEES:3780/ GHS:3780/ HIST:3240/ POLI:3431	U.S. Energy Policy in Global Context	3
SEES:3800	Environmental Policy	3
SEES:4770/ AFAM:4770/ GHS:4770	Environmental Justice	3
ECON:3625/ URP:3135	Environmental and Natural Resource Economics	3
HIST:3230	American Environmental History	3
URP:3134/ ECON:3640	Regional and Urban Economics	3
URP:3350/ ECON:3750/ SEES:3940	Transportation Economics	3

Policy Track

Course #	Title	Hours
Both of these:		
SEES:3800	Environmental Policy	3
ECON:3625/ URP:3135	Environmental and Natural Resource Economics	3
At least 6 s.h. from these:		
SEES:3250/ CPH:3400	Health, Work, and the Environment	3
SEES:3400	Iowa Environmental Policy in Practice	3
SEES:3520/ IGPI:3520	GIS for Environmental Applications	3
SEES:3540/ IGPI:3540	Geographic Visualization	3
SEES:3760/ GHS:3760	Hazards and Society	3
SEES:3780/ GHS:3780/ HIST:3240/ POLI:3431	U.S. Energy Policy in Global Context	3
SEES:3920/ URP:3001	Planning Livable Cities	3
SEES:4750/ URP:4750	Environmental Impact Analysis	3
SEES:4770/ AFAM:4770/ GHS:4770	Environmental Justice	3
HIST:3230	American Environmental History	3
PBAF:3117/ POLI:3117	Bureaucratic Politics and Public Administration	3
POLI:2417	Comparative Environmental Policy	3
POLI:3100	American State Politics	3
POLI:3102	The U.S. Congress	3

POLI:3110	Local Politics	3
POLI:3118	Interest Groups	3
POLI:3424	Global Development	3
POLI:3430/ NAIS:3430	Environmental Politics and Indigeneity	3
POLI:3432/ NAIS:3432	Agriculture Politics and Policy	3

Honors

Graduating with departmental honors and graduating with university honors are two opportunities available to high-achieving undergraduate students, each with specific and distinct requirements. Some students pursue both options while others pursue one or the other.

Honors in the Major

Within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, each major develops its own requirements to achieve honors in the major. In order to graduate with honors in the major, students in the School of Earth, Environment, and Sustainability (SEES) pursue study beyond the typical undergraduate level. They work under the direction of a faculty member to conduct original research and then prepare and present a written honors thesis based on their work.

Potential honors students must complete an honors thesis contract with their advisor and obtain approval from the department's undergraduate committee by the first semester of their senior year or earlier. They are also required to register for SEES:4995 Honors Thesis as they work to complete their thesis, where they must earn a grade of B or higher. Additionally, SEES honors students must maintain a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.33 in all University of Iowa and SEES coursework.

University of Iowa Honors Program

In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the university's honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the environmental policy and planning major.

Academic Plans

Sample Plans

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

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This sample plan is currently being reviewed and will be added at a later date.