

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE/ DIGITAL MEDIA AND STORYTELLING (BS/MC)

The new Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's (ABM) program allows SES students to earn their undergraduate degree in their declared major, while also earning a master's degree from the SOC in either the Digital Media and Storytelling or Global Strategic Communication graduate programs.

The program trains environmental scientists to be better communicators. While environmental scientists are trained to investigate, analyze data, and interpret results, they are not taught how to communicate their results and conclusions in ways that are readily accessible to the general public, CEOs, or legislators. For students in the School of Environmental Sustainability, the ABM program will help them with writing, public speaking, conference presentations, television and radio interviews, and social media messaging.

Related Programs

Combined

- Environmental Policy/Digital Media and Storytelling (BA/MC) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-bachelors-masters-program/environmental-policy-digital-media-storytelling-ba-ms/>)
- Environmental Studies/Digital Media and Storytelling (BA/MC) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/accelerated-bachelors-masters-program/environmental-studies-digital-media-storytelling-ba-ms/>)

Curriculum

Environmental Science students complete coursework that includes both a heavy dose of basic science requirements and courses spanning a variety of disciplines pertinent to understanding the context in which environmental challenges reside.

The BS in Environmental Science can be taken without a concentration [66 credit hours] or with a chosen concentration in Conservation and Restoration Ecology [68 credit hours]; Environmental Health [69 credit hours]; or Food Systems and Sustainable Agriculture [66 credit hours].

Students can take 12 credits worth of 400-level classes in their senior year.

| Code | Title | Hours |
|------------------------|--|-------|
| BS Requirements | | |
| <i>Core Curriculum</i> | | |
| BIOL 101 & BIOL 111 | General Biology I and General Biology I Lab | 4 |
| BIOL 102 & BIOL 112 | General Biology II and General Biology II Lab | 4 |
| CHEM 160 | Chemical Structure and Properties | 3 |
| CHEM 161 | Chemical Structure and Properties Laboratory | 1 |
| ENVS 137 | Foundations of Environmental Science I | 3 |
| ENVS 200 | Environmental Careers and Professional Skills | 1 |
| ENVS 203 | Environmental Statistics | 3 |
| ENVS 274 | Chemistry of the Natural Environment | 3 |
| ENVS 275 | Chemistry of the Environment Lab | 1 |

| | | |
|---|---|----------------|
| ENVS 276 | Chemistry of Environmental Pollution | 3 |
| ENVS 280 | Principles of Ecology | 3 |
| ENVS 286S | Principles of Ecology Lab | 1 |
| PLSC 392 | Environmental Politics | 3 |
| <i>Justice and Ethics Choice</i> | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 3 |
| ENVS 284 | Environmental Justice | |
| PHIL 287 | Environmental Ethics | |
| THEO 204 | Religious Ethics and the Ecological Crisis | |
| <i>Economics Choice</i> | | |
| ENVS 335 | Ecological Economics | 3 |
| or ECON 328 | Environmental Economics | |
| <i>Engaged Learning Choice</i> | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 3 |
| ENVS 226 | Science & Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystems | |
| ENVS 267 | Bird Conservation and Ecology | |
| ENVS 273 | Energy and the Environment | |
| ENVS 283 | Environmental Sustainability | |
| ENVS 340 | Natural History of Belize | |
| ENVS 345 | Conservation and Sustainability of Neotropical Ecosystems | |
| ENVS 350A | Solutions to Environmental Problems: Water | |
| ENVS 350C | Solutions to Environmental Problems: Climate Action | |
| ENVS 350F | Solutions to Environmental Problems: Food Systems | |
| ENVS 369 | Field Ornithology | |
| ENVS 391 | Environmental Research (with SES approval) | |
| ENVS 395 | Environmental Internship (with SES approval) | |
| <i>Capstone Choice</i> | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 3 |
| ENVS 390 | Integrative Seminar | |
| ENVS 391C | Independent Environmental Research (Capstone) | |
| ENVS 395C | Environmental Internship (Capstone) | |
| Concentrations and Electives (p.) | | 27-24 |
| See concentration and elective options below | | |
| MC Requirements | | |
| COMM 400 | Designing for Digital Environments | 3 |
| COMM 405 | Story Development and Production | 3 |
| COMM 410 | Media Law for Inclusive Digital Storytelling | 3 |
| COMM 415 | Data-Powered Digital Storytelling | 3 |
| COMM 420 | Digital Production: Storytelling with Impact | 3 |
| COMM 425 | Digital Marketing and Analytics | 3 |
| COMM 430 | 2D Design for Print and the Web | 3 |
| COMM 450 | Capstone II | 3 |
| Elective Courses from List of Electives for DMST (p. 4) | | 12 |
| Total Hours | | 102-105 |

Concentration Requirements and Elective Course Options

Environmental Science (Without Concentration)

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---|-------|-----------|
| Electives | | |
| One (1) course in Society, Ethics, and Justice Electives | | 3 |
| One (1) course in Policy, Economics, and Resource Management Electives | | 3 |
| Five (5) courses in Environmental Science Electives, at least three (3) of which must be at 300-level | | 15 |
| Total Hours | | 21 |

Environmental Science: Conservation and Restoration Ecology Concentration

| Code | Title | Hours |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Required Courses | | |
| ENVS 218 | Biodiversity & Biogeography | 3 |
| ENVS 320 | Conservation Biology | 3 |
| ENVS 321 | Conservation Biology Lab | 1 |
| ENVS 330 | Restoration Ecology | 3 |
| ENVS 331 | Restoration Ecology Lab | 1 |
| ENVS 383 | Human Dimensions of Conservation | 3 |
| Electives | | |
| One (1) course in Society, Ethics, and Justice Electives | | 3 |
| One (1) course in Policy, Economics, and Resource Management Electives | | 3 |
| One (1) course in Environmental Science Electives | | 3 |
| Total Hours | | 23 |

Environmental Science: Environmental Health Concentration

| Code | Title | Hours |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Required Courses | | |
| ENVS 300 | Introduction to Public Health | 3 |
| ENVS 301 | Environmental Health | 3 |
| ENVS 303 | Introduction to Epidemiology | 3 |
| Electives | | |
| One (1) course in Environmental Health and Society Electives | | 3 |
| Four (4) courses in Environmental Science Electives | | 12 |
| Total Hours | | 24 |

Environmental Science: Food Systems and Sustainable Agriculture Concentration

| Code | Title | Hours |
|---|---|-------|
| Required Courses | | |
| ENVS 207 | Plants and Civilization | 3 |
| ENVS 223 | Soil Ecology | 3 |
| ENVS 325 | Sustainable Agriculture | 3 |
| Food Systems and Sustainable Agriculture Required Choice | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 3 |
| ENVS 230 | Feeding the Planet: Global Perspectives on Sustainability, Culture and Food | |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| ENVS 326 | Agroecosystems |
| ENVS 327 | Food Systems Analysis |
| ENVS 350F | Solutions to Environmental Problems: Food Systems |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Electives | |
| One (1) course in Society, Ethics, and Justice Electives | 3 |
| One (1) course in Policy, Economics, and Resource Management Electives | 3 |
| One (1) course in Environmental Science Electives | 3 |
| Total Hours | 21 |

Electives

Society, Ethics, and Justice Electives

| Code | Title | Hours |
|----------------------|---|-------|
| COMM 101 | Public Speaking & Critical Thinking | 3 |
| COMM 277 | Organizational Communication | 3 |
| COMM 306 | Environmental Advocacy | 3 |
| COMM 322 | Guerilla Media | 3 |
| COMM 379 | Digital Sustainability ¹ | 3 |
| ENGL 288 | Nature in Literature | 3 |
| ENVS 204 | Gender, Health & Environment | 3 |
| ENVS 230 | Feeding the Planet: Global Perspectives on Sustainability, Culture and Food | 3 |
| ENVS 260 / COMM 260 | Environmental Journalism | 3 |
| ENVS 279 / HIST 279E | Climate and History | 3 |
| ENVS 284 | Environmental Justice | 3 |
| ENVS 285 | Eco-spirituality | 3 |
| ENVS 297 / HIST 297E | North American Environmental History | 3 |
| ENVS 298 | Special Topics (with SES approval) | 1-12 |
| ENVS 338 | Climate Change and Human Health | 3 |
| ENVS 350A | Solutions to Environmental Problems: Water | 3 |
| ENVS 350C | Solutions to Environmental Problems: Climate Action | 3 |
| ENVS 350F | Solutions to Environmental Problems: Food Systems | 3 |
| ENVS 383 | Human Dimensions of Conservation | 3 |
| ENVS 391 | Environmental Research (with SES approval) | 1-3 |
| ENVS 395 | Environmental Internship (with SES approval) | 3 |
| ENVS 398 | Special Topics (with SES approval) | 3 |
| ENVS 399 | Directed Readings (with SES approval) | 1-3 |
| PHIL 287 | Environmental Ethics | 3 |
| PSYC 277 | Environmental Psychology | 3 |
| SOCL 226 | Science, Technology, & Society | 3 |
| SOCL 252 | Global Inequalities | 3 |
| SOCL 272 | Environmental Sociology | 3 |
| SOCL 276 | The Sociology and Politics of Food | 3 |
| SOCL 278 | Global Health | 3 |
| THEO 204 | Religious Ethics and the Ecological Crisis | 3 |
| THEO 344 | Theology and Ecology | 3 |

¹ For students with the Conservation and Restoration Ecology Concentration or without a Concentration.

Policy, Economics, and Resource Management Electives

| Code | Title | Hours |
|----------|---|-------|
| COMM 379 | Digital Sustainability ¹ | 3 |
| ECON 328 | Environmental Economics | 3 |
| ENVS 230 | Feeding the Planet: Global Perspectives on Sustainability, Culture and Food | 3 |
| ENVS 298 | Special Topics (with SES approval) | 1-12 |
| ENVS 300 | Introduction to Public Health | 3 |
| ENVS 310 | Introduction to Environmental Law & Policy | 3 |
| ENVS 311 | Natural Resources and Land Use Law & Policy | 3 |
| ENVS 312 | Water Law & Policy | 3 |
| ENVS 313 | Energy Law & Policy | 3 |
| ENVS 316 | Energy and Power Systems | 3 |
| ENVS 327 | Food Systems Analysis | 3 |
| ENVS 333 | Introduction to the Circular Economy | 3 |
| ENVS 335 | Ecological Economics | 3 |
| ENVS 336 | Design for Circular & Sustainable Business | 3 |
| ENVS 338 | Climate Change and Human Health | 3 |
| ENVS 351 | Introduction to Sustainability Concepts & Impacts ¹ | 3 |
| ENVS 363 | Sustainable Business Management | 3 |
| ENVS 383 | Human Dimensions of Conservation | 3 |
| ENVS 384 | Conservation Economics | 3 |
| ENVS 389 | Ecological Risk Assessment | 3 |
| ENVS 391 | Environmental Research (with SES approval) | 1-3 |
| ENVS 395 | Environmental Internship (with SES approval) | 3 |
| ENVS 398 | Special Topics (with SES approval) | 3 |
| ENVS 399 | Directed Readings (with SES approval) | 1-3 |
| GLST 305 | Globalization and Environmental Sustainability | 3 |
| MGMT 201 | Managing People and Organizations | 3 |
| PLSC 354 | Global Environmental Politics | 3 |

¹ For students in the Food Systems and Sustainable Agriculture Concentration only.

Environmental Science Electives

| Code | Title | Hours |
|--|---|-------|
| Environmental Science Electives | | |
| ANTH 104 | The Human Ecological Footprint | 3 |
| ANTH 303 | People and Conservation | 3 |
| ENVS 204 | Gender, Health & Environment ³ | 3 |
| ENVS 207 | Plants and Civilization ⁴ | 3 |
| ENVS 215 / BIOL 215 | Ornithology ¹ | 3 |
| ENVS 218 | Biodiversity & Biogeography ³ | 3 |
| ENVS 223 | Soil Ecology ³ | 3 |
| ENVS 224 | Climate & Climate Change | 3 |
| ENVS 226 | Science & Conservation of Freshwater Ecosystems | 3 |
| ENVS 267 | Bird Conservation and Ecology ⁵ | 3 |
| ENVS 273 | Energy and the Environment ⁵ | 3 |

| | | |
|--|--|------|
| ENVS 278 | Hydrology ⁶ | 3 |
| ENVS 283 | Environmental Sustainability | 3 |
| ENVS 298 | Special Topics (with SES approval) | 1-12 |
| ENVS 300 | Introduction to Public Health ⁷ | 3 |
| ENVS 301 | Environmental Health ⁷ | 3 |
| ENVS 303 | Introduction to Epidemiology ⁷ | 3 |
| ENVS 320 | Conservation Biology ⁷ | 3 |
| ENVS 322 | Invasive Species | 3 |
| ENVS 323 | Environmental Microbiology ³ | 3 |
| ENVS 324 | Climate Science | 3 |
| ENVS 325 | Sustainable Agriculture ⁴ | 3 |
| ENVS 326 | Agroecosystems | 3 |
| ENVS 327 | Food Systems Analysis | 3 |
| ENVS 330 | Restoration Ecology ³ | 3 |
| ENVS 338 | Climate Change and Human Health ⁶ | 3 |
| ENVS 340 | Natural History of Belize ⁵ | 3 |
| ENVS 345 | Conservation and Sustainability of Neotropical Ecosystems ⁵ | 3 |
| ENVS 350A | Solutions to Environmental Problems: Water | 3 |
| ENVS 350C | Solutions to Environmental Problems: Climate Action | 3 |
| ENVS 350F | Solutions to Environmental Problems: Food Systems | 3 |
| ENVS 367 | Mammalogy | 3 |
| ENVS 369 | Field Ornithology ⁵ | 3 |
| ENVS 380 | Introduction to Geographic Information Systems | 3 |
| ENVS 381 | Advanced GIS Applications | 3 |
| ENVS 382 | Remote Sensing | 3 |
| ENVS 383 | Human Dimensions of Conservation ⁷ | 3 |
| ENVS 384 | Conservation Economics ² | 3 |
| ENVS 385 | Introduction to Global Health | 3 |
| ENVS 386 | Python Programming for GIS | 3 |
| ENVS 387 | Principles of Ecotoxicology | 3 |
| ENVS 389 | Ecological Risk Assessment | 3 |
| ENVS 391 | Environmental Research (with SES approval) | 1-3 |
| ENVS 395 | Environmental Internship (with SES approval) | 3 |
| ENVS 398 | Special Topics (with SES approval) | 3 |
| ENVS 399 | Directed Readings (with SES approval) | 1-3 |
| BIOL, CHEM, PHYS 300-level courses (with SES approval) | | |

¹ For students with the Food and Sustainable Agriculture Concentration, the Environmental Health Concentration, or without a Concentration.

² For students in the Environmental Health Concentration only.

³ For students with the Conservation and Restoration Ecology Concentration or without a Concentration.

⁴ For students in the Food Systems and Sustainable Agriculture Concentration only.

⁵ For students with the Conservation and Restoration Ecology Concentration, the the Environmental Health Concentration, or without a Concentration.

⁶ For students with the Food Systems and Sustainable Agriculture Concentration or without a Concentration.

⁷ For students without a Concentration only.

Environmental Health and Society Elective (Environmental Health only)

| Code | Title | Hours |
|-----------|---|-------|
| ENVS 204 | Gender, Health & Environment | 3 |
| ENVS 230 | Feeding the Planet: Global Perspectives on Sustainability, Culture and Food | 3 |
| ENVS 279 | Climate and History | 3 |
| ENVS 284 | Environmental Justice | 3 |
| ENVS 285 | Eco-spirituality | 3 |
| ENVS 297 | North American Environmental History | 3 |
| ENVS 298 | Special Topics (with SES approval) | 1-12 |
| ENVS 310 | Introduction to Environmental Law & Policy | 3 |
| ENVS 311 | Natural Resources and Land Use Law & Policy | 3 |
| ENVS 312 | Water Law & Policy | 3 |
| ENVS 313 | Energy Law & Policy | 3 |
| ENVS 335 | Ecological Economics | 3 |
| ENVS 338 | Climate Change and Human Health | 3 |
| ENVS 340 | Natural History of Belize | 3 |
| ENVS 350A | Solutions to Environmental Problems: Water | 3 |
| ENVS 350C | Solutions to Environmental Problems: Climate Action | 3 |
| ENVS 350F | Solutions to Environmental Problems: Food Systems | 3 |
| ENVS 363 | Sustainable Business Management | 3 |
| ENVS 383 | Human Dimensions of Conservation | 3 |
| ENVS 389 | Ecological Risk Assessment | 3 |
| ENVS 391 | Environmental Research (with SES approval) | 1-3 |
| ENVS 395 | Environmental Internship (with SES approval) | 3 |
| ENVS 398 | Special Topics (with SES approval) | 3 |
| ENVS 399 | Directed Readings (with SES approval) | 1-3 |
| COMM 101 | Public Speaking & Critical Thinking | 3 |
| COMM 260 | Environmental Journalism | 3 |
| COMM 277 | Organizational Communication | 3 |
| COMM 306 | Environmental Advocacy | 3 |
| COMM 379 | Digital Sustainability | 3 |
| ECON 328 | Environmental Economics | 3 |
| ENGL 288 | Nature in Literature | 3 |
| MGMT 201 | Managing People and Organizations | 3 |
| PHIL 287 | Environmental Ethics | 3 |
| PLSC 354 | Global Environmental Politics | 3 |
| PSYC 277 | Environmental Psychology | 3 |
| SOCL 226 | Science, Technology, & Society | 3 |
| SOCL 252 | Global Inequalities | 3 |
| SOCL 272 | Environmental Sociology | 3 |
| SOCL 276 | The Sociology and Politics of Food | 3 |
| SOCL 278 | Global Health | 3 |
| THEO 204 | Religious Ethics and the Ecological Crisis | 3 |
| THEO 344 | Theology and Ecology | 3 |

Electives for Digital Media and Storytelling

| Code | Title | Hours |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------|
| Advertising/Public Relations | | |
| COMM 422 | Global and Multicultural Audiences and Stakeholders | 3 |
| COMM 432 | Public Interest Communication | 3 |
| COMM 433 | Corporate Communication | 3 |
| COMM 437 | Advertising/PR Multimedia Commercial Production | 3 |
| COMM 463 | Intermediate Advertising Design | 3 |
| COMM 464 | Mobile Advertising | 3 |
| Film and Production | | |
| COMM 439 | Video Documentary | 3 |
| COMM 455 | Animation | 3 |
| COMM 459 | Advanced Post Production | 3 |
| COMM 494 | Film & Digital Media Internship | 3 |
| Multimedia Journalism | | |
| COMM 458 | Newscasting and Producing | 3 |
| COMM 473 | Digital Storytelling Abroad | 3 |
| COMM 492 | Multimedia Journalism Internship | 3 |
| Other | | |
| COMM 479 | Digital Sustainability | 3 |
| COMM 498 | Directed Study for Graduate Students | 1-3 |

Suggested Sequence of Courses

The below sequence of courses is meant to be used as a suggested path for completing coursework. An individual student's completion of requirements depends on course offerings in a given term as well as the start term for a major or graduate study. Students should consult their advisor for assistance with course selection.

| Course | Title | Hours |
|-----------------|---|-----------|
| Year One | | |
| Fall | | |
| BIOL 101 | General Biology I | 3 |
| BIOL 111 | General Biology I Lab | 1 |
| CHEM 160 | Chemical Structure and Properties | 3 |
| CHEM 161 | Chemical Structure and Properties Laboratory | 1 |
| ENVS 137 | Foundations of Environmental Science I | 3 |
| Hours | | 11 |
| Spring | | |
| BIOL 102 | General Biology II | 3 |
| BIOL 112 | General Biology II Lab | 1 |
| CHEM 180 | Chemical Reactivity I | 3 |
| CHEM 181 | Chemical Reactivity I Lab | 1 |
| ENVS 200 | Environmental Careers and Professional Skills | 1 |
| ENVS 203 | Environmental Statistics | 3 |
| Hours | | 12 |

Year Two**Fall**

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| ENVS 280 | Principles of Ecology | 3 |
| ENVS 286S | Principles of Ecology Lab | 1 |
| Environmental Science Elective | | 3 |
| Hours | | 7 |

Spring

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|----------|
| Justice & Ethics Choice | | 3 |
| Society, Ethics, & Justice Elective | | 3 |
| Hours | | 6 |

Year Three**Fall**

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|----------|
| ENVS 274 | Chemistry of the Natural Environment | 3 |
| ENVS 275 | Chemistry of the Environment Lab | 1 |
| Environmental Science 300 Level Elective | | 3 |
| Hours | | 7 |

Spring

| | | |
|---|----------------------------|-----------|
| ENVS 335 | Ecological Economics | 3 |
| or ECON 328 | or Environmental Economics | |
| PLSC 392 | Environmental Politics | 3 |
| Policy, Economics, & Resource Management Elective | | 3 |
| 300 Level Environmental Science Elective | | 3 |
| Hours | | 12 |

Year Four**Fall**

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|-----------|
| Engaged Learning Choice | | 3 |
| COMM 405 | Story Development and Production | 3 |
| COMM 420 | Digital Production: Storytelling with Impact | 3 |
| COMM 306 | Environmental Advocacy | 3 |
| or COMM 370 | or Special Topics in Advertising & Public Relations | |
| Hours | | 12 |

Spring

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Capstone Choice | | 3 |
| COMM 425 | Digital Marketing and Analytics | 3 |
| COMM 430 | 2D Design for Print and the Web | 3 |
| COMM 306 | Environmental Advocacy | 3 |
| or COMM 379 | or Digital Sustainability | |
| Hours | | 12 |

Year Five**Fall**

| | | |
|---------------|--|-----------|
| COMM 400 | Designing for Digital Environments | 3 |
| COMM 410 | Media Law for Inclusive Digital Storytelling | 3 |
| DMST Elective | | 3 |
| DMST Elective | | 3 |
| Hours | | 12 |

Spring

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| COMM 415 | Data-Powered Digital Storytelling | 3 |
| COMM 450 | Capstone II | 3 |
| DMST Elective | | 3 |

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| DMST Elective | 3 |
| Hours | 12 |
| Total Hours | 103 |

Guidelines for Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's Programs

Terms

- Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's programs: In this type of program, students share limited credits between their undergraduate and graduate degrees to facilitate completion of both degrees.
- Shared credits: Graduate level credit hours taken during the undergraduate program and then applied towards graduate program requirements will be referred to as shared credits.

Admission Requirements

Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's programs are designed to enhance opportunities for advanced training for Loyola's undergraduates. Admission to these programs must be competitive and will depend upon a positive review of credentials by the program's admissions committee. Accordingly, the admission requirements for these programs may be higher than those required if the master's degree were pursued entirely after the receipt of a bachelor's degree. That is, programs may choose to have more stringent admissions requirements in addition to those minimal requirements below.

Requirements:

- Declared appropriate undergraduate major,
- By the time students begin taking graduate courses as an undergraduate, the student has completed approximately 90 credit hours, or the credit hours required in a program that is accredited by a specialty organization,¹
- A minimum cumulative GPA for coursework at Loyola that is at or above the program-specific requirements, a minimum major GPA that is at or above the program-specific requirements, and/or appropriate designated coursework for evaluation of student readiness in their discipline.²

Students not eligible for the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program (e.g., students who have not declared the appropriate undergraduate major) may apply to the master's program through the regular admissions process. Students enrolled in an Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program who choose not to continue to the master's degree program upon completion of the bachelor's degree will face no consequences.³

Ideally, a student will apply for admission (or confirm interest in proceeding towards the graduate degree in opt-out programs) as they approach 90 credit hours. Programs are encouraged to begin advising students early in their major so that they are aware of the program and, if interested, can complete their bachelor's degree requirements in a way that facilitates completion of the program. Once admitted as an undergraduate, Program Directors should ensure that students are enrolled using the plan code associated with the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program. Using the plan code associated with the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program will ensure that students may be easily identified as they move through the program. Students will not officially matriculate into the master's degree program and be labeled as a graduate student by the university, with accompanying changes to tuition and Financial Aid (see below), until the undergraduate degree has been awarded. Once admitted to the graduate program, students must meet

the academic standing requirements of their graduate program as they complete the program curriculum.

- ¹ Programs that have specialized accreditation will adhere to the admissions criteria provided by, or approved by, their specialized accreditors.
- ² The program will identify appropriate indicators of student readiness for graduate coursework (e.g., high-level performance in 300 level courses). Recognizing differences between how majors are designed, we do not specify a blanket requirement.
- ³ If students choose not to enroll in the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program, they still must complete all of the standard requirements associated with the undergraduate degree (e.g., a capstone).

For more information on Admissions requirements, visit here (<https://gpem.luc.edu/portal/admission/?tab=home>).

Curriculum

Level and progression of courses. The Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's programs are designed to be competitive and attractive to our most capable students. Students admitted to Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's programs should be capable of meeting graduate level learning outcomes. Following guidance from the Higher Learning Commission, only courses taken at the 400 level or higher (including 300/400 level courses taken at the 400 level) will count toward the graduate program.^{1,2}

Up to 50% of the total graduate level credit hours, required in the graduate program, may come from 300/400 level courses where the student is enrolled in the 400 level of the course. Further, at least 50% of the credit hours for the graduate program must come from courses that are designed for and restricted to graduate students who have been admitted to a graduate program at Loyola (e.g., enrolled in plan code that indicates the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program, typically ending with the letter "D").³

In general, graduate level coursework should not be taken prior to admission into the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program. Exceptions may be granted for professional programs where curriculum for the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program is designed to begin earlier. On the recommendation of the program's Graduate Director, students may take one of their graduate level courses before they are admitted to the Accelerated Bachelors/Master's program if they have advanced abilities in their discipline and course offerings warrant such an exception.⁴ Undergraduate degree requirements outside of the major are in no way impacted by admission to an Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program.⁵

Shared credits. Undergraduate courses (i.e., courses offered at the 300 level or below) cannot be counted as shared credits nor count towards the master's degree. Up to 50% of the total graduate level credit hours, required in the graduate program, may be counted in meeting both the undergraduate and graduate degree requirements. Of those shared credits, students in an Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program should begin their graduate program with the standard introductory course(s) for the program whenever possible. So that students may progress through the Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program in a timely manner, undergraduate programs are encouraged to design their curriculum such that a student can complete some required graduate credit hours while completing the undergraduate degree. For instance, some of the graduate curriculum should also satisfy electives for the undergraduate major.

The program's Graduate Director will designate credit hours to be shared through the advising form and master's degree conferral review process. Shared credit hours will not be marked on the undergraduate record

as having a special status in the undergraduate program. They will be included in the student's undergraduate earned hours and GPA. Graduate credit hours taken during the undergraduate program will not be included in the graduate GPA calculation.

- ¹ If students wish to transfer credits from another university to Loyola University Chicago, the program's Graduate director will review the relevant syllabus(es) to determine whether it meets the criteria for a 400 level course or higher.
- ² Programs with specialized accreditation requirements that allow programs to offer graduate curriculum to undergraduate students will conform to those specialized accreditation requirements.
- ³ In rare cases, the Graduate Director may authorize enrollment in a 400-level course for a highly qualified and highly motivated undergraduate, ensuring that the undergraduate's exceptional participation in the graduate class will not diminish in any way the experience of the graduate students regularly enrolled.
- ⁴ For example, if a particular course is only offered once every 2-3 years, and a student has demonstrated the necessary ability to be successful, the Graduate Director may allow a student to take a graduate level course to be shared prior to the student being formally admitted to the graduate program. See, also, footnote 3.
- ⁵ Students should not, for example, attempt to negotiate themselves out of a writing intensive requirement on the basis of admission to a graduate program.

Graduation

Degrees are awarded sequentially. All details of undergraduate commencement are handled in the ordinary way as for all students in the School/College/Institute. Once in the graduate program, students abide by the graduation deadlines set forth by the graduate program. Students in these programs must be continuously enrolled from undergraduate to graduate degree program unless given explicit permission by their program for a gap year or approved leave of absence. In offering the option of an Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's program, the university is making possible the acceleration of a student's graduate degree completion. It should be understood that students may not request deferral of their matriculation into the Master's degree program. If students would like to delay their graduate studies after earning the undergraduate degree, they may apply for admission to the traditional master's degree program. Any application of graduate credit earned while in the undergraduate program is subject to the policies of the graduate degree granting school.

Learning Outcomes

- Explain the physical, biological, and chemical structure and function of ecosystems. [BS - no concentration]
- Examine the causes and consequences of environmental change at local to global scales. [BS - no concentration]
- Apply scientific knowledge to evaluate policy, management, and other solutions that aim to enhance environmental sustainability. [BS - no concentration]
- Create an action plan for leading a professional and personal life that promotes environmental sustainability. [BS - no concentration]
- Learn how to use state-of-the-art equipment in our Convergence Studio and technology labs. [MC]
- Learn audience engagement and analytics to understand user activities and to drive improvements in distribution performance. Students will learn digital audience behavior and the legal, marketing

and economic environment for finding ideal audiences and distributing digital content. [MC]

- Create a capstone project that integrates learning from all coursework and culminates in a professional project that is widely distributed to the public. [MC]
- Articulate the foundational principles of natural and social sciences and humanities essential to solving environmental problems. [both no concentration and all concentrations]
- Critically evaluate the accuracy and credibility of information relating to environmental topics. [both no concentration and all concentrations]
- Employ knowledge and skills to design and implement solutions that contribute to a just and sustainable world. [both no concentration and all concentrations]
- Exemplify the values of environmental and social justice through actions to care for our common home and one another. [both no concentration and all concentrations]
- Explain fundamental connections among ecological processes that are the basis of unity and diversity of life. [Conservation and Restoration Ecology concentration]
- Analyze ecological and societal data to apply best management practices in conservation and restoration ecology. [Conservation and Restoration Ecology concentration]
- Synthesize the social, historical, economic, political, and biological causes, consequences, and solutions to our current biodiversity crisis. [Conservation and Restoration Ecology concentration]
- Develop and express a personal philosophy that values protecting and restoring our global biodiversity and vital ecosystems. [Conservation and Restoration Ecology concentration]
- Examine the sources of environmental degradation and their impacts on health. [Environmental Health concentration]
- Apply the tools of public health to characterize the impacts on community health using a planetary health perspective. [Environmental Health concentration]
- Integrate environmental regulatory policies to evaluate the health impacts at local and global scales. [Environmental Health concentration]
- Incorporate critical public health and environmental health justice perspectives into environmental and human dimensions. [Environmental Health concentration]
- Explain the components of food systems and their complex interactions across spatial and temporal scales. [Food Systems and Sustainable Agriculture concentration]
- Articulate the physical, psychological, cultural, and spiritual significance of food to individual and community wellbeing. [Food Systems and Sustainable Agriculture concentration]
- Using multiple methods of analysis, evaluate the environmental and equity impacts of different food system practices to reveal points of leverage for social-ecological change. [Food Systems and Sustainable Agriculture concentration]
- Engage knowledge, skills, and values through experiences that advance sustainability, resilience, and justice within food systems. [Food Systems and Sustainable Agriculture concentration]

1. Articulate the foundational principles of natural and social sciences and humanities essential to solving environmental problems.
2. Critically evaluate the accuracy and credibility of information relating to environmental topics.
3. Employ knowledge and skills to design and implement solutions that contribute to a just and sustainable world.
4. Exemplify the values of environmental and social justice through actions to care for our common home and one another.

SES Shared Learning Outcomes

All SES majors share the following Program Learning Objectives, in addition to their unique major-specific Program Learning Objectives: