

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES, BA (CHSS)

Banner Code: LA-BA-EVSS

402 Enterprise Hall
Fairfax Campus

Website: <https://integrative.gmu.edu/programs/la-ba-evss>

The BA in Environmental and Sustainability Studies is a joint program between the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/>) and the College of Science (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/science/>).

This degree provides students with theoretical and practical knowledge of three aspects of environmental and sustainability studies: people, prosperity, and planet. In addition to required core courses, students develop more in-depth knowledge in their choice of concentration. This degree prepares students for employment and graduate study in fields related to social justice, business and public policy, and environmental protection as they relate to the environment and sustainability.

This is a Green Leaf program (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/student-services/green-leaf-programs-courses/>).

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

University-wide admissions policies can be found in the Undergraduate Admissions Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-policies/>) section of this catalog.

To apply for this program, please complete the George Mason University Admissions Application (<https://www2.gmu.edu/admissions-aid/apply-now/>).

Policies

Students pursuing this degree must complete a minimum of 60 credits within the major, with a minimum grade of 2.00 in each course.

For policies governing all undergraduate degrees, see AP.5 Undergraduate Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/undergraduate-policies/>).

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: minimum 120

This is a Green Leaf program.

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

Of the credits required for this degree, 14 credits simultaneously fulfill core requirements for the major and Mason Core requirements, and, depending on the concentration and electives chosen, up to 9 credits

may simultaneously fulfill Mason Core requirements and college BA requirements.

Core Courses in the Major

Code	Title	Credits
Environmental Science and Society		
EVPP 377	Applied Ecology	3
And completion of one of the following sequences: ¹		11-12
EVPP 108 & EVPP 109 & EVPP 112 & EVPP 113 & EVPP 336	Ecosphere - Introduction to Environmental Science I-Lecture (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) and Ecosphere- Introduction to Environmental Science I- Lab (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) and Ecosphere: Introduction to Environmental Science II-Lecture (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) and Ecosphere: Introduction to Environmental Science II-Lab (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) and Tackling Wicked Problems in Society the Environment (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
or		
EVPP 210 & EVPP 301 & EVPP 302	Environmental Biology: Molecules and Cells and Environmental Science: Biological Diversity and Ecosystems and Environmental Science: Biomes and Human Dimensions	
Individual and Group Behavior		
INTS 334	Environmental Justice (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	4
Business and Public Policy		
Select one course from the following:		3
ECON 100	Economics for the Citizen (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
ECON 103	Contemporary Microeconomic Principles (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
ECON 105	Environmental Economics for the Citizen (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
EVPP 322	Business and Sustainability	3
EVPP 361	Introduction to Environmental Policy ²	3
or GOVT 361	Introduction to Environmental Policy	
Statistics		
Select one course from the following:		3-4
SOCI 213	Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
BIOL 214	Biostatistics for Biology Majors	

STAT 250	Introductory Statistics I (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
Integration, Analysis, Innovation		
INTS 210	Sustainable World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	4
EVPP 480	Sustainability in Action (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	4
Select one course from the following:		3
INTS 390	International Internship (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) (minimum of 3 credits required)	
INTS 398	Experiential Learning (minimum of 3 credits required)	
INTS 498	Experiential Learning (minimum of 3 credits required)	
INTS 490	Internship (minimum of 3 credits required)	
EVPP 395	Undergraduate Research in Environmental Science and Policy (minimum of 3 credits required)	
EVPP 494	Internship (minimum of 3 credits required)	
Total Credits		41-43

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EVPP 110 can be used toward EVPP 108/109 and EVPP 111 can be used toward EVPP 112/113.

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Satisfies the college BA requirement for social and behavioral science.

Concentration in the Major

Available Concentrations

- Concentration in Business and Sustainability (BUSU)
- Concentration in Climate Change and Society (CCSO)
- Concentration in Conservation and Sustainability (CSUS)
- Concentration in Environmental Policy (EVP)
- Concentration in Equity and Environmental Justice (EQEJ)
- Concentration in Sustainable Food and Agriculture (SFG)

Concentration in Business and Sustainability (BUSU)

The requirements for this concentration, depending on the electives chosen, may satisfy the college BA requirement in philosophy and religious studies (PHIL 243 Global Environmental Ethics (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>), PHIL 305 Business Ethics).

Students who have already taken and received credit for OSCM 303 Operations Management shall substitute it for MBUS 306 Managing Projects and Operations. Both courses cannot be taken for credit. Students who have taken and received credit for both ACCT 203 Survey of Accounting and FNAN 303 Financial Management shall substitute the combination for MBUS 300 Accounting in a Global Economy. All three courses cannot be taken for credit.

Core Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
MBUS 300	Accounting in a Global Economy	3
MBUS 306	Managing Projects and Operations	3

MGMT 303	Principles of Management	3
Additional Course		
Select one course (3 credits) from the following:		3
EVPP 434	Food-Energy-Water-Climate Nexus	
INTS 375	Special Topics (when topic is relevant with approval)	
INTS 450	Social Innovation in Action	
INTS 475	Special Topics (when topic is relevant with approval)	
MBUS 304	Entrepreneurship: Starting and Managing a New Enterprise	
MGMT 451	Introduction to Entrepreneurship	
EVPP 490	Special Topics in Environmental Science and Policy (when topic is relevant with approval)	
EVPP 505	Selected Topics in Environmental Science (when topic is relevant with approval)	
Total Credits		12

Two Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Select two courses (6 credits) from the following:		
ECON 335	Environmental Economics	
EVPP 338	Economics of Environmental Policy	
EVPP 362	Intermediate Environmental Policy	
GGG 307	Geographic Approaches for Sustainable Development	
INTS 204	Leadership Theory and Practice	
PHIL 243	Global Environmental Ethics (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
PHIL 305	Business Ethics	
Other course work with advisor approval		
Total Credits		6

Concentration in Climate Change and Society (CCSO)

The requirements for this concentration, depending on the electives chosen, may satisfy the college BA requirement in philosophy and religious studies (PHIL 243 Global Environmental Ethics (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>), PHIL 343 Topics in Environmental Philosophy (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)).

Required Courses

Code	Title	Credits
CLIM 101	Global Warming: Weather, Climate, and Society (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3-4
or GGS 121	Dynamic Atmosphere and Hydrosphere (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
EVPP 432	Energy Policy	3
EVPP 436	Politics of Climate Change Governance	3
Total Credits		9-10

Three Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Select three courses (9 credits) from the following:		
ANTH 394	Archaeology of Climate Change	9

CLIM 102	Introduction to Global Climate Change Science (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
CLIM 314	Severe and Extreme Weather	
CLIM 319	Air Pollution	
EVPP 362	Intermediate Environmental Policy	
EVPP 378	RS: Ecological Sustainability (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
EVPP 381	Nature and Culture in Global Wetlands (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
EVPP 434	Food-Energy-Water-Climate Nexus	
EVPP 442	Urban Ecosystems and Processes	
EVPP 490	Special Topics in Environmental Science and Policy (when topic is relevant with approval)	
EVPP 505	Selected Topics in Environmental Science (when topic is relevant with approval)	
GGs 302	Global Environmental Hazards	
GGs 304	Population Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
GGs 306	Urban Geography	
GGs 309	Introduction to Weather and Climate	
GGs 312	Physical Climatology	
GGs 314	Severe and Extreme Weather	
INTS 375	Special Topics (when topic is relevant with approval)	
INTS 475	Special Topics (when topic is relevant with approval)	
PHIL 243	Global Environmental Ethics (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) ¹	
PHIL 343	Topics in Environmental Philosophy (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) ¹	
Other course work with advisor approval		
Total Credits		9

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Satisfies the college BA requirement in philosophy and religious studies.

Concentration in Conservation and Sustainability (CSUS)**Smithsonian-Mason Program**

Students complete one of the programs offered through the Smithsonian-Mason School of Conservation in cooperation with the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute.

Conservation, Biodiversity and Society Option (16 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
CONS 320	Conservation in Practice	3
CONS 401	Conservation Theory	3
CONS 402	Applied Conservation	4
CONS 410	Human Dimensions in Conservation (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3

CONS 490	RS: Integrated Conservation Strategies (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
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Total Credits	16
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Wildlife, Ecology, and Conservation Option (16 credits)

Offered only in Fall semesters, students complete four required courses:

Code	Title	Credits
CONS 400	Conservation Seminar	2
CONS 404	Biodiversity Monitoring	4
CONS 405	Landscape and Macrosystems Ecology	4
CONS 496	Research in Conservation (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	6

Total Credits	16
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Endangered Species and Conservation Option (16 credits)

Offered only in Spring semesters, students complete four required courses:

Code	Title	Credits
CONS 400	Conservation Seminar	2
CONS 406	Small Population Management	4
CONS 491	RS: Conservation Management Planning (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	4
CONS 496	Research in Conservation (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	6

Total Credits	16
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Three Credits

Code	Title	Credits
Select a minimum of three credits from the following:		3

BIOL 332	Insect Biology (when topic is relevant with approval)	
BIOL 472	Introductory Animal Behavior	
EVPP 337	Environmental Policy Making in Developing Countries (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
EVPP/BIOL 350	Freshwater Ecosystems	
EVPP 355		
EVPP 381	Nature and Culture in Global Wetlands (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
EVPP 401		
EVPP 408	Mushrooms, Molds and Society	
EVPP 419	Marine Mammal Biology and Conservation	
EVPP 421	Marine Conservation	
EVPP 423	Beekeeping and Sustainability	
EVPP/BIOL 427	Conservation Medicine	
EVPP 430	Fundamentals of Environmental Geographic Information Systems	
EVPP 432	Energy Policy	
EVPP 434	Food-Energy-Water-Climate Nexus	
EVPP 436	Politics of Climate Change Governance	
EVPP/BIOL 437	Ornithology	

EVPP/BIOL 438	Mammalogy
EVPP/BIOL 439	Herpetology
EVPP/BIOL 449	Marine Ecology
EVPP 451	Fungi and Ecosystems
EVPP 460	Infectious Diseases of Wildlife
EVPP 475	Global Biodiversity Governance
GG5 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GG5 307	Geographic Approaches for Sustainable Development
GG5 321/BIOL 374	Biogeography
INTS 211	Introduction to Conservation Studies (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
INTS 301	Science in the News (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
INTS 304	Social Movements and Community Activism (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
INTS 311	The Mysteries of Migration: Consequences for Conservation (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
INTS 331	The Nonprofit Sector (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
INTS 370	Sustainable Food Systems
INTS 371	Food Systems and Policy (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
INTS 401	Conservation Biology (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
INTS 403	Conservation Behavior (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
INTS 375	Special Topics (when topic is relevant with approval)
INTS 475	Special Topics (when topic is relevant with approval)
EVPP 490	Special Topics in Environmental Science and Policy (when topic is relevant with approval)
EVPP 505	Selected Topics in Environmental Science (when topic is relevant with approval)
Other course work with advisor approval	
Total Credits	3

Concentration in Environmental Policy (EVP)

The requirements for this concentration satisfy the Mason Core requirement in social and behavioral science (ECON 104 Contemporary Macroeconomic Principles (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)) and, depending on the elective chosen, may fulfill the college BA requirement in non-Western culture (ECON 362 African Economic Development (Mason Core) (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>)).

Required Courses

Completion of these courses will satisfy the Mason Core social and behavioral science requirement.

Code	Title	Credits
EVPP 338	Economics of Environmental Policy	3
EVPP 362	Intermediate Environmental Policy	3
or GOVT 362	Intermediate Environmental Policy	
GOVT 351	Administration in the Political System	3
Total Credits		9

Nine Credits

Code	Title	Credits
Select a minimum of nine credits from the following:		
ANTH 370	Environment and Culture	
COMM 412	Politics and the Mass Media	
CONF 340	Global Conflict Analysis and Resolution (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
ECON 103	Contemporary Microeconomic Principles (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) (if not used to meet the Business and Public Policy core requirement)	
ECON 104	Contemporary Macroeconomic Principles (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
ECON 306	Intermediate Microeconomics	
ECON 311	Intermediate Macroeconomics	
ECON 330	Public Finance	
ECON 345	Introduction to Econometrics	
ECON 360	Economics of Developing Areas (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
ECON 412	Game Theory and Economics of Institutions	
EVPP 337	Environmental Policy Making in Developing Countries (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
EVPP 396	Directed Topic in Environmental Science and Policy	
EVPP 401		
EVPP 432	Energy Policy	
GEOL 420	Earth Science and Policy (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
GG5 305	Economic Geography	
GG5 307	Geographic Approaches for Sustainable Development	
GOVT 307	Legislative Behavior	
GOVT 343	International Political Economy	
GOVT 357	Urban Planning	
GOVT 364	Public Policy Making	
GOVT 452	Administrative Law and Procedures	
GOVT 464	Issues in Public Policy and Administration	
INTS 331	The Nonprofit Sector (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	

INTS 371	Food Systems and Policy (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
EVPP 490	Special Topics in Environmental Science and Policy (when topic is relevant with approval)	
EVPP 505	Selected Topics in Environmental Science (when topic is relevant with approval)	
INTS 375	Special Topics (when topic is relevant with approval)	
INTS 475	Special Topics (when topic is relevant with approval)	
Other course work with advisor approval		
Total Credits		9

Concentration in Equity and Environmental Justice (EQEJ) Required Courses

Code	Title	Credits
EVPP 362	Intermediate Environmental Policy	3
EVPP 436	Politics of Climate Change Governance	3
INTS 336	Poverty, Wealth and Inequality in the US (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
INTS 337	Social Justice Consciousness and Action	3
Total Credits		12

Six Credits

Code	Title	Credits
Select a minimum of six credits from the following: 6		
ANTH 370	Environment and Culture	
CONF 394	Human Rights and Inequality	
EVPP 434	Food-Energy-Water-Climate Nexus	
GGG 304	Population Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
GGG 307	Geographic Approaches for Sustainable Development	
GOVT 445	Human Rights	
INTS 304	Social Movements and Community Activism (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
INTS 331	The Nonprofit Sector (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
INTS 362	Social Justice and Human Rights (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
INTS 450	Social Innovation in Action	
SOCI 320	Globalization and Social Change (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
SOCI 355	Social Inequality (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
INTS 375	Special Topics (when topic is relevant with approval)	
INTS 475	Special Topics (when topic is relevant with approval)	
EVPP 490	Special Topics in Environmental Science and Policy (when topic is relevant with approval)	

EVPP 505	Selected Topics in Environmental Science (when topic is relevant with approval)	
Other course work with advisor approval		
Total Credits		6

Concentration in Sustainable Food and Agriculture (SFG) Required Courses

Code	Title	Credits
INTS 370	Sustainable Food Systems	6
INTS 371	Food Systems and Policy (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
INTS 470	Professional Pathways in Sustainable Food Systems	1

Total Credits 10

Eight Credits

Code	Title	Credits
Select a minimum of eight credits from the following: 8		
ANTH 366	Food and Human Evolution	
ANTH 376	Food and Culture	
BIOL 344	Plant Diversity and Evolution	
BIOL 345	Plant Ecology	
EVPP 381	Nature and Culture in Global Wetlands (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
EVPP 423	Beekeeping and Sustainability	
EVPP 434	Food-Energy-Water-Climate Nexus	
EVPP 436	Politics of Climate Change Governance	
GGG 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
INTS 331	The Nonprofit Sector (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
NUTR 295	Introduction to Nutrition (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
NUTR 318	Global Nutrition and Food Security	
NUTR 383	Taste and Place	
NUTR 408	Food Security	
NUTR 421	Community Nutrition	
NUTR 435	Urban Agriculture	
INTS 375	Special Topics (when topic is relevant with approval)	
INTS 475	Special Topics (when topic is relevant with approval)	
EVPP 490	Special Topics in Environmental Science and Policy (when topic is relevant with approval)	
EVPP 505	Selected Topics in Environmental Science (when topic is relevant with approval)	
Other course work with advisor approval		
Total Credits		8

Writing-Intensive Requirement

The university requires all students to complete at least one course designated as "writing intensive" in their major at the 300 level or above.

Students majoring in environmental and sustainability studies should consult an advisor to learn how to fulfill this requirement.

Upper Level Requirement

Students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation requirements.

Additional Electives

Any remaining credits may be completed with elective courses to bring the degree total to 120.

College Level Requirements for the BA Degree

In addition to the Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) program, students pursuing a BA degree must complete the coursework below. Except where expressly prohibited, a course used to fulfill a college level requirement may also be used simultaneously to satisfy other requirements (Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements or requirements for the major).

Philosophy or Religious Studies

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits from the following:		
		3
	PHIL (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/phil/) ¹	
	RELI (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/reli/)	

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Note that the following courses may not be used to fulfill this requirement:

- PHIL 323 Classical Western Political Theory
- PHIL 324 Modern Western Political Theory
- PHIL 327 Contemporary Western Political Theory
- PHIL 393 Humanities College to Career
- PHIL 460 Senior Seminar in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Additionally, PHIL 253, RELI 235, RELI 333, and RELI 339 cannot be used to fulfill both the philosophy/religious studies requirement and the Mason Core literature (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature>) requirement.

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits of social and behavioral sciences from the following (additional to the Mason Core social and behavioral sciences requirement) ¹		
		3

ANTH (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/anth/>)

CRIM (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/crim/>)

ECON (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/econ/>)

GOVT (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/govt/>)

HIST (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/hist/>)²

LING (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/ling/>)

PSYC (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/psyc/>)

SOCI (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/soci/>)

Or choose from the following GGS courses:

GGS 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGS 103	Human Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

GGS 110	Introduction to Geoinformation Technologies
GGS 301	Political Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGS 303	Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGS 304	Population Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGS 305	Economic Geography
GGS 306	Urban Geography
GGS 315	Geography of the United States
GGS 316	Geography of Latin America
GGS 320	Geography of Europe
GGS 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East
GGS 326	Geography of Eastern Europe and Russia
GGS 357	Urban Planning
GGS 380	Geography of Virginia

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The two courses used to fulfill the combined college and Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements must be from different disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences.

2

HIST 100 and HIST 125 may not be used to fulfill this requirement.

Foreign Language

Code	Title	Credits
Intermediate-level proficiency in one foreign language, fulfilled by: ¹		
	Completing 3 credits in a foreign language numbered 202 (or higher level courses taught in the language) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/humanities-social-sciences/modern-classical-languages/)	
	Or achieving a satisfactory score on an approved proficiency test	
	Or completing the following ASL three course sequence:	
EDSE 115	American Sign Language (ASL) I	
EDSE 116	American Sign Language (ASL) II	
EDSE 219	American Sign Language (ASL) III	

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Students who are already proficient in a second language may be eligible for a waiver of this requirement. Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/>).

Non-Western Culture

Select 3 credits of an approved course in the study of a non-Western culture (additional to the Mason Core requirement in global understanding)

Code	Title	Credits
Select 3 credits (additional to Mason Core Global Understanding requirement) ¹		

ANTH 114	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	ARTH 384	Arts of China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 300	Civilizations	3	ARTH 385	Arts of Japan (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 302	Peoples and Cultures of Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	ARTH 482	RS: Advanced Studies in Asian Art (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 307	Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	CHIN 318	Introduction to Classical Chinese (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 308	Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	CHIN 320	Contemporary Chinese Film	3
ANTH 309	Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	CHIN 325	Major Chinese Writers (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 313	Myth, Magic, and Mind (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	CHIN 470	Special Topics in Chinese Studies	3
ANTH 314	Zombies	3	DANC 118	Global Dance Perspectives I (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 317	East Asian Cultures	3	ECON 361	Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 330	Peoples and Cultures of Selected Regions: Non-Western	3	ECON 362	African Economic Development (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 332	Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Globalization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	FREN 454	Topics in Caribbean Francophone Literature and Culture	3
ANTH 381	Medical Anthropology	3	GGG 101	Major World Regions (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ANTH 396	Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	GGG 316	Geography of Latin America	3
ARAB 360	Topics in Arabic Cultural Production	3	GGG 317	Geography of China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARAB 365	Black and Minority Cultures in Arabic Literature (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	GGG 325	Geography of North Africa and the Middle East	3
ARAB 420	Survey of Arabic Literature	3	GGG 399	Select Topics in GGS	3
ARAB 440	Topics in Arabic Religious Thought and Texts (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	GOVT 332	Politics of the Middle East and North Africa	3
ARTH 203	Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	GOVT 333	Politics of East Asia	3
ARTH 204	Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	GOVT 338	Politics of Eurasia	3
ARTH 206	Survey of African Art (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	GOVT 340	Central Asian Politics	3
ARTH 317	The Black Pharaohs: Art and Archaeology of Ancient Nubia (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	GOVT 341	Chinese Foreign Policy	3
ARTH 318	Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt	3	GOVT 345	Islam and Politics	3
ARTH 319	Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	GOVT 433	Political Economy of East Asia	3
ARTH 320	Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 251	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 382	Arts of India (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 252	Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
ARTH 383	Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	HIST 261	Survey of African History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
			HIST 262	Survey of African History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
			HIST 271	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
			HIST 272	Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3

HIST 281	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 211	Introduction to Religions of the "West" (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 282	Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 212	Introduction to Religions of Asia (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 326	Stalinism	3	RELI 312	Islam (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 327	The Soviet Union and Russia Since World War II	3	RELI 313	Hinduism (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 328	Rise of Russia (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 314	Chinese Philosophies and Religious Traditions	3
HIST 329	Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 315	Buddhism (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 353	History of Traditional China	3	RELI 317	Daoism	3
HIST 354	Modern China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 318	Korean Philosophy and Religions	3
HIST 356	Modern Japan (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 338	Qur'an and Hadith	3
HIST 357	Postwar Japan (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 342	Comparative Study of Mysticism	3
HIST 358	Post-1949 China (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 344	Muhammad: Life and Legacy	3
HIST 360	History of South Africa (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 358	Islamic Thought (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 364	Revolution in Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 367	Islamic Law, Society, and Ethics	3
HIST 365	Conquest and Colonization in Latin America (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 368	Islam, Democracy, and Human Rights (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 366	Comparative Slavery	3	RELI 384	Global History of Christianity (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 377	The Vietnam War (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RELI 490	Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 384	Global History of Christianity (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3	RUSS 353	Russian Civilization (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 387	Topics in Global History (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3-6	RUSS 354	Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3
HIST 461	Arab-Israeli Conflict	3	WMST 407	Transnational Sexualities	3
HIST 462	Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3			
HIST 465	The Middle East in the 20th Century	3			
JAPA 310	Japanese Culture in a Global World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3			
JAPA 340	Topics in Japanese Literature (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3			
JAPA 380	Japan in Motion	3			
KORE 300	Korean Culture and Society	3			
KORE 320	Korean Popular Culture in a Global World	3			
KORE 385	Introduction to Korean Linguistics	3			
MUSI 103	Musics of the World (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	3			

1

A course used to fulfill the Mason Core global understanding (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global>) requirement may not be simultaneously used to satisfy this college-level requirement. A course used to fulfill this requirement may be used simultaneously to fulfill any other requirements (Mason Core requirements, college-level requirements, or requirements for the major). Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (<http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/>).

Mason Core

Some Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>) requirements.

Students who have completed the following credentials are eligible for a waiver of the Foundation and Exploration (lower level) requirement categories. The Integration category (upper level) is not waived under

this policy. See Admissions (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-policies/#transfertext>) for more information.

- VCCS Uniform Certificate of General Studies
- VCCS or Richard Bland Associate of Science (A.S.), Associate of Arts (A.A.), Associate of Arts and Sciences (A.A.&S.), or Associate of Fine Arts (A.F.A.)

Code	Title	Credits
Foundation Requirements		
	Written Communication (lower-level) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written)	3
	Oral Communication (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#oral)	3
	Quantitative Reasoning (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#quantitative)	3
	Information Technology and Computing (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#information-technology)	3
Exploration Requirements		
	Arts (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#arts)	3
	Global Contexts (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-contexts)	3
	Global History (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global-history)	3
	Literature (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature)	3
	Natural Science (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#natural-science)	7
	Social and Behavioral Sciences (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#social-behavioral-science)	3
	Just Societies (optional) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#justsocieties) ¹	
Integration Requirements		
	Written Communication (upper-level) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written)	3
	Writing Intensive (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#wi) ²	3
	Mason Apex (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#apex) ³	3
	Total Credits	40

1

In addition to covering content related to the designated category, Exploration level courses marked with a *Just Societies* "flag" are specifically designed to help students learn how to interact effectively with others from all walks of life, including those with backgrounds and beliefs that differ from their own. Courses marked with the Just Societies flag are available for students starting in Fall 2024. Students admitted prior to the Fall of 2025 are not required to take courses with a Just Societies flag but may wish to do so to increase their knowledge and skills in this important area. Students interested in this approach to completing their Mason Core Exploration Requirements should work closely with their advisor to identify the appropriate Just Societies-flagged courses.

2

Most programs include the writing-intensive course designated for the major as part of the major requirements; this course is therefore not counted towards the total required for Mason Core.

3

Minimum 3 credits required.

4-Year Plan

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental and Sustainability Studies Sample Plan of Study

A sample four year graduation plan and degree planning worksheet can be found at <https://academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu/undergraduate-students/advising/advising-sheets> (<https://academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu/undergraduate-students/advising/advising-sheets/>). The plan is a recommended sequencing of courses based on prerequisites and scheduling. This may not fit every student's needs and is a guideline, not a requirement. Students should confirm major requirements with their academic advisor each semester and with their PatriotWeb Degree Evaluation to ensure they enroll in the proper courses and are on track to graduate.

Program Outcomes

Program Outcomes

- **Individual and Group Behavior (people):** critically assess the part individuals and communities have played in creating environmental challenges, the diversity of ethical and social justice issues raised by human interactions with the environment, and understand how individuals and communities can use these ethical insights as a foundation to devise and implement solutions to address these problems;
- **Business and Public Policy (prosperity):** analytically consider how political institutions, markets and businesses have interacted with the environment, and the pivotal role they have in developing solutions that address environmental concerns;
- **Environmental Science and Society (planet):** identify the components and interactions that make up the ecosystem, and how this system responds to natural and human interactions;
- **Integration and Analysis:** integrate and apply the knowledge of the three aspects of environmental and sustainability studies to practical applications within the community and to critically assess and devise plans that address the social factors related to natural resource use;
- **Written and Oral Communication:** communicate effectively in a written format and apply appropriate rhetorical standards (e.g., audience adaptation, language, argument, organization, evidence, etc.). Students will also communicate effectively in an oral format, applying appropriate rhetorical standards (e.g., audience adaptation, language, argument, organization, evidence, etc.).
- **Innovation:** contribute to the global movement towards realizing a more healthy, just and sustainable society;
- **Concentrated Expertise:** create in-depth knowledge in one of six concentration areas related to environmental and sustainability studies.

Accelerated Master's

The accelerated master's program below specifies the BA in environmental and sustainability studies as a feeder degree for its program. Many other accelerated master's programs are available for

any bachelor's degree at Mason. See the full list of degrees (http://catalog.gmu.edu/programs/#filter=filter_24) with accelerated programs at George Mason.

Bachelor's Degree (selected)/ Environmental Science and Policy, Accelerated MS

Overview

This bachelor's/accelerated master's degree program allows academically strong undergraduates with a commitment to advance their education to obtain a Green Leaf-designated (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/student-services/green-leaf-programs-courses/>) bachelor's degree and the Environmental Science and Policy, MS (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/science/environmental-policy/environmental-science-policy-ms/>) degrees within an accelerated timeframe. Upon completion of this 141-credit accelerated program, students will be exceptionally well prepared for entry into their careers or into a doctoral program in the field or in a related discipline.

Students are eligible to apply for this accelerated program once they have earned at least 60 undergraduate credits and can enroll in up to 18 credits of graduate coursework after successfully completing 75 undergraduate credits. This flexibility makes it possible for students to complete a bachelor's and a master's in five years.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor's/Accelerated Master's Degrees (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-7>). For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/>). For more information on undergraduates enrolling in graduate courses, see AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/registration-attendance/#text>).

Admission Requirements

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in the Graduate Admission Policies (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/>) section of this catalog.

Important application information and processes for this accelerated master's program can be found here (<https://www.gmu.edu/admissions-aid/accelerated-masters/>).

The GRE exam is not required for this accelerated master's program.

Students should submit three letters of recommendation (at least one from a former professor or someone with a PhD), a recent resume, a statement of interest/research goals and interests (including information on the candidate's proposed MS research), and a letter from their advisor (Perspective Advisor Form (<https://science.gmu.edu/media/prospective-advisor-form-dnp-form-revised-mar-2023/>)) stating that the advisor agrees to take on the candidate as an MS student, how the candidate would be a good fit for them and why candidate's research topic would be suitable.

Students with an overall GPA of at least 3.20 who are pursuing any Green Leaf-designated (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/student-services/green-leaf-programs-courses/>) major or minor may apply to this accelerated master's program after completing two semesters of chemistry (including CHEM 211 General Chemistry I (Mason Core) ([\[catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/\]\(http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/\)\) and CHEM 212 General Chemistry II \(Mason Core\) \(<http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/>\) and three semesters of biology, including a course in ecology, or the equivalent, for example:](http://</p>
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Code	Title	Credits
Select one of the following options: 13		
Option 1:		
BIOL 213	Cell Structure and Function (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
BIOL 214	Biostatistics for Biology Majors	
BIOL 308	Foundations of Ecology and Evolution (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)	
Option 2:		
EVPP 210	Environmental Biology: Molecules and Cells	
EVPP 301	Environmental Science: Biological Diversity and Ecosystems	
EVPP 302	Environmental Science: Biomes and Human Dimensions	
EVPP 305	Environmental Microbiology Essentials	
EVPP 306	Environmental Microbiology Essentials Laboratory	
Option 3:		
CONS 401	Conservation Theory	
CONS 402	Applied Conservation	
6 credits of BIOL or CONS electives		

Graduate Advisor

By at least the beginning of their senior year, students should seek out a faculty member in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy (<http://catalog.gmu.edu/colleges-schools/science/environmental-policy/#facultytext>) who is willing to serve as their advisor. This advisor will aid the student in choosing the appropriate graduate courses to take and help to prepare the student for graduate studies. Admission into a research-oriented master's concentration is dependent upon securing the agreement of a faculty advisor. Faculty from a variety of departments and colleges at George Mason University (called "program faculty") can serve as master's advisors. Potential students are encouraged to speak with the graduate program coordinator in the department to obtain guidance on this issue.

Accelerated Option Requirements

After the completion of 75 undergraduate credits, students may complete 3 to 12 credits of graduate coursework that can apply to both the undergraduate and graduate degrees.

In addition to applying to graduate from the undergraduate program, students in the accelerated program must submit a bachelor's/accelerated master's transition form (available from the Office of the University Registrar (<https://registrar.gmu.edu/forms/>)) to the College of Science's Office of Academic and Student Affairs (<https://cos.gmu.edu/about/contact-us/>) by the last day to add classes of their final undergraduate semester. Students should enroll for courses in the master's program in the fall or spring semester immediately following conferral of the bachelor's degree, but should contact an advisor if they would like to defer up to one semester.

Students must maintain an overall GPA of 3.00 or higher in all graduate coursework and should consult with their faculty advisor to coordinate their academic goals.

Reserve Graduate Credits

Accelerated master's students may also take up to 6 graduate credits as reserve graduate credits. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree, but will reduce the master's degree by up to 6 credits. With 12 graduate credits counted toward the undergraduate and graduate degrees plus the maximum 6 reserve graduate credits, the credits necessary for the graduate degree can be reduced by up to 18.

Graduate Course Suggestions

The following list of suggested courses is provided for general reference. To ensure an efficient route to graduation and post-graduation readiness, students are strongly encouraged to meet with an advisor before registering for graduate-level courses.

Code	Title	Credits
EVPP 518	Conservation Biology	3
EVPP 529	Environmental Science Communication	3
EVPP 621	Overview of Biodiversity Conservation	3
EVPP 635	Environment and Society	3