Research and the development of multiple disciplines have contributed to remarkable gains in human and animal health, conservation and sustainability; however, interacting challenges as dense human populations, unstable governments, habitat loss and fragmentation, over-exploitation of wild aquatic and terrestrial animals and plants, human-wildlife conflict, invasive species, biodiversity loss, emerging infectious diseases, environmental contaminants, and climate change call for broader-based and more integrated teaching, research and intervention. The Department of Environmental Science and Policy (ESP) at George Mason University believes that addressing these challenges requires diverse knowledge and expertise in natural science, social science, and public policy. Our faculty and programs reflect the need for a transdisciplinary approach to environmental science, policy and conservation.

In addition to faculty who are involved in cutting edge research, ESP has one of the largest graduate programs in the university conducting groundbreaking studies in the environmental field. We also have an increasing number of undergraduates conducting their own individual research projects or gaining experience by helping with established studies.

The proximity of George Mason to Washington, DC, gives us a unique opportunity to partner with governmental agencies, environmental and conservation groups and environmental-focused companies. Students can be involved in practical study and training at the Smithsonian-Mason School of Conservation (http://smconservation.gmu.edu) (SMSC) and the Potomac Environmental Research Education Center (https://cos.gmu.edu/perec) (PEREC).

Research conducted in ESP ranges from terrestrial and marine mammal conservation to molecular and microbial ecology; from corporate environmental management and policy to the environmental perceptions and practices of indigenous peoples.

Faculty

Department Faculty

Professors
Ahn, Crate, Jones, Lovejoy

Associate Professors
Aguirre (chair), Jonas, Parsons, Torzilli, Visseren-Hamakers

Assistant Professors
de Mutsert, Fowler, Kennedy

Term Professor
Talbot

Term Associate Professors
Kim, Largen, Peters, C. Smith, D. Sklarew

Term Assistant Professors
Salerno

Research Assistant Professors
Ren, Spooner, Wensing

Instructor
Perilla

Adjuncts
Allen, Hartl, Prasad, Sample, J. Sklarew, van der Ham, T. Visseren

Emeritus Professors
Bradley, Ernst, Kelso, Shaffer, Skog

Other Environmental Program Faculty

Professors
Adelman, Balint, Chandhoke, Conant, Conlan, Cook, Dukes, Foster, Gerber, Gifford, Gillevet, Gusterson, Haack, Hart, Houck, Jacobsen, Lawrey, Maibach, Maxwell, Metcalf, Olds, Pawlowski, Peters, Posner, Qu, Regan, Rockwood, Rosenberger, Rowan, Seto, Storr, Stough, Taylor, Willett, Wingfield, Wong

Associate Professors

Assistant Professors
Akerlof, Forkner, Frankenfeld, Rice, Schoeny, Srikantia

Term Associate Professors
Fuertes, Nord, Verardo

Term Assistant Professors
Kysar-Mattietti, Lessard-Pilon, Luther, McNeil

Affiliate Faculty
Akhob, Bauer, Brown, Buchanan, Buchino, Campana, Comiskey, Cook, Favaro, Fisher, Helgen, Kress, Laurance, Luksemburg, Maldonado, Manca, McShea, Magonigal, Monfort, Munigandondh, Murray, Noe, Ogburn, Perrier, Seidensticker, A. Smith, Sohmer, Songsasen, Thornhill, Verissimo, Waters, Wright
Programs

- Conservation Biology Minor
- Conservation Studies Minor (COS)
- Environmental Policy Minor
- Environmental Science Minor
- Environmental Science and Policy, MS
- Environmental Science and Public Policy, PhD
- Environmental Science, BS
- Environmental and Sustainability Studies, BA (COS)
- Sustainability Studies Minor
- Sustainable Enterprise Minor

Department of Environmental Science and Policy also works closely with and provides administrative input to the Biology, BS Environmental and Conservation Biology Concentration (ESCB).