

EARTH AND SPACE SCIENCE (BS) - ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE TRACK

Program Overview

Earth and Space Science is an interdisciplinary field which works to advance humanity's understanding of the Earth and the wider universe.

Students are provided with a solid foundation in earth systems and processes (geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere) and the impacts humans have on these systems, both past and present. Additionally, students will learn about the origins of the planets and the exploration of the solar system. All four tracks in ESS combine classroom, laboratory, and field experiences, as well as provide opportunities for mentored research projects and hands-on learning experiences.

Environmental scientists study the transdisciplinary interactions between nature and humans to develop improved use of resources, management of habitats, and restoration of environments. The B.S. in Environmental Science curriculum integrates diverse fields of study to train students in systems thinking, critical analysis, and hands-on applications of theoretical knowledge, preparing students for successful careers in the rapidly growing industry of environmental management and protection, or for graduate study in Environmental Science and related fields.

The Environmental Science track combines a broad cross section of core courses and electives in Earth system science (Geology, Atmospheric Science, and Astronomy) with the study of natural systems (Environmental Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics) and human perspectives (Anthropology), through which students gain both a firm foundation in the underpinning concepts of environmental science and the flexibility to develop specialized knowledge in each student's area of interest. Students engage in practical and real-world applications, developing proficiency in designing and conducting original research, and effectively communicating the results of these studies in both written and oral forms.

Career Opportunities

Students graduating with degrees in Environmental Sciences find gainful employment in private industry and the public sector. Graduates serve as environmental professionals in local, state, and federal environmental resource agencies; in the private sector as environmental consultants.