PROGRAM IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

J.D. Wulfhorst, Director (17A College of Natural Resources 83844-1130; phone 208/885-6113; fax 208/885/4674; envs@uidaho.edu; www.uidaho.edu/envs).

The interdisciplinary program in Environmental Science is administered by the College of Natural Resources (https://catalog.uidaho.edu/colleges-related-units/natural-resources).

The Environmental Science Program offers B.S., M.S., P.S.M., and Ph.D. degrees that emphasize the importance of an interdisciplinary approach for students committed to studying and solving environmental issues. The diverse multi-disciplinary faculty represents all colleges at the university and includes soil scientists, engineers, geographers, biologists, ecologists, political scientists, sociologists, chemists, philosophers, and hydrologists, as examples.

Career opportunities in the environmental sciences are diverse and numerous. Graduates are employed in the private and public sectors in areas such as natural resource management, pollution prevention, air and water quality monitoring, hazardous waste management, environmental and land use planning, rangeland health, environmental policy, environmental remediation, and environmental regulation and compliance.

The curriculum leading to the B.S. degree in environmental science offers students the opportunity to combine studies in several disciplines and professional fields in order to gain an understanding of the complex nature of environmental problems. In addition to understanding relationships among traditional disciplines, the program creates an integrated and coherent approach to environmental problem solving.

The curriculum includes the university core (general education) requirements, a common set of required courses and breadth electives for all environmental science majors, as well as the student’s choice of one of three option areas. The required courses and electives for all majors are designed to build a strong base of knowledge in biological, physical, and social sciences, supplemented by a set of electives, in consultation with an environmental science advisor participating in the program. All students complete a senior project as part of their course of study.

Three option areas are offered: biological science, physical science, and social science.

Professional Certificates: Twelve-credit professional certificates in water science and environmental contamination assessment are also available through the Environmental Science Program. The certificates can be completed on the Moscow campus or through distance education. Procedural details are available in the program office.

Graduate training in the Environmental Science Program provides students with the opportunity to specialize in one of eight emphasis areas: ecology/biological science, waste management, earth science/hydrology, natural resource management, physical science, policy and law, environmental health/toxicology, and water science.

Admission to the graduate program is based on: ability to complete graduate-level work evidenced by undergraduate transcripts; the applicant’s statement of research and career objectives; the compatibility of the student’s objectives with faculty expertise and program objectives; and availability of graduate faculty to act as major advisor for the applicant. The GRE, applicant’s statement of objectives, and three letters of recommendation and resume are required. Students without backgrounds in environmental science may be admitted after certain undergraduate deficiencies are completed.

Questions regarding the B.S. in Environmental Science should be directed to the Student Services Undergraduate Advisor, Chelsea Pugh (208/885-7132, chelseap@uidaho.edu). Questions for the M.S., P.S.M., or Ph.D. programs should be directed to the Graduate Program Coordinator, Dr. Lubia Cajas Cano de Gliniewicz (208/885-6113, lubia@uidaho.edu).

Majors

- Environmental Science (B.S.Env.S.) (https://catalog.uidaho.edu/colleges-related-units/natural-resources/environmental-science/environmental-science-bsenvs)

Environmental Science Graduate Program

- Environmental Science (M.S.) (https://catalog.uidaho.edu/colleges-related-units/natural-resources/environmental-science/environmental-science-ms)
- Natural Resources and Environmental Science (P.S.M.) (https://catalog.uidaho.edu/colleges-related-units/natural-resources/environmental-science/natural-resources-environmental-science-psm)
- Environmental Science (Ph.D.) (https://catalog.uidaho.edu/colleges-related-units/natural-resources/environmental-science/environmental-science-phd)
- Concurrent J.D./M.S. Environmental Science Degrees (https://catalog.uidaho.edu/colleges-related-units/natural-resources/environmental-science/concurrent-jdms-environmental-science-degrees)