Environmental Science

Environmental Science studies the relationship between the physical components of the planet and the environment, based on both their natural and their unnatural interactions. More specifically, it focuses on the relationships between living and non-living things, the impact that humans have on these relationships, and the economic and socio-political consequences of this impact. Environmental science is a very dynamic field, as it involves many different scientific fields, such as biology, ecology, and geology, as well as sociology and economics. As it is such a broad field, environmental scientists are employed in several different areas, however, most are related to either general environmental science, agriculture and forestry, environmental policy and planning, or sustainability.

Possible Immediate Job Titles with a Bachelor’s Degree

**Energy Manager**
Energy managers carefully analyze energy and water consumption and implement energy initiatives for construction and renovation projects that maximize efficient energy use and minimize cost. To become an energy manager, one must have a strong background in environmental science, as well as knowledge of architecture, mathematics, and physical sciences. Along with the completion of a Bachelor’s degree, one must also obtain the Certified Energy Manager, or CEM, credential.

**Environmental Policy Analyst**
Environmental policy analysts research the data behind the challenges of environmental policy developments, and propose educated solutions to those problems – proposals that typically lead to plans for new legislation, awareness campaigns, and fundraising. To become an environmental policy analyst, one must not only have a firm understanding of environmental science, but must also have strong background in mathematics, statistics, and computer science.

Possible Job Titles with an Advanced Degree

**Environmental Economist** – Master’s or Doctorate Degree Required
Environmental economists study the economic impacts of a broad spectrum of environmental matters, such as renewable energy use, the construction of hydroelectric power plants and transnational pipelines, and pollution control. To become an environmental economist, one must have a strong background in mathematics and statistics, as well as practical experience regarding economic analysis, generally through the completion of an internship.

*This is not an exhaustive list of occupations and it is highly recommended you conduct informational interviews and engage in experiential learning activities to help you broaden your interest areas within your major. Please contact the Career Design Center and speak to a Career Coach for further discussion; 512-471-6700 Painter Hall (PAI) 5.03.*
Online Resources

What can I do with this major?

Is a profession in environmental science right for you? Explore Focus2.

Job Posting Websites

Handshake
Handshake is Career Services’ primary job posting site, and all students should have an account to not only apply for jobs and internships, but also to stay current on upcoming events, employer information sessions and other opportunities. Create an account!

Vault
Going Global
Dice
Indeed

EnvironmentalCareer.org
EcoJobs – Environmental Science Opportunities
Eco.org

EcoEmploy
Career Builder
Nature Jobs

Professional Associations

Environmental Science Institute – via UT
United States Environmental Protection Agency*
National Association of Environmental Professionals
Sustainable Remediation Forum

Soil Science Society of America
Association of Environmental and Research Economists*
American Society for Horticultural Science*
The Wildlife Society

*Association Includes a Job Database

Additional Resources

EnvironmentalScience.org
World Wide Learn
Occupational Outlook Handbook

Science Daily
Frontiers