

① What does Environmental Science mean to you, and why do you think it is important in today's world?

"So long as the human species inhabits Earth, proper resource management will be the most fundamental issue we face. Our very survival depends on it" (Nelson, 1970). In this age, the quote of Senator Gaylord Nelson holds true. The scarcity of resources will determine how we interact with each other. Environmental science is an interdisciplinary field of various scientific disciplines with the ultimate goal of addressing environmental issues and providing solutions to them (Wallis, 2024). Personally, I think environmental science is the key to eradicating major world problems. As different environmental issues affect different aspects of the world such as its geopolitical landscape or health, the importance of environmental science stems from the fact that by preserving the life of our world, there would be a decline for other global issues.

② Describe a major environmental issue that you believe is critical to address. How do you think learning the subject (GEELIAT-M) can contribute to solving this issue?

Although commonly addressed, a major environmental issue is the burning of fossil fuels. For context, fossil fuels are the decomposition of million year old organisms. These deposits are then harvested for energy. Although this benefits us, the opposite happens to the environment (ClientEarth communications, 2020). These deposits, when harvested, emit harmful gases to our atmosphere, thinning out the Earth's Ozone Layer, increasing global temperature. Through GEELIAT-M, an individual gains awareness to the environmental issues of our world and take action in mitigating it.

③ How do you see yourself contributing to environmental sustainability through your studies in the subject (GEELIAT-M)?

By learning the topics found in GEELIAT-M, I will do my part, however small it may be, to contribute for environmental sustainability. Proper waste segregation, recycling, and much more are basic steps that I can do to contribute.

④ Reflect on a time when you noticed the impact of human activities on the environment. How did it make you feel, and what actions do you think are necessary to mitigate such impacts?

Within university grounds, I notice litter all around. Plastic cups, bottles, styrofoam housing for canteen goods, wrappers, and more. Seeing these sights made me angry to the students who are practically adults to behave childishly and throw away their trash despite segregation bins being accessible in campus. I believe that stricter campus policies should be taken into effect with regards to littering in university grounds. I believe that punishments should be harsh to such undisciplined actions. Through this, the issue would not only be mitigated but completely eradicated.

References:

- Wallis, A. (2024). What is Environmental Science? Southern New Hampshire University - Online & On Campus Degrees | SNHU. <https://www.snhu.edu/about-us/newsroom/stem/what-is-environmental-science/>
- ClientEarth Communications. (2020). Fossil Fuels and Climate Change: The Facts. <https://www.clientearth.org/latest/news/fossil-fuels-and-climate-change-the-facts/>