

GEOG 3700: Introduction to Environmental Studies

3 Credit Hours

This course is designed to give students an overview of the human dimensions of US environmental issues and is a core course for the environmental studies minor. From a geographical perspective, the course explores how US environmental laws, ethics, viewpoints and economics interact, shape, and manifest themselves across the landscape. Students are introduced to technologies, such as geographic information systems and satellite images, used by geographers to study environmental issues. The course examines spatial patterns arising from the ways in which we manage our natural resources and environment. Natural resources such as water, air, soil, energy and fossil fuels are used as examples in the discussion of spatial patterns arising from resource extraction, transportation and use.

GEOG 3710: Local & Global Sustainability

3 Credit Hours

This course is a critical review of the concept of sustainability and sustainable development in theory and practice. Students analyze ideological arguments, sustainability indicators and other tools, and case studies of sustainability projects worldwide. Students examine different interpretations of sustainability across the globe with special attention given to how sustainability is viewed and implemented in both the developed (core) and developing (periphery) regions.

GEOG 3800: Climatology

3 Credit Hours

This course examines the nature of Earth's climate and the physical processes that determine the variations in climate and weather worldwide. Emphasis is on the interactions among the atmosphere, the hydrologic cycle, and earth's surface. Aspects of climate change are also addressed.