Environmental Science

What is Environmental Science?
Environmental science is the study of the natural environment and its processes and interactions, including how humans impact and interact within the environment. The objective is to improve the current and future welfare of humans through the application of science and the development of sound environmental policies.

Why Study Environmental Science?
Over time, people are becoming more aware of the importance of monitoring and protecting the environment in which we live. We are realizing we have a significant impact on the natural environment around us, and global population growth is increasing the demand for positions in the field.

An environmental science degree is versatile, allowing graduates to be employed in a wide range of fields and sectors. As an environmental science major, your courses will involve problem-solving studies related to water and soil quality, economics, environmental policy, political science, resource management and engineering. In addition, you will gain important skills in communication, philosophy, ethics and sociology.

Finish in 4
For each undergraduate degree program in CASNR, we have prepared example plans of how you may successfully complete your degree plan in four years.

Where Do You See Yourself?

Conservation planning
Chemist
Education
Environmental control
Environmental law
Environmental remediation
Environmental research
Extension education
Geoscience

Hydrology
Land-use planning
Protection planning
Soil and water quality
State and federal agencies
Waste disposal
Wetlands and watershed management

Destiny Barker
Grove, Oklahoma

“I have known environmental science was for me since I was little. I love science, I love the environment, and I aspire to create a more sustainable future.”
Major Options

Within environmental science, you have the option to select a predefined emphasis area or work with your faculty advisor to customize your plan of study.

Environmental Policy
Focus on environmental law, regulation and policy.

Natural Resources
Focus on natural resources, ecology and management.

Water Resources
Focus on water properties and the quality and quantity of water resources.

Oklahoma State University
College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
Environmental Science Interdisciplinary Program

A Multi-Faceted Approach
The environmental science undergraduate major is directly supported by faculty from the departments of agricultural economics, biosystems and agricultural engineering, entomology and plant pathology, horticulture and landscape architecture, natural resource ecology and management, and plant and soil sciences. The combined efforts and experience of the faculty members provides a unique and multi-faceted approach to learning for students in the degree program.

Undergraduate Research
Students majoring in environmental science benefit from working with faculty who are conducting cutting-edge research involving environmental problems. CASNR has long been committed to fostering research opportunities and partnerships that lead to scholastic achievement, societal improvements, technological innovation and economic revitalization.

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Fast Fact
According to the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, jobs within the environmental science field are projected to grow about 15 percent through 2022, which is higher than the average for all job fields.

Highlight
Many courses in this program are designed to get students outside and out of traditional classroom settings. For example, the senior-level capstone class features a team-based project, which helps students develop real-world experience as they work with professionals in environmental science related fields.