

EARTH, SOCIETY, & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, BSLAS

for the degree of Bachelor Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Earth, Society, & Environmental Sustainability

The Earth, Society, & Environmental Sustainability, BSLAS is not currently accepting applications. Suspension of admissions effective Spring 2027. This program has been replaced by the Environmental Sustainability, BSLAS (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/environmental-sustainability-bslas/>)

Students select one concentration in consultation with an academic advisor.

- Science of the Earth System (SES) Concentration
- Society and the Environment (SAE) Concentration

On-campus Illinois students can transfer to this degree without any special requirements.

Off-campus students who plan to transfer to this degree should have completed, or have in progress, the following:

- the Composition 1 requirement.
- the third level of high school foreign language or second level of college foreign language.

It is highly recommended that off-campus students complete the following requirements before transferring to the online degree - students who have not completed the following requirements may have to take additional coursework (either at Illinois or elsewhere) and should consult the program advisor:

- the Illinois LAS language requirement should be satisfied.
- the General Education Distribution Requirements of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences should be completed.
- the Cognate Coursework should be completed.

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Graduation Requirements

Minimum hours required for graduation: 120 hours.

Minimum required major and supporting course work: Normally equates to 46-56 hours. Twelve hours of 300- and 400-level courses in the major must be taken from this campus. Substitutions may be made with advisor approval.

University Requirements

The university and residency requirements can be found in the Student Code (<https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3/part8/3-801/>) (§

3-801) and in the Academic Catalog (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/>).

General Education Requirements

Follows the campus General Education (Gen Ed) requirements (<https://courses.illinois.edu/gened/DEFAULT/DEFAULT/>). Some Gen Ed requirements may be met by courses required and/or electives in the program.

Code	Title	Hours
	Composition I	4-6
	Advanced Composition	3
	Humanities & the Arts (6 hours)	6
	Natural Sciences & Technology (6 hours)	6
	Social & Behavioral Sciences (6 hours)	6
	Cultural Studies: Non-Western Cultures (1 course)	3
	Cultural Studies: US Minority Cultures (1 course)	3
	Cultural Studies: Western/Comparative Cultures (1 course)	3
	Quantitative Reasoning (2 courses, at least one course must be Quantitative Reasoning I)	6-10
	Language Requirement (Completion of the fourth semester or equivalent of a language other than English is required)	0-20

Orientation and Professional Development

Code	Title	Hours
LAS 101	Design Your First Year Experience	1
OR		
LAS 100 & LAS 101	Success in LAS for International Students and Design Your First Year Experience	3
OR		
LAS 102	Transfer Advantage	1

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
ESE Coursework		10
ESE 200	Earth Systems	3
ENSU 300	Environmental Sustainability	3
ESE 379	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	4
Advanced Courses		18-24

A minimum of six 300- and 400-level courses (from the lists below), totaling at least 18 credit hours, and in an academically coherent program approved by the advisor, are required. At least three of these six advanced courses must be listed or cross-listed as an ESE or ENSU course.

Capstone and Experiential

ESE 389	Environment and Sustainability Field Expedition	3
ESE 401	ESE Capstone	3
ESE 497	Special Topics in ESE	1 to 4

Earth's Biosphere & Ecology

ESE 439	Biogeography	3
HORT 430	Children and Nature	2
IB 362	Marine Biology	3
IB 411	Bioinspiration	3

IB 440	Plants and Global Change	3	ACE 406	Environmental Law	3
IB 444	Insect Ecology	3	ACE 411	Environment and Development	3
IB 451	Conservation Biology	4	ATMS 307	Climate Processes	3
IB 452	Ecosystem Ecology	3	ATMS 447	Climate Change Assessment	3
IB 453	Community Ecology	3	ATMS 449	Biogeochemical Cycles	4
IB 461	Ornithology	4	CPSC 336	Tomorrow's Environment	3
NRES 348	Fish and Wildlife Ecology	3	CPSC 415	Bioenergy Crops	3
NRES 419	Env and Plant Ecosystems	3	CPSC 431	Plants and Global Change	3
NRES 420	Restoration Ecology	4	ENSU 303	Sustainable Business I	4
Earth's Physical Systems, Resources, & Hazards					
ABE 436	Renewable Energy Systems	3	ENSU 310	Renewable & Alternative Energy	4
ATMS 420	Atmospheric Chemistry	4	ENSU 410	Sustainable Organizations	4
CEE 330	Environmental Engineering	3	ESE 410	Green Development	4
CHEM 360	Chemistry of the Environment	3	ESE 465	Transportation & Sustainability	3
ENSU 302	Air Pollution to Global Change	3	ESE 466	Environmental Policy	3
ESE 320	Water Planet, Water Crisis	3	ESE 482	Challenges of Sustainability	3
ESE 333	Earth Materials and the Env	4	ETMA 311	Humanity in the Food Web	3
ESE 411	Geomorphology	4	NPRES 480	Energy and Security	3
ESE 445	Earth Resources Sustainability	3	NRES 325	Natural Resource Policy Mgmt	3
ESE 470	Introduction to Hydrogeology	4	NRES 439	Env and Sustainable Dev	3
ESE 486	Environmental Consulting	3	UP 446	Sustainable Planning Seminar	4
GEOL 380	Environmental Geology	4	UP 456	Sustainable Planning Workshop	4
GEOL 450	Investigating the Earth's Interior	3	UP 480	Sustainable Design Principles	2
GEOL 451	Environmental Geophysics	4	Visualizing the Earth System		
GEOL 460	Geochemistry	3	ATMS 305	Computing and Data Analysis	3
GGIS 401	Watershed Hydrology	3	ESE 380	Geographic Information Systems II	4
GGIS 406	Fluvial Geomorphology	4	ESE 421	Earth Systems Modeling	4
GGIS 408	Humans and River Systems	4	GGIS 371	Spatial Analysis	4
MSE 489	Matl Select for Sustainability	3	GGIS 407	CyberGIS & Geospatial Data Science	4
NRES 351	Introduction to Environmental Chemistry	3	GGIS 412	Geospatial Technologies & Society	3
Environment & the Human Response					
AGCM 330	Environmental Communications	3	GGIS 460	Aerial Photo Analysis	3
HK 408	Environmental Health	3	GGIS 476	Environmental Remote Sensing	3
ENGL 476	Topics in Literature and the Environment	3	GGIS 477	Introduction to Remote Sensing	3
ENSU 301	Soc Impacts Weather & Climate	3	GGIS 479	Advanced Topics in GIS	4
ESE 311	Environmental Issues Today	3	NRES 427	Modeling Natural Resources	4
ESE 360	Environmental Writing	3	NRES 454	GIS in Natural Resource Mgmt	4
ESE 467	Multimedia Environmental Communications	3	Required Concentration. Choose one below:		
ESE 477	Advanced Environmental Writing	3	Science of the Earth System (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/environmental-sustainability-bslas/science-of-the-earth-system/)		
ESE 498	Environmental Writing for Publication	3	Society and the Environment (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/environmental-sustainability-bslas/society-and-the-environment/)		
GGIS 350	Sustainability and the City	3	<i>for the degree of Bachelor Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Earth, Society, & Environmental Sustainability</i>		
GGIS 384	Population Geography	3			
GGIS 495	Advanced Topics in Geography	3 or 4			
GGIS 496	Climate & Social Vulnerability	3			
LA 430	Children and Nature	2			
LA 450	Ecology for Land Restoration	4			
NRES 340	Environ Social Sci Res Meth	3			
NRES 472	Environmental Psychology	4			
SOC 447	Environmental Sociology	3			
Sustainability, Policy, and Global Change					
ACE 310	Natural Resource Economics	3			

impact the structure of this four-year plan. Course availability is not guaranteed during the semester indicated in the sample sequence.

Students must fulfill their Language Other Than English requirement by successfully completing a fourth level of a language other than English. This may require up to four semesters of language depending on high school coursework or placement. See the corresponding section on the Degree and General Education Requirements page (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/general-information/degree-general-education-requirements/>).

First Year	
First Semester	Hours
LAS 101	1
General Education course	3
ESE 200	3
Language Other Than English (3rd level)	4
Composition I or General Education course	4
15	
Total Hours 15	

First Year	
Second Semester	Hours
General Education course	3
General Education course or Composition I	3
General Education course	3
Language Other Than English (4th level)	4
General Education course	3
16	
Total Hours 16	

Second Year	
First Semester	Hours
Concentration Coursework	3
Free Elective course	3
General Education course	3
Concentration Coursework	3
Concentration Coursework	3
15	
Total Hours 15	

Second Year	
Second Semester	Hours
Concentration Coursework	3
ENSU 300	3
General Education course	3
General Education course	3
Free Elective course	3
15	
Total Hours 15	

Third Year	
First Semester	Hours
ESE 379	4
Concentration Coursework	3
Advanced ESE or ENSU course	4
General Education course	3
14	
Total Hours 14	

Third Year	
Second Semester	Hours
Advanced ESE or ENSU course	3
Concentration Coursework	3
General Education course	3
General Education course	3
Free Elective course	3
15	
Total Hours 15	

Fourth Year	
First Semester	Hours
Advanced ESE or ENSU course	3
Advanced course from list	3
General Education course	3
Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	3
15	
Total Hours 15	

Fourth Year	
Second Semester	Hours
Advanced course from list	3
Advanced course from list	3
Concentration Coursework	3
Free Elective course	3
Free Elective course	3
15	
Total Hours 15	

Total Hours: 120

for the degree of Bachelor Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Earth, Society, & Environmental Sustainability

1. Be able to recognize, critique and implement commonly accepted Sustainability models and ideas in a wide variety of settings, using systems thinking to link social and natural science concepts.
2. Have a fundamental understanding of the underlying natural science (SES concentration) or social science (SAE concentration) concepts; being able to recognize and apply appropriate scientific methods (SES concentration) and social science methods (SAE concentration).
3. Use quantitative methods to describe, understand and evaluate theoretical and applied issues in environmental and sustainability

study; this includes direct calculation, working with data, and using quantitative models.

4. Be able to critically evaluate and then communicate environmental and sustainability concepts to both specialized and wide audiences.
5. Prepare students for professional work in environmental and sustainability practice, such as laboratory and field techniques, apprehending and implementing Geographic Information Sciences (including the use of appropriate software), and quantitative and qualitative methods.

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School of Earth, Society & Environment (<https://www.earth.illinois.edu/>)

Earth, Society & Environment faculty (<https://earth.illinois.edu/directory/faculty/>)

Earth, Society & Environment advising (<https://earth.illinois.edu/academics/earth-society-and-environmental-sustainability-academics/academic-advising/>)

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (<https://las.illinois.edu/>)

Overview of College Admissions & Requirements: Liberal Arts & Sciences (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/schools/las/academic-units/>)