

# ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

## ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Environmental Studies examines issues that arise from the interaction of human beings with the natural world. Understanding these issues and meeting the challenges they pose requires knowledge from diverse fields and new modes of thinking.

### Why Environmental Studies at Illinois Wesleyan?

- Our interdisciplinary Environment Studies Program is designed to educate a new generation of students who are critical and creative thinkers, committed to advancing environmental sustainability both locally and globally.
- Our ES majors acquire a **solid foundation** in ecological principles, earth science concepts and scientific causes of today's environmental challenges, as well as the institutions – cultural, political and economic – through which to tackle them.
- They grapple with the **ethical dimensions** of the human-environment relationship.
- And they engage in **applied learning**, bridging the language gap between specialists and the lay public, and gaining experience building a just and sustainable society.
- We offer **four unique ways** to complete the major. Students can pursue a **General Major** or choose one of three areas of concentration: **Ecology, Environmental Policy** or **International Environmental Sustainability**.

### Learning from a Quality Faculty

- **Abigail Jahiel**, (*Director*) Professor of Environmental Studies and International Studies  
*Ph.D. – University of Michigan*  
Specializes in Chinese environmental policy and global environmental politics.
- **Laurine Brown**, Associate Professor of Health and Environmental Studies  
*Ph.D. – Tufts University*  
Specializes in environment and public health.
- **Given Harper**, *George C. and Ella Beach Lewis Endowed Chair of Biology*  
*Ph.D. – Illinois State University*  
Specializes in avian and mammalian ecology.



### A Sampling of Courses Offered by Environmental Studies:

- American Environmental Politics
- Conservation Biology and Restoration Ecology
- Creating a Sustainable Society
- Earth Systems Science
- Environment and Society
- Ethics and the Environment
- Global Responses to Climate Change
- Global Sustainability and Asian Development
- Health and the Environment

### Recent May Term Courses in Environmental Studies:

- Native Americans and the Environment
- Toxic Threats to Reproduction and Child Development
- Tropical Ecology: Costa Rica (travel course)
- Vietnam Today: Addressing the Challenges of Sustainable Development (travel course)
- Water Quality



“**Environmental Studies students are passionate about their** subject of study. They want to make a difference in the world and the major

- **Aaron Wilson**, *Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies*  
*Ph.D. – University of Georgia*  
Specializes in toxicology.
- **Additional faculty affiliates include:**  
Todd Fuist (Sociology), Rebecca Gearhart (Anthropology),  
Narendra Jaggi (Physics), Linda Kunce (Psychology), Edgar Lehr (Biology),  
William Munro (Political Science), Rebecca Roesner (Chemistry),  
Alison Sainsbury (English), Jim Simeone (Political Science),  
Charles Springwood (Anthropology), Michael Weis (History).

### Putting Learning into Practice

- Our students:
  - gain professional experience** through internships with organizations such as the Ecology Action Center, Sugar Grove Nature Center, Illinois EPA Governor’s Environmental Corps and local governments.
  - study abroad** in places such as Australia, Denmark, Ecuador and Tanzania.
  - conduct research with faculty** on topics such as monitoring populations of bird species in Illinois, and the environmental effects of development practices in China.
  - spearhead campus sustainability efforts** through their involvement in the GREENetwork and their leadership in the IWU Sierra Student Coalition, Student Senate and Peace Garden.
- Our graduates:
  - work in a variety of jobs**, including for the National Park Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Chicago Field Museum, Environmental Law and Policy Center and environmental consulting companies.
  - pursue graduate degrees in a range of fields**, including Ecology, Environmental Law, Environmental Management, Oceanography, and Plant Science, at such schools as Cornell University, Duke University, University of Illinois and New York University.

prepares them for doing just that! Our students acquire a solid grounding in the scientific and societal causes of today’s environmental challenges, the means to address these challenges and real-world experience doing so. They leave Illinois Wesleyan well prepared for graduate school and for work in a wide range of careers.”

### Professor Given Harper

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### For Further Information, Write or Call:

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