EN asiatS OF STUDIES/SCIENCE
What can I do with this major?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>AREAS</th>
<th>EMPLOYERS</th>
<th>STRATEGIES</th>
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</table>
| **ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION/COMPLIANCE** | Federal government:  
- Army Corps of Engineers  
- Department of Defense  
- Environmental Protection Agency  
- Department of Interior: Bureau of Reclamation, Office of Surface Mining, Bureau of Land Management  
- Department of Agriculture  
- Natural Resource Conservation Service  
- Agricultural consulting firms  
- Environmental consulting firms | Gain experience through internships, volunteer or other part-time positions with government or private remediation projects.  
Develop excellent communication skills, both oral and written, as well as the ability to work as part of a team.  
Conduct regulatory research regarding environmental issues in area of interest.  
Plan to travel to worksites.  
Seek experience with data management, analysis and tools used for remediation (e.g., GIS, CADD and regulatory/compliance software).  
OSHA HAZWOPER training may be required for some positions. |
| Ground water  
Surface water  
Soils  
Air  
Sediments:  
- Remediation  
- Liability  
- Audit  
- Compliance  
- Sustainability | Federal, state and local government:  
- Environmental Protection Agency  
- Department of Energy  
- City/county waste management departments  
- Recycling centers  
- Private waste management firms  
- Consulting firms  
- Nonprofit organizations | Pursue experience through volunteer, paid and intern positions related to waste management.  
Seek opportunities to hone communication skills, both written and oral. Take courses in technical writing.  
Develop decision-making and problem-solving skills, diplomacy and the ability to work under pressure.  
Demonstrate flexibility and willingness to look at issues from various perspectives.  
Gain familiarity with current technologies, regulations and statutes.  
Join community groups or service organizations that focus on environmental awareness; attend public meetings about waste management.  
Become familiar with Superfund and its programs. Learn about the activities of local chapters of citizen watch groups. |
| **WASTE MANAGEMENT** | Federal, state and local government:  
- Environmental Protection Agency  
- Department of Energy  
- City/county waste management departments  
- Recycling centers  
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| Risk assessment  
Quality control  
Logistics  
Planning  
Recycling  
Transportation  
Compliance  
Environmental engineering  
Public and environmental health  
Industrial hygiene | Federal, state and local government:  
- Environmental Protection Agency  
- Department of Energy  
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### SOIL SCIENCE

- Soil and water conservation
- Land use planning
- Waste disposal
- Environmental compliance
- Reclamation of contaminated lands
- Landfill operation and monitoring
- Agrichemical management
- Fertilizer technology
- Agricultural production: Food and fiber
- Research
- Education

#### EMPLOYERS

- Federal government:
  - Environmental Protection Agency
  - Natural Resource Conservation Service
  - Department of Agriculture
  - Department of Health and Human Services
- State farm bureaus
- Environmental research laboratories
- Agricultural or environmental consultant firms
- Privately owned farms and ranches
- Universities

#### STRATEGIES

- Develop acute observational skills.
- Seek related experience through co-ops, internships or part-time jobs in area of interest.
- Gain extensive laboratory and research experience to prepare for research positions.
- Stay abreast of current environmental issues including policy, conservation and industry trends.
- Seek knowledge of technology used in natural resource management including software, geographical information systems and global positioning systems.
- Participate in related clubs, organizations and soil judging teams to build contacts and cultivate academic interests.
- Learn about certification programs offered by the Soil Science Society of America including soil science and agronomy.

### AIR/WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

- Testing/Analysis
- Watershed management
- Stream restoration
- Sustainable infrastructure
- Risk assessment
- Project development
- Compliance
- Permitting
- Modeling

#### EMPLOYERS

- Federal, state and local government:
  - Environmental Protection Agency
  - Geological Survey
  - Natural Resource Conservation Service
  - Fish and Wildlife Service
  - Department of Agriculture
  - Public works departments
- Consulting firms
- Private laboratories
- Nonprofit organizations
- Water treatment plants
- Consumer products manufacturers

#### STRATEGIES

- Develop strong research skills through coursework with laboratory components, by assisting faculty with research projects or through related internships and jobs.
- Seek experience in student and community organizations related to the environment such as those focused on water resources, pollution or conservation.
- Stay up-to-date with local and federal regulatory agencies and laws pertaining to your specialty.
- Develop strong oral communication and technical writing skills, as well as the ability to collaborate in a team environment.
- Learn to use the tools and software associated with watershed modeling or air dispersion modeling.
- Investigate certification programs offered by the American Institute of Hydrology.
- Be willing to work and travel to various client sites.
### PLANNING AND CONSERVATION

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<th>AREAS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Natural resource management: Land, soil, water, plants, animals</td>
<td>Federal, state and local government:</td>
<td>Obtain experience through volunteer positions such as Student Conservation Association, and seek leadership positions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainability management</td>
<td>Environmental Protection Agency</td>
<td>Seek research experience with professors, through coursework or through internships in the industry.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water resources</td>
<td>Natural Resource Conservation Service</td>
<td>Develop knowledge of land and water policies, ecology and conservation history. Real estate experience may be beneficial for some positions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aviation planning</td>
<td>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)</td>
<td>Participate on planning boards, commissions and committees to stay abreast of local planning and conservation initiatives.</td>
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<td>Transportation planning</td>
<td>Fish and Wildlife Service</td>
<td>Hone communication and negotiation skills for interacting with various stakeholders including land owners, elected officials and conservation and community representatives.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building/Zoning</td>
<td>National Park Service</td>
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<td>Land acquisition</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture</td>
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<td>Land use</td>
<td>Department of Transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recreation management</td>
<td>Public works departments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Park/Preserve management</td>
<td>Planning departments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mining</td>
<td>Utilities companies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>Forestry companies</td>
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<td>Indian nations</td>
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<td>Mining companies: Petroleum, mineral</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Consulting firms</td>
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<td>Real estate development companies</td>
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<td>Market research companies</td>
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<td>Colleges and universities</td>
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<td>Nonprofit organizations</td>
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<td>Land trust organizations: The Nature Conservancy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>or Trust for Public Land</td>
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<td>Zoological parks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hunting and fishing clubs</td>
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<td>Wildlife ranges</td>
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<td><strong>ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND</strong></td>
<td>Public and private schools, K-12</td>
<td>Gain experience working with students through tutoring, part-time employment or volunteering.</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMMUNICATION</td>
<td>Two-year community colleges/technical institutes</td>
<td>Learn to work well with people of varying backgrounds and skills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching:</td>
<td>Four-year colleges and universities</td>
<td>Develop excellent interpersonal, communication and content area knowledge.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>Museums</td>
<td>Complete a teacher preparation program for K-12 positions, which varies by state. Learn about the endorsements for environmental science.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>Zoos</td>
<td>Master’s degrees may be sufficient for teaching at community or two-year institutions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-Secondary</td>
<td>Nature centers and parks</td>
<td>Seek Ph.D. for teaching opportunities at colleges and universities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-classroom education</td>
<td>Publishing companies: Scientific magazines,</td>
<td>Join professional associations and environmental groups as way to learn about the field and network.</td>
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<td>professional journals, periodicals, textbooks,</td>
<td>Acquire thorough knowledge of photographic procedures and technology.</td>
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<td>online publishers</td>
<td>Take advanced courses in technical writing or journalism classes or consider a minor in either.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Newspapers</td>
<td>Join professional associations like the National Association of Science Writers or the Public Relations Student Society of America.</td>
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<td>Educational and scientific software companies</td>
<td>Seek related volunteer or paid experiences with student/local publications to increase marketability.</td>
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<td>Environmental organizations</td>
<td>Consider earning an advanced degree in a communications field to specialize (e.g., scientific journalism or public relations).</td>
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<td>Government agencies</td>
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<td>Nonprofit organizations</td>
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### AREAS

**ENVIRONMENTAL LAW**
- Political action/Lobbying
- Regulatory affairs
- Science policy
- Patent law
- Nonprofit or public interest
- Environmental Law
- Mediation

**EMPLOYERS**
- Law firms
- Large corporations
- Federal and state government:
  - Environmental Protection Agency
  - Department of Justice
  - Attorney General Offices
- Political Action Committees
- Nonprofit organizations (e.g., Green Action and Natural Resources Defense Council).

**STRATEGIES**
- Develop strong research and writing skills. Hone communication skills through public speaking courses, debate team or Toast Masters, a public speaking organization.
- Participate in pre-law honor societies and seek guidance from campus pre-law advisors.
- Maintain current knowledge of industry trends, laws and policies specific to area of interest (e.g., conservation, regulation compliance).
- Take courses in history, political science and/or legal studies to supplement science curriculum.
- Learn about the law school admissions process, maintain a high GPA and plan to perform well on the LSAT. Research schools with concentrations of interest (e.g., environmental law and policy, conservation, sustainable development).

### GENERAL INFORMATION
- Environmental studies and environmental science differ from each other in the amount of science course work required.
- Environmental studies provides a broad base of hard sciences as well as social science coursework. Environmental science incorporates hard sciences and environmental sciences.
- Choice depends upon career focus, for example, administration or policy-making versus technical areas or research.
- Pursue volunteer or internship experience to test fields of interest and gain valuable experience. Take independent research classes if possible.
- Stay up-to-date with changing environmental legislation by reading related literature and journals and participating in professional associations.
- Attend seminars, conferences and workshops sponsored by professional associations or public interest groups and utilize networking opportunities.
- Learn local, state and federal government job application procedures. Utilize your campus career center staff for assistance.
- A bachelor’s degree will qualify one for work as a laboratory assistant, technician, technologist or research assistant in education, industry and government.
- A bachelor’s degree is also sufficient for nontechnical work in writing, illustration, sales, photography and legislation.
- A master’s degree allows for greater specialization in a field and more opportunities in research and administration. Some community colleges will hire Master’s level teachers.
- Doctoral degrees are necessary for advanced research and administrative positions, university teaching, and independent research.