English as a Second Language

Undergraduate Students
Undergraduate students may arrange an individual or group tutorial to support their academic courses by improving their language skills.

The ESL undergraduate program coordinator and instructor is Nancy Nies.

Graduate Students
Graduate students may enroll in ESL 200a (English for Academic Purposes). Tutorials are also available. Each semester a special course is offered for non-native speakers of English who will be teaching assistants.

The ESL graduate program coordinator and instructor is Kevin King.

Courses of Instruction

[200 and above] Primarily for Graduate Students

ESL 200a English for Academic Purposes
This noncredit course addresses all skills necessary for proficiency in English, but concentrates on vocabulary development, pronunciation, listening comprehension, speech fluency, and, in some cases, teaching. A grammar review includes the use of articles, prepositions, the tense system, modals, conditionals, and more. Audio and video tapes are used. Regular attendance is mandatory. There are no grades given. Usually offered every semester.
Mr. King

An interdepartmental program

Environmental Studies

Objectives
Awareness of the mutual impact of human activity and the natural environment is rapidly growing. On scales as different as personal hygiene and international trade agreements, decisions increasingly reflect environmental concerns and understanding. This broad range of issues can be successfully approached from the vantage point of several traditional disciplines. Yet no single field is truly representative of, or adequate for, the study of “the environment.” Accordingly, the Brandeis Environmental Studies Program aims to expand disciplinary training in the social and natural sciences to assure adequate grounding in environment-related subfields, but also to complement such training with similarly relevant courses outside a student’s major. This combination is designed to provide a broad, transdisciplinary base for employment or future professional training.

How to Become a Minor
The program is open to students from any major. The requirements may be met with elective courses in the sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities, and must also include a practical component of an environmental problem, and an environmental internship or a senior research paper (that may serve as a thesis in the student’s major.) The environmental internships are tailored to each student’s academic goals, and cover a broad range and extensive network of placements in the Brandeis area and beyond. Some students may elect to receive field training in specialized subjects, e.g., marine biology, sustainable development, tropical ecology. The program maintains extensive files of such off-campus opportunities. Students may register for the minor, seek guidance in course selection, off-campus training, and paper topics by contacting the Environmental Studies Program faculty advisor as early in their Brandeis career as possible. Registered participants will receive information on courses and campus events.
Environmental Studies

Committee

Dan L. Perlman, Chair
(Biology)

Brian Donahue
(American Studies)

Richard Gaskins
(American Studies, Legal Studies)

Laura Goldin
(American Studies)

Timothy Rose
(Chemistry)

Requirements for the Program

A. Two semester courses chosen from Group I [Environment and Society].

B. Two semester courses chosen from Group II [Environment and the Natural World].

C. Successful completion of AMST 20a [Environmental Issues].

D. Successful completion of ENVS 92a or b, the Environmental Internship. Alternatively, students may complete ENVS 97a or b (Senior Essay) [sn] (or an approved senior honors thesis submitted to any department.)

Special Note on Off-Campus Courses

Through our membership in the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) Consortium, competitively selected students may satisfy some of the above requirements by participating in the Semester in Environmental Science offered each fall at the MBL in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. Brandeis is also affiliated with the School for Field Studies and the Marine Studies Consortium (MSC). Both offer programs of special interest to those enrolled in the Environmental Studies Program. (MSC courses are sometimes over-subscribed and enrollments must be redistributed among member schools. Enrolling through Brandeis does not guarantee final acceptance into MSC courses. Students taking MSC courses through cross-registration at Brandeis must pay MSC through their home institution.)

Courses of Instruction

[1-99] Primarily for Undergraduate Students

ENVS 11b Water Resources Management and Policy
Offered under the auspices of the MSC and open to Brandeis students by petition. Please see the special note in printed Bulletin on off-campus courses. An advanced interdisciplinary seminar examining past and current water supply issues and exploring the uncertain future of our water supply. The Boston metropolitan area water supply system is used as a case study. Water is looked at from scientific, historical, and political viewpoints. Usually offered every year.
Mr. Donahue [Brandeis coordinator]

ENVS 12b Introduction to Marine Mammals
[sn]
Prerequisite: A college-level biology course. Offered under the auspices of the MSC and open to Brandeis students by petition. Please see the special note in printed Bulletin on off-campus courses. Designed to familiarize students with the biology and natural history of marine mammals, with an emphasis on whales, dolphins, and seals of the western North Atlantic. Topics include evolution, anatomy, behavior, field identification, the history of whaling, and contemporary conservation issues. Usually offered every second year.
Mr. D.L. Perlman [Brandeis coordinator]

ENVS 13b Coastal Zone Management
Offered under the auspices of the MSC and open to Brandeis students by petition. Please see the special note in printed Bulletin on off-campus courses. Introduction to the coastal environment, its resources, and its uses; impact of human activities; scope of the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act; collaborative planning efforts by federal, state, and local governments; and international applications of coastal management. Course includes case studies, guest speakers, and student presentations. Usually offered every year.
Mr. Donahue [Brandeis coordinator]

ENVS 14b The Maritime History of New England
Offered under the auspices of the MSC and open to Brandeis students by petition. Please see the special note in printed Bulletin on off-campus courses. The sea has shaped New England. Surveys the sea’s legacy from the earliest Indian fishery to the shipbuilding and commerce of today. Examines historical, political, and economic developments. Particular attention is given to insights gleaned from the investigation of shipwrecks, time capsules of discrete moments from New England’s past. Classes will include visits to museums, a field session at a maritime archaeology site, and guest lectures on current research projects. Usually offered every year.
Mr. Donahue [Brandeis coordinator]

ENVS 15a Reason to Hope: Managing the Global Commons for Peace
[sn]
Explores global security arrangements that would tend towards peace within the objective constraints that delimit our options; the laws of physics, energy and food availability, human population, global wealth, geography, weather, and the presence of nuclear weapons. Usually offered every year.
Mr. Tsipis

ENVS 28a Wetlands: Hydrology, Ecology, Restoration
[sn]
Prerequisite: Two semesters of introductory science (biology or chemistry or physics). Offered under the auspices of the MSC and open to Brandeis students by petition. Please see the special note in printed Bulletin on off-campus courses. Role of wetlands in the global landscape. Functioning of inland and coastal marshes and flood plains; water and nutrients cycles, biodiversity of organisms from microbes to vertebrates. Biological links between wetlands and human activities. Protection and restoration of endangered wetlands. Usually offered every second year.
Messrs. Klein and Waterman

ENVS 92a Environmental Internship
Early registration (April and October) encouraged. Students work in environmental internship placements tailored to the students’ academic program, interests, and skills. Internships are in public and private organizations focused on environmental policy, research, regulation, enforcement, and education. A classroom component is designed to provide an opportunity for analysis and discussion of the internship experience. Usually offered every semester.
Ms. Goldin

Environmental Studies Program
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**ENVS 97a Senior Essay**
Usually offered every year.
Staff

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Usually offered every year.
Staff

**Core Courses**

**AMST 20a Environmental Issues**
An interdisciplinary overview of major environmental challenges facing humanity, including population growth, food production, limited supplies of energy, water, and other resources, climate change, loss of biodiversity, waste disposal and pollution. Students examine these problems critically and evaluate different ways of thinking about their causes and solutions. Usually offered every year. Mr. Donahue

**Electives**

**Group I: Environment and Society**

**AMST 101a**
American Environmental History

**AMST 102a**
Women, the Environment, and Social Justice

**AMST 104b**
Boston and its Suburbs: Environment and History

**AMST 106b**
Food and Farming in America

**AMST 191b**
Greening the Ivory Tower: Researching and Improving the Brandeis Environment

**ANTE 55a**
Models of Development

**ECON 57a**
Environmental Economics

**ECON 175a**
Introduction to the Economics of Development

**ENG 60b**
Writing about the Environment

**ENVS 11b**
Water Resources Management and Policy

**ENVS 13b**
Coastal Zone Management

**ENVS 14b**
The Maritime History of New England

**HIST 100a**
Fire and Ice: An Ecological Approach to World History

**LGLS 132b**
Environmental Law and Policy

**POL 180b**
Sustaining Development

**SOC 175b**
Civic Environmentalism

**Group II: Environment and the Natural World**

Please note that some courses in this group have multiple prerequisites.

**AMST 105a**
The Eastern Forest: Paleoecology to Policy

**BIOL 17b**
Conservation Biology

**BIOL 23a**
Evolutionary Ecology

**BIOL 28a**
Marine Biology

**BIOL 30b**
Biological of Whales

**CHEM 33a**
Environmental Chemistry

**CHSC 3b**
Solving Environmental Challenges: The Role of Chemistry

**ENVS 12b**
Introduction to Marine Mammals

**ENVS 28a**
Wetlands: Hydrology, Ecology, Restoration

**PHSC 4a**
Science and Development