
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

Courses of Study:
Minor

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.

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) (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

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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

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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

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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

ENVS 92b 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

ENVS 97a Senior Essay

Usually offered every year.
Staff

ENVS 97b Senior Essay

Usually offered every year.
Staff

Core Courses**AMST 20a Environmental Issues**

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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

ANTH 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

Biology of Whales

BIOL 31b

Biology of Fishes

BIOL 32a

Field Biology

BIOL 60b

Evolution

BIOL 134b

Topics in Ecology

BIOL 149b

Molecular Pharmacology

BISC 2a

Human Reproduction, Population Explosion, Global Consequences

BISC 3b

Humans and the Environment

BISC 6b

Environmental Health

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