

Environmental Studies

Environmental Science

MAJORS, MINOR

PROFESSORS: Renee Godard (biology, director), Morgan Wilson (biology)

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS: Pablo Hernandez (economics), Elizabeth Gleim (biology)

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS: Mary Jane Carmichael (biology), Joe Larios (English, visiting) Kaila Thorn (environmental studies)

LECTURER: Suzanne Allison (biology)

AFFILIATED FACULTY: Ashleigh Breske (international studies), Bonnie Bowers (psychology), LeeRay Costa (gender and women's studies), Genevieve Hendricks (art history), Abubakar Jalloh (public health), Jaeyeon Lee (international studies), Charles Lowney (philosophy), Edward A. Lynch (political science), Thorpe Moeckel (creative writing), Christina Salowey (classical studies), Darla Schumm (religious studies)

The field of environmental studies and environmental sciences (ES) takes a transdisciplinary approach to understand the relationship between humans and the environment. This field works to understand the causes and consequences of environmental problems, using skills from the natural and social sciences, the arts, and humanities to develop potential solutions. The Hollins ES program offers two degree options which share a common core curriculum.

The B.A. degree in Environmental Studies allows students to hone in on the cultural and societal issues in human-environment dynamics, while the B.S. in Environmental Sciences encourages students to approach environmental problems using skills and techniques from the natural sciences.

Both the B.A. and B.S. degrees offer a grounding in scientific, cultural, and historical perspectives. All ES majors will complete an internship or service project that pertains to their field of interest within the transdisciplinary approach of environmental studies (including work with the School for Field Studies).

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MAJOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (B.A.):

12 courses (minimum of 46 credits) and Experiential Component

CORE COURSES (7)

- ES 104: Introduction to Environmental Studies (4)
- ES 105: Introduction to Earth Studies (4)
- ES 207: Ecology and ES 207L (4, 2)
- ES 212: Introduction to GIS (2)
- ES 261: Political Ecology (4)
- ES 262: Research Design and Methods for Environmental Issues (4)
- ES 470: Senior Seminar in Environmental Studies (2)

FOUR ADDITIONAL COURSES, two of the four courses must be at 300 level, one can be at the 100 level

- ONE COURSE must have an environmental science focus from the list below (lab must be taken with lecture course if offered):
 - ES 225: Energy and the Environment (4); ES 236: Wind, Weather, Water (4); ES 241: Earth History and Geology (4); ES 253/253L: Microbial Ecology (4,2); ES 240: One Health (4); ES 313/313L: Invertebrate Zoology (4,2); ES 316: Wildlife Disease (4); ES 328: Field Vertebrate Zoology (4); ES/BIOL 337/337L: Ornithology (4,2); ES 341/341L: Plant Biology (4,2); ES 357/357L: Conservation Biology (4,2); ES 364/364L: Biogeochemistry (4,2)
- THREE COURSES from the following list of ES humanities and social science courses and affiliates: ES 182: Environmental Ethics (4); ES 210: World Geography (4); ES 219: Food, Culture and Social Justice (4); ES 221: Globalization and Local Responses (4); ES 230: Economics and the Environment (4); ES 269 Green By Design: Sustainable Architecture and the Environment (4); ES 271: Politics of the World's Oceans (4); ES 373: Environmental Justice (4); ES 391: Research/Service in Environmental Science (4) OR ES 480: Senior Thesis (4); BUS 223: Business Law and Ethics (4); BUS 244: Introduction to Entrepreneurship (4); ECON 157: Microeconomics (4); ECON 259: International Political Economy (4); ECON 312: Economics of Development and Globalization (4); HIST 329: Slavery: A Global History (4); INTL 303: Geopolitics (4); PH 101: Introduction to Public Health (4); PH 201: Epidemiology (4); PH 260: Public Health and Social Justice (4); PH 301: Global Health (4); POLS 226: International Law (4); POLS 363: Constitutional Law (4); REL 218: Buddhist Traditions (4); SOC 234: Social Problems (4); SOC 260: Race, Class and Gender (4)

AFFILIATED COURSE

- STAT 140 Introduction to Statistics (4) **or** STAT 251: Statistical Methods (4)

EXPERIENTIAL COMPONENT

- All students must complete an experiential component which can include: a related internship (any term), completion of the Hollins Outdoor Leadership certificate, participation in the Tropical Ecology or Wilderness & Wildlife Short Term trips, the School for Field Studies abroad program, ES 391: Research/Service in Environmental Studies/Science, or ES 480: Senior Thesis.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MAJOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (B.S.):

15-16 courses plus related laboratories (62-76 credits) and Experiential Component

CORE COURSES (7)

- ES 104: Introduction to Environmental Studies (4)
- ES 105: Introduction to Earth Studies (4)
- ES 207: Ecology and ES 207L (4, 2)
- ES 212: Introduction to GIS (2)
- ES 261: Political Ecology (4)
- ES 262: Research Design and Methods for Environmental Issues (4)
- ES 470: Senior Seminar in Environmental Studies (2)

ADDITIONAL SCIENCE COURSES (6-7), lab must be taken with lecture course if offered:

- Introductory Chemistry: CHEM 101/101L and 102/102L (4,2; 4,2) **or** CHEM 105/105L (4,2)
- One Field-Based ES Elective: ES 253/253L: Microbial Ecology (4,2); ES 313/313L: Invertebrate Zoology (4,2); ES 328: Field Vertebrate Zoology (4); ES 341/341L: Plant Biology (4,2); ES 357/357L: Conservation Biology (4,2); ES 364/364L Biogeochemistry (4,2)
- Three additional ES or affiliated science courses from the following (two must be at 300 level): ES 225: Energy and the Environment (4); ES 236: Wind, Weather, Water (4); ES 241: Earth History and Geology (4); ES 253/253L: Microbial Ecology (4,2); ES 240: One Health (4) **or** ES 316: Wildlife Disease (4); ES 313/313L: Invertebrate Zoology (4,2); ES 328: Field Vertebrate Zoology (4); ES 337/337L: Ornithology (4,2); ES 341/341L: Plant Biology (4,2); ES 357/357L: Conservation Biology (4,2); ES 364/364L: Biogeochemistry (4,2); ES 391: Research/Service In Environmental Science/Studies (4) **or** ES 480: Senior Thesis(4); BIOL 236/236L: Cell and Molecular Biology (4,2); BIOL 323/323L: Animal Behavior (4,2); CHEM 214/214L: Analytical Chemistry (4,2); CHEM 221/221L: Organic Chemistry I (4,2); CHEM 222/222L: Organic Chemistry II (4,2); (3 of the courses from the various SFS semester abroad programs can typically be applied to this requirement).

STATISTICS COURSES (2)

- PSY 208: Research Statistics (4) **or** STAT 251: Statistical Methods (4)
- STAT 324: Data Wrangling with R (2)

EXPERIENTIAL COMPONENT

- All students must complete an experiential component which can include: a related internship (any term), completion of the Hollins Outdoor Leadership certificate, participation in the Tropical Ecology or Wilderness & Wildlife Short Term trips, the School for Field Studies abroad program, ES 391: Research/Service in Environmental Studies/Science, or ES 480: Senior Thesis.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES:

6 courses (26 credits)

- ES 104: Introduction to Environmental Studies (4)
- ES 105: Introduction to Earth Studies (4)
- ES 207: Ecology and ES 207L (4, 2)
- ES 261: Political Ecology (4)
- Two additional courses from the list of ES elective courses (must take lab if offered)

COURSES IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES:**ES 104: INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (4)****Thorn**

This course takes a transdisciplinary perspective to provide a foundation on the social scientific perspective of environmental issues. It examines the history of environmental studies as a movement and field of study, and subsequently takes a topical approach to understand the systemic structure of environmental issues. Students will gain insights from anthropology, politics, psychology, sociology, and sustainability studies as they pertain to environmental issues, and will develop an introductory understanding of the qualitative and quantitative methods used to assess these issues. Open to first year students. No pre-requisite. Offered Term 2. (MOD)

ES 105: INTRODUCTION TO THE EARTH SCIENCES (4)**Carmichael**

Earth science is the study of the evolution of the Earth as a physical and biogeochemical system over the ca. 4.5 billion years of its existence. This introductory lecture/laboratory course encompasses two of the three main sub-disciplines of the field of environmental science: geology and biogeochemistry. It will cover the structure, composition, and evolution of the Earth, the life it supports, and the physical and biogeochemical processes that govern the formation and behavior of the Earth's materials. Special attention will be paid to the concept of the Anthropocene. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Offered Term 1. (SCI)

ES 122: WATER AND LIFE (4)**Allison**

In this combined lecture/laboratory course, we will explore the ways in which water is essential to life on Earth, its origins on our planet, how water affects weather and climate, the function of freshwater and marine ecosystems, and the organisms that live within them. We will also study the history and methods of water usage and treatment, the impacts of human activity on the availability of safe drinking water, and the ongoing and impending global effects of climate change. Students will gain hands-on experience in techniques used to assess water quality and biodiversity of freshwater streams and visit regional water treatment facilities. Not intended for students majoring in biology or environmental sciences. Open to first-year students. Also listed and described as BIOL 122. No prerequisite. Offered Term 1. (SCI, TLAS)

ES 133: MARINE ECOLOGY (2)**Godard, Wilson**

Students in this course will examine the ecology of marine ecosystems. Additionally, they will learn to recognize and identify characteristics and behavior of more than 100 marine species. This course is only open to students that will be participating in The Caribbean Environment Short Term course. Students will be enrolled by an instructor. Also listed and described as BIOL 133. Open to first-year students with permission. Not offered in 2024-25.

ES 150: SPECIAL TOPIC: THE NATURE OF SPRING (4)**Godard**

Spring in the temperate zone is characterized by an explosion of biological activity, songs of migratory birds fill the air, tree buds break open, and long dormant roots send up a symphony of flowers. In this project-based class we will document spring - exploring the adaptations that biological organisms have to the remarkable physical changes driven by the northern hemispheres annual spring tilt towards the sun. We will also consider how the impacts that human driven climate change has altered the timing of spring and the impacts that may have on organisms in our ecosystem. The flipped course format will give students the chance to acquire a basic understanding the biology of spring from recorded lectures and reading material outside of class and allow our shared class-time to focus on application and reinforcement of this material as well as ample time for our field research projects on campus and beyond. Students in this class will be required to participate in a full-day Saturday research trip in April and will have to be able to devote time outside of class hours for data collection. Open to first-year students. Also listed and described as BIOL 150. Not offered in 2024-25. (SCI, TLAS).

ES 150: SPECIAL TOPIC: CLOSE READING/CRITICAL WRITING: FROM WALDEN TO WILDFIRES (INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL LIT) (4)**Larios**

This course provides a broad overview of environmental literature from the 19th century to the present through looking at a variety of works of fiction and non-fiction including essays, memoirs, poetry, and novels to try to answer the question: what makes a piece of writing environmental? Beginning with the intellectual movement of Transcendentalism, we go on to consider different forms of environmental literature including nature writing, activist texts, and climate fiction as these address topics ranging from conservation to pollution to climate change. Also listed and described as ENG 150. Offered Term 2.

ES 182: ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS (4)**Lowney**

This seminar applies classical and modern moral theories to environmental issues. It includes philosophical examination of current ecological theory as it relates to environmental science. Central topics include pollution, global warming, population growth, animal rights, environmental degradation, conservation of the biosphere, and

responsibilities to future generations. You are encouraged to think for yourself logically about these and other environmental philosophical issues. Also listed and described as PHIL 182. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Not offered in 2024-25.

ES 207: ECOLOGY (4)

Gleim, Godard

As one of the core courses for the environmental studies major, we will explore the structure and function of the natural world. We will examine the relationships between organisms and their physical and biological environment, global patterns of climate and biological life, patterns in population dynamics, as well as structure and change in communities of organisms. Also listed and described as BIOL 207. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Offered Term 1. (SCI, TLAS: must take lab to fulfill SCI or TLAS)

ES 207L: ECOLOGY LAB (2)

Gleim, Godard

We will explore local aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems as well as gain hands-on experience carrying out ecological research in this field laboratory course. Students will also have several opportunities to carry out their own independent research. Also listed and described as BIOL 207L. Corequisite: ES 207. Offered Term 1. (SCI, TLAS)

ES 209: BACKYARD BIRDS (2)

Wilson

Have you ever wondered what the names of the birds that frequent your backyard birdfeeder? Do you wish you could identify bird songs? Are you curious about the biology and natural history of birds? In this field-oriented course, students will develop skills enabling them to identify, by both sight and sound, birds common to southwestern Virginia. We will explore a variety of habitats and observe the morphology and behavior of birds in their natural environments during several key points in their annual cycle (over-wintering, migration, and breeding). Not intended for students majoring in ES. Open to first-year students. Also listed and described as BIOL 209. No prerequisite. Not offered in 2024-25.

ES 210: WORLD GEOGRAPHY (4)

Lee

This course examines the methods of geography applied to global issues, patterns, and linkages in the arrangement of human physical resources, mapping and elements of spatial analysis, and area studies. Also listed and described as INTL 210. Open to first-year students. Offered Term 2. (GLO, MOD)

ES 212: INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) (2)

Gleim

This course will explore basic concepts of geographic information systems (GIS), including applications of GIS and how to use it. Much of this course will be lab-based using real-world and simulated scenarios and data sets. Students will gain basic working knowledge of how to use ArcGIS, the most commonly used GIS software on the market, and gain limited experience with one or more additional GIS platforms. Although content and exercises will be primarily targeted to biology and environmental studies majors, skills learned will be applicable to many other fields and thus, non-science majors are welcome. Also listed and described as BIOL 212. No pre-requisites. Not open to first-year students. Offered Term 2.

ES 219: FOOD, CULTURE, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (4)

Costa

Explores the meanings of food and food-related practices in various cultural contexts in relation to structures of power and inequality, including those shaped by race, ethnicity, gender, class, nationality, and geography. All students will participate in a community partnership project with a local food organization and volunteer a minimum of 20 hours during the semester. Also listed and described as GWS 219. Prerequisite: sophomore standing. Not offered in 2024-25. (DIV)

ES 220: GLOBALIZATION AND LOCAL RESPONSES (4)

Lee

Analyses of international issues and systems based on social science perspectives and methodologies, including statistics. Topics are drawn from the following: trade, finance, and development; diplomacy, terrorism, and security; technology and communication; demographics and immigration; energy and transportation; and the global environment. Also listed and described as INTL 220/POLS 221. Open to first-year students. Prerequisite: q. Offered Term 2. (Q, GLO)

ES 225: ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT (4)

Department

This course will examine the physics of energy with a focus on human energy use and production and their effect on the environment. It will utilize the physical concepts of work, energy, and power with applications from electricity and magnetism and thermodynamics to provide an understanding of the challenges faced in implementing ecologically and economically sustainable energy. Not open to first years. Prerequisite: ES 105 or permission of instructor. Also listed and described as PHYS 225. Offered Term 2.

ES 230: ECONOMICS AND THE ENVIRONMENT (4)**Hernandez**

This course introduces students to conventional and unconventional views behind the interplay between the economizing problem and nature's household. Emphasis is placed on the management of natural resources from an economic standpoint. The course explores the general and most urgent natural resources and environmental problems facing humanity, including energy sources, water, agriculture, fisheries, and industrial pollution. The course addresses these environmental problems from the standard economic approach to environmental distress and the more avant-garde ecological economic approach to nature's household. Also listed and described as ECON 230. Open to first-year students. Prerequisite: ECON 157. Not offered in 2024-25. (o, r, GLO, MOD)

ES 236: WIND, WATER, AND WEATHER (4)**Department**

This course examines the physical principles of earth's dynamic weather systems, utilizing important concepts from physics, geology, hydrology, and meteorology. Students will gain a broad understanding of interactions between the atmosphere and fresh and ocean water, including global circulation systems, storms, weather forecasting, the carbon cycle, and the greenhouse effect. Special emphasis will be placed on human-induced climate change. Also listed and described as PHYS 236. Open to first-year students. Prerequisite: ES 105 or permission of instructor. Not offered in 2024-25.

ES 240: ONE HEALTH: LINKING HUMAN, ANIMAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH (4)**Gleim**

Nearly two-thirds of all human infectious diseases are transmissible to animals and vice versa. One Health is a world-wide movement which focuses on the intersectionality of human, animal, and environmental health and how interdisciplinary efforts can be made to better study and solve these problems. This seminar-based course will take a case study approach to explore concepts and approaches integral to One Health. Key diseases and issues related to human, animal, and environmental health for which this approach could or have been utilized will be explored along with its associated peer-reviewed literature. This course is specifically targeted towards pre-health, pre-vet, and public health students, along with students interested in field biology and environmental science. Also listed and described as BIOL/PH 240. Pre-requisites: BIOL/ES 207/207L, or PH 201, or permission of instructor. Offered Term 2.

ES 241: EARTH HISTORY AND GEOLOGY (4)**Department**

Planet Earth's development as an integrated physical, chemical, and biological system over the past 4.6 billion years. Topics include: the origins of the solar system, Earth, and Moon; forces driving Earth's chemical and geological differentiation; plate tectonics; origins of life and humans; Earth's system dynamics; humans as geological agents; and Earth's climate system. Open to first-year students. Also listed and described as PHYS 241. Prerequisite: ES 105 or permission of instructor. Not offered in 2024-25. (SCI)

ES 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: PREPARATION, WILDERNESS, AND WILDLIFE (2)**Owens, Wilson**

Wilderness and wild places are relatively scarce in much of the U.S. as a result of the extensive human development and encroachment over the last 200+ years, but these places still exist and many have been recognized and protected at the state, federal, and international levels. In this course, we will learn the biology of several locations in the Southeastern United States, study the natural history of some of the organisms that inhabit these areas, and explore the cultural importance these areas hold. This course is open only to students who have been accepted into the upcoming January term travel course trip. Also listed and described as BIOL 250. Offered Term 1.

ES 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: TROPICAL ECOLOGY (2)**Godard**

In this course we will delve into the ecology and biodiversity of two ecosystems of Ecuador: the Amazon rainforest and the high Andean paramo. We will familiarize ourselves with some of the rich biodiversity, explore ecological relationships, and come to understand some of the environmental concerns that threaten this region. In addition, we will explore how science and indigenous knowledge can provide a platform for deepening our understanding of the natural world and for generating positive change. This course is open only to students that have been accepted into the upcoming January term travel/research trip. Also listed and described as BIOL 250. Offered Term 1.

ES 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: RISING TIDES, RISING TALES: CLIMATE FICTION (4)**Larios**

In this course we will delve into the ecology and biodiversity of two ecosystems of Ecuador: the Amazon rainforest and the high Andean paramo. We will familiarize ourselves with some of the rich biodiversity, explore ecological relationships, and come to understand some of the environmental concerns that threaten this region. In addition, we will explore how science and indigenous knowledge can provide a platform for deepening our understanding of the natural world and for generating positive change. This course is open only to students that have been accepted into the upcoming January term travel/research trip. Also listed and described as ENG 250. Offered Term 1.

ES 253: MICROBIAL ECOLOGY (4)**Carmichael**

Microbial ecology is the study of microbes in the environment and their interactions with the environment, each other, and plant and animal species. Discipline is at the heart of the function of every ecosystem on the planet, from the lithosphere to the cryosphere, the human body, and the built environment. This course will survey the microbial diversity within the biosphere and delve into the complex interactions between microbial communities and the worlds they inhabit. Also listed and described as BIOL 253 and PH 253. Pre-requisites: For BIOL Majors, BIOL 207/207L and BIOL 220/220L, or permission; ES Majors, ES 105 and ES 207/207L, or permission; For PH Majors, PH 101 and PH 201, or permission. BIOL majors cannot receive credit for BIOL 253/253L and BIOL 312/312L. Not offered in 2024-25. (SCI: Must take lab to fulfill SCI).

ES 253L: MICROBIAL ECOLOGY LAB (4)**Carmichael**

This lab will use culture-dependent and -independent techniques and common biogeochemical assays to survey the microbial ecology of a variety of environments. Also listed and described as BIOL 253L or PH 253L. Co-requisite: BIOL, ES, or PH 253. Not offered in 2024-25. (SCI)

ES 261: POLITICAL ECOLOGY (4)**Thorn**

In this course, students will develop an understanding of political ecology, a framework that takes perspectives from anthropology, economics, and political science to understand how historical and systemic structures impact the way that people use, protect, and relate to their environments. Focusing on American environmental politics and policy, this class will introduce students to key policies, including NEPA, the Endangered Species Act, and the Wilderness Act. Although this class includes components of policy, it focuses on the history of the American landscape, dispossession, and the way current policy is premised on historical values. Open to first year students. Prerequisite: ES 104 (or BIOL/ES 117). Offered Term 1. (MOD, DJP)

ES 262: RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES (4)**Thorn**

This course will introduce students to the skills of designing a research question and research project, methods for collecting data, and finally, for analyzing data. Students will have the opportunity to design and carry out a mini-research project during this course. By the end of the course, students will understand and be able to carry out reasonable sampling methods, interviews, and surveys. Additionally, students will have a beginning understanding of analyzing data using qualitative and quantitative techniques using MaxQDA and JASP. Pre-requisites: q, and ES 104 (or BIOL/ES 117). Offered Term 2. (Q)

ES 269: GREEN BY DESIGN: SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT (4)**Hendricks**

Sustainability denotes one of the main future challenges of societies and the global community. Issues of sustainability range from energy and natural resources to biodiversity loss and global climate change. Properly dealing with these issues will be crucial to future societal and economic development. By examining the progressive development of green architecture in the 20th century, this course will illustrate how it is ever evolving and ameliorated through alterations in form, technology, materials, and use, examining different places worldwide that represent a diversity of cultural and climatic contexts. Also listed and described as ART 269. Open to first-year students. Not offered in 2024-25.

ES 271: POLITICS OF THE WORLD'S OCEANS (4)**Lynch**

This course is designed to introduce the student to the most important contentious issues, including environmental issues, concerning the world's oceans. Since human beings learned to travel great distances across the seas, they have found themselves in conflict over bases, colonies, and resources, and also over the handling of environmental issues related to the exploitation of the resources. We will begin by looking at the early European presence in the Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific Oceans, and how international law and the international political system sought to handle those conflicts. We will move on to current issues concerning the oceans, from fishing to cruising. Open to first years. Also listed and described as POLS 271. Offered Term 2. (MOD, GLO)

ES 290: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 or 4)**Department**

Independent study conducted below the advanced level. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration. Offered any term.

ES 313: INVERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY (4)**Wilson**

Invertebrates, members of the animal kingdom lacking a backbone, comprise 95 percent of the animals on Earth today. In this course, students explore the anatomy, physiology, behavior, ecology, and taxonomy of this incredibly diverse group of animals. Also listed and described as BIOL 313. Prerequisite: BIOL/ES 207 or BIOL 220. Offered Term 1.

ES 313L: LAB FOR INVERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY (4)**Wilson**

This laboratory provides students the opportunity to explore the anatomy of invertebrate organisms, the environments in which they live, and the techniques used to classify them. Exercises will be conducted in both the laboratory and the field. Beyond the designated laboratory meeting times, students will be expected to participate in a weekend field trip (Thursday-Sunday) to the Virginia Institute of Marine Science Eastern Shore Laboratory in late September. In addition, students will be expected to participate in 1-2 other day or evening excursions to study invertebrates. The cost of rooms and meals for the weekend trip will be shared by participants (\$150-200 required). Also listed and described as BIOL 313L. Corequisite: BIOL/ES 313. Offered Term 1.

ES 316: WILDLIFE DISEASE (4)**Gleim**

This lecture/lab course will provide a general understanding of disease ecology and examine both common and newly emerging diseases that are known to impact wildlife. We will also work to better understand the roles these diseases play in population regulation, conservation of rare and endangered species, and the impacts that these diseases can have on human and domestic animal health. Lab components of the course will involve both field and laboratory-based experiences involved in routine testing of wildlife and/or vectors for pathogens. Also listed and described as BIOL/PH 316. Prerequisites: BIO/ES 207/207L, BIO 236/236L, or PH 201, or permission. Not offered in 2024-25. (SCI, TLAS)

ES 328: FIELD VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY (4)**Godard**

In this lecture/lab course, we will use vertebrates as our focus as we explore issues of evolution, ecology, physiology, behavior, and conservation as well as develop skills associated with studying vertebrates in the field. Beyond the scheduled classes, students are required to participate in a 3-day weekend field trip to the Eastern Shore of Virginia to study avian biodiversity, as well as several evening excursions to examine patterns of amphibian biodiversity. Course fee of \$150 is required. Prerequisite: BIOL/ES 207 or permission from instructor. Also listed and described as BIOL 328. Prerequisite: BIOL/ES 207 or permission. Not offered in 2024-25.

ES 337: ORNITHOLOGY (4)**Wilson**

With nearly 10,000 recognized species, the taxonomic class Aves is one of the most diverse groups of animals on earth. In this lecture course students will explore the anatomy, physiology, behavior, taxonomy, evolution, and life history of birds. Also listed and described as BIOL 337. Prerequisite: ES 207 and 207L. Not offered in 2024-25.

ES 337L: LABORATORY FOR ORNITHOLOGY (2)**Wilson**

Students in this field laboratory course will explore the life history of birds, observe them in their natural environments, and learn to identify them by sight and sound. Students will be expected to participate in a weekend field trip (to either the North Carolina coast or Eastern Shore of Virginia) and in several other morning/evening activities. The cost of rooms and meals for the weekend trip will be shared by participants (\$150-200 required). Also listed and described as BIOL 337L. Corequisite: BIOL/ES 337. Prerequisite: BIOL/ES 207 or permission. Not offered in 2024-25.

ES 341: PLANT BIOLOGY (4)**Gleim**

In this course, students will gain a foundational comprehension of the structure, function, and diversity of plants and will be challenged to build an integrated understanding of plants, from an awareness of their molecular biology to their roles in an ecosystem. We will then tap into this knowledge to engage in active learning experiences to recognize and appreciate practical applications of plant biology, including conservation and the important connections of plants to society. Also listed and described as BIOL 341. Prerequisite: BIOL/ES 207. Not offered in 2024-25.

ES 341L: LABORATORY FOR PLANT BIOLOGY (2)**Gleim**

Laboratory sessions will provide hands-on experiences in laboratory and field settings. A significant portion of the lab will be field-based with time being spent learning to identify native and common invasive plants, with particular focus on woody species. Students will conduct a multi-week research project and present their findings. Also listed and described as BIOL 341L. Co-requisite: BIOL/ES 341. Not offered in 2024-25.

ES 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS (4)**Thorn**

Throughout human history agriculture has been a mainstay in how societies operate. Everything from providing extra income to the wealthy to ensuring enough food is available for growing populations. This course will explore a brief history of global Agriculture, deep dive into US food systems and how they've changed since the green revolution, and prompt students with critical questions around where we get our food, why it matters, and how to make choices you can digest. Students are expected to critically examine agricultural and social issues, in a discussion-based

format. There is an anticipated field trip to at least one farm in the Southwest Virginia area. Prerequisite ES 104 or 105. Not offered in 2024-25.

ES 357: CONSERVATION BIOLOGY (4)

Gleim

In this course, students will apply active learning strategies to build a conceptual foundation for conservation biology, including conservation values and ethics. Building on this foundation, we will explore the primary threats to biological conservation, including habitat degradation, overexploitation, invasive species, and biological impacts of climate change. We will also explore how to apply this knowledge through learning about and utilizing various professional approaches used to solve conservation problems. Students will also be expected to participate in a weekend field trip to Front Royal Virginia & Washington D.C. to explore conservation biology research and efforts occurring at the Smithsonian and U.S. Botanic Garden. Course fee of \$150-200 required. Also listed and described as BIOL 357. Prerequisites: BIOL/ES 207 and 207L or permission. Not offered in 2024-25.

ES 357L: LABORATORY FOR CONSERVATION BIOLOGY (2)

Gleim

Laboratory activities will cultivate an understanding of real-world, hands-on conservation biology through completing various field- and computer-based activities. Several multi-week research projects will occur to help develop skills in experimental design, technical skill sets, and data analysis. As a whole, students will learn a variety of field techniques and quantitative methods commonly used in the management and conservation of biodiversity. Also listed and described as BIOL 357L. Prerequisites: BIOL/ES 207 and 207L. Corequisite: ES 357. Not offered in 2024-25.

ES 364: BIOGEOCHEMISTRY: AN ANALYSIS OF GLOBAL CHANGE (4)

Carmichael

Much like the human body, the Earth's climate and ecological systems have been finely tuned to maintain homeostasis. In the human body, this occurs via feedback loops and exchange between major organ systems. In the Earth's climate and ecological systems, this balance is maintained by the flow of energy and materials. Biogeochemistry is the study of this flow of energy and materials within the Earth's planetary system. In this course, we will cover processes that control the cycling of C, N, and P and other biochemical elements in terrestrial and aquatic systems, with special emphasis placed on the coupling between human and natural systems. Topics include the origin of Earth and the development of elemental cycles, the Earth as a chemical system, the biogeochemical cycling of elements in the atmosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere, the global cycles of H₂O, C, N and P, and the expanding human footprint on biogeochemical processes. Prerequisites: CHEM 101/102 or CHEM 105, BIOL 207 or ES 105. Also listed and described as BIOL 364. Offered Term 1.

ES 364L: BIOGEOCHEMISTRY LABORATORY (2)

Carmichael

The biogeochemistry laboratory will introduce students to common analytical techniques used to assess the biogeochemical transformation of nutrients in the environment. Co-requisite: ES 364. Also listed and described as BIOL 364L. Offered Term 1.

ES 373: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (4)

Thorn

Environmental justice refers to both a field of study and an activist movement. Both the realm of study and activism focus on the way the different groups of people are differently impacted by environmental issues. This course examines the roots of environmental justice, considers the role of citizen activism and citizen science, and considers the systemic roots of environmental injustices in the United States, its territories, and the broader North American continent. Additionally, the course incorporates applied examples and experiences from the field in adjacent study areas including public health and sociology. Also listed and described as PH 373 and SOC 373. Prerequisite: ES 104, 117, PH 201, or SOC 110. Offered Term 1. (DIV, DJP)

ES 390: INDEPENDENT STUDY (2 or 4)

Department

Independent study conducted at the advanced level. Application must be made with faculty prior to registration. Offered any term.

ES 391: RESEARCH/SERVICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE/STUDIES (4)

Department

Students conducting independent research in environmental studies/science, or those engaged in the development and implementation of a significant service project relating to environmental sustainability on campus or in the community, should sign up for this course in consultation with their faculty supervisor. Research students are expected to produce a formal scientific report at the conclusion of the study which includes a significant literature review. Students implementing a service project are expected to write a well-researched proposal and "plan of action" as well as a summary reflection paper. Offered both terms.

ES 399: INTERNSHIP (4)**Department**

Application must be made with faculty prior to registration. May be proposed in any term.

ES 470: SEMINAR IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (2)**Godard**

Students in this capstone course tie together the various academic perspectives that form their major by exploring common readings and presenting (30-45 minutes) on a relevant topic of interest. In addition, each student prepares a portfolio (paper, course summaries, internship summaries, c.v., résumé) summarizing her academic experience. Students will also explore career options in the ES field as well as graduate school opportunities. This course is intended for senior ES majors and minors. Offered Term 1.

ES 480: SENIOR THESIS (4)**Department**

Students must undertake a research project investigating a specific aspect of environmental studies. Students must consult with the ES director in the spring semester of junior year, and if approved, research would traditionally be carried out during Fall and Short Terms.

ES 490: SENIOR HONORS THESIS (4, 4)**Department**

Offered to qualified ES majors. Students must consult with the ES director in the spring semester of the junior year. If approved, the research project is completed over Fall, Short, and Spring Terms. Departmental honors will be awarded only if the research project is successfully defended to a panel of ES faculty members.