Pathfinder Program in Environmental Sustainability

The Pathfinder Program in Environmental Sustainability focuses on an interdisciplinary study of the environment with a small group of motivated undergraduates and a senior faculty member and is meant to meet selected College of Arts & Sciences breadth course requirements. Through case studies, field trips and carefully selected ancillary courses, students examine the issues surrounding environmental sustainability and the preservation of the environment for future generations. The Pathfinder Program supports the concept that taking interrelated courses and learning both analytical and technical skills as a freshman and sophomore helps prepare students for in-depth study in their academic majors.

Contact Person: Raymond E. Arvidson
Phone: (314) 935-5609
E-mail: arvidson@wunder.wustl.edu
Departmental website: http://wufs.wustl.edu/pathfinder

Professor

Raymond E. Arvidson
James S. McDonnell Distinguished University Professor
PhD, Brown University
(Earth and Planetary Sciences)

Majors

There is no major available in this area. The Pathfinder Program in Environmental Sustainability is available to entering freshmen. The program is consistent with any major within the College of Arts & Sciences.

Minors

There is no minor available in this area. The Pathfinder Program in Environmental Sustainability is a program available to entering freshmen.

Courses

Visit https://courses.wustl.edu to view semester offerings for L54 Path.

L54 Path 201 Land Dynamics and the Environment
Use of case studies such as anthropogenic changes to the Lower Missouri River, effects of mining in the Ozarks, and excessive uses of water in arid terrains in the Southwestern United States to explore key issues associated with environmental sustainability. Scientific concepts related to the dynamics of the environment and development of policies needed to maintain land and resource sustainability. Lectures, discussion sessions, student presentations, appropriate field trips and interactive computer exercises using simulation models. Prerequisite: admission to the Pathfinder Program in Environmental Sustainability.
Credit 3 units. A&S: NS A&S IQ: NSM Art: NSM BU: SCI

L54 Path 202 Case Study: Southwestern United States
Issues associated with the Mojave Desert’s environmental sustainability. Investigation of the fragile desert environment and its degradation from anthropogenic uses. Politics associated with the Mojave National Preserve. Fieldwork conducted during spring break. Prerequisite: admission to Pathfinder Program in Environmental Sustainability.
Credit 2 units. A&S: SS A&S IQ: SSC Art: NSM BU: SCI EN: S

L54 Path 301B Case Study: Hawaii
Credit 1 unit. A&S: SS A&S IQ: SSC Art: NSM BU: SCI EN: S