

Master in Environmental Studies - Minor in Faith-Based Environmental Sustainability and Policy

HBI University

Course Duration: 2 years

Credit Hours: 69 (including 15 credit hours for minor)



Program Description

The Master in Environmental Studies at HBI University is designed for students seeking to develop expertise in environmental policy, conservation strategies, climate change mitigation, and sustainable resource management. This program integrates scientific research, policy analysis, and ethical considerations to equip graduates for careers in environmental advocacy, sustainable development, and conservation leadership.

The Minor in Faith-Based Environmental Sustainability and Policy provides a specialized focus on the intersection of faith, environmental stewardship, and policy-making. Students will explore theological perspectives on sustainability, faith-based conservation initiatives, and the role of religious communities in addressing global environmental challenges.

This 69-credit hour program includes 30 credit hours of foundational environmental science and policy courses, 24 credit hours of core sustainability and conservation training, 15 credit hours in Faith-Based Environmental Sustainability and Policy, elective coursework, a supervised practicum, and a research-based master's thesis or capstone project.

Admissions Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in environmental science, policy, sustainability, or a related field
- Minimum GPA of 3.0
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty or environmental professionals
- Statement of purpose outlining career goals in environmental studies and faith-based sustainability
- Research proposal or portfolio submission (optional)
- Interview with faculty committee (if required)

Practicum Requirement

Students must complete a 300-hour supervised practicum in environmental NGOs, faith-based sustainability organizations, government agencies, or research institutions. Practicum placements include Christian environmental advocacy groups, conservation projects, and interfaith sustainability initiatives.

Master's Thesis / Capstone Project

Students are required to complete either a research-based master's thesis on environmental policy, sustainable development, or faith-based conservation efforts, or develop a capstone project implementing a sustainability initiative in a religious or nonprofit setting.

Program Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

- Analyze environmental challenges and propose sustainable solutions from a faith-based perspective.
- Develop policies and initiatives that integrate ethical and spiritual approaches to environmental conservation.
- Lead sustainability programs in churches, nonprofits, and governmental organizations.
- Engage in advocacy efforts for faith-driven environmental responsibility.
- Conduct research on the intersection of theology, ethics, and environmental policy.

Career Outcomes & Potential Salary

- Environmental Policy Analyst – \$65,000 - \$140,000
- Sustainability Program Director – \$75,000 - \$150,000
- Faith-Based Environmental Advocate – \$60,000 - \$125,000
- Climate Change Consultant for Religious Organizations – \$70,000 - \$135,000
- Conservation Researcher & Ethical Policy Advisor – \$65,000 - \$130,000

Advocacy and Professional Development

Students are encouraged to join organizations such as:

- GreenFaith
- National Religious Partnership for the Environment
- Christian Climate Action
- Society for Conservation Biology

Participation in faith-based environmental summits, sustainability workshops, and policy-making conferences is highly recommended.

Course Breakdown (Total: 69 Credit Hours)

A. Foundational Environmental Science and Policy Courses (30 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
ENV-101	Environmental Science & Ecology	3
ENV-102	Climate Change & Global Sustainability	3

ENV-103	Environmental Law & Policy	3
ENV-104	Renewable Energy & Green Technology	3
ENV-105	Environmental Ethics & Social Justice	3
ENV-106	Conservation Biology & Habitat Restoration	3
ENV-107	Sustainable Resource Management	3
ENV-108	Research Methods in Environmental Studies	3
ENV-109	Waste Management & Pollution Control	3
ENV-110	The Role of Religion in Environmental Policy	3

B. Core Sustainability and Conservation Training (24 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
ENV-201	Water Conservation & Management	3
ENV-202	Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems	3
ENV-203	Environmental Advocacy & Communication	3
ENV-204	Disaster Resilience & Climate Adaptation	3
ENV-205	Faith-Based Approaches to Sustainability	3
ENV-206	Urban Sustainability & Green Infrastructure	3
ENV-207	Community-Based Conservation Programs	3
ENV-208	Supervised Environmental Studies Practicum	3

C. Faith-Based Environmental Sustainability and Policy Minor (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
FESP-301	Theological Perspectives on Creation Care	3
FESP-302	Church-Based Sustainability & Eco-Theology	3
FESP-303	Faith & Environmental Advocacy Campaigns	3
FESP-304	Religious Ethics & Climate Change Policy	3

FESP-305	Interfaith Collaboration for Environmental Action	3
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D. Electives (9 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Name	Credit Hours
ELEC-301	Environmental Journalism & Media Strategies	3
ELEC-302	Global Environmental Governance & Faith-Based Leadership	3
ELEC-303	Eco-Spirituality & Faith-Based Community Organizing	3