



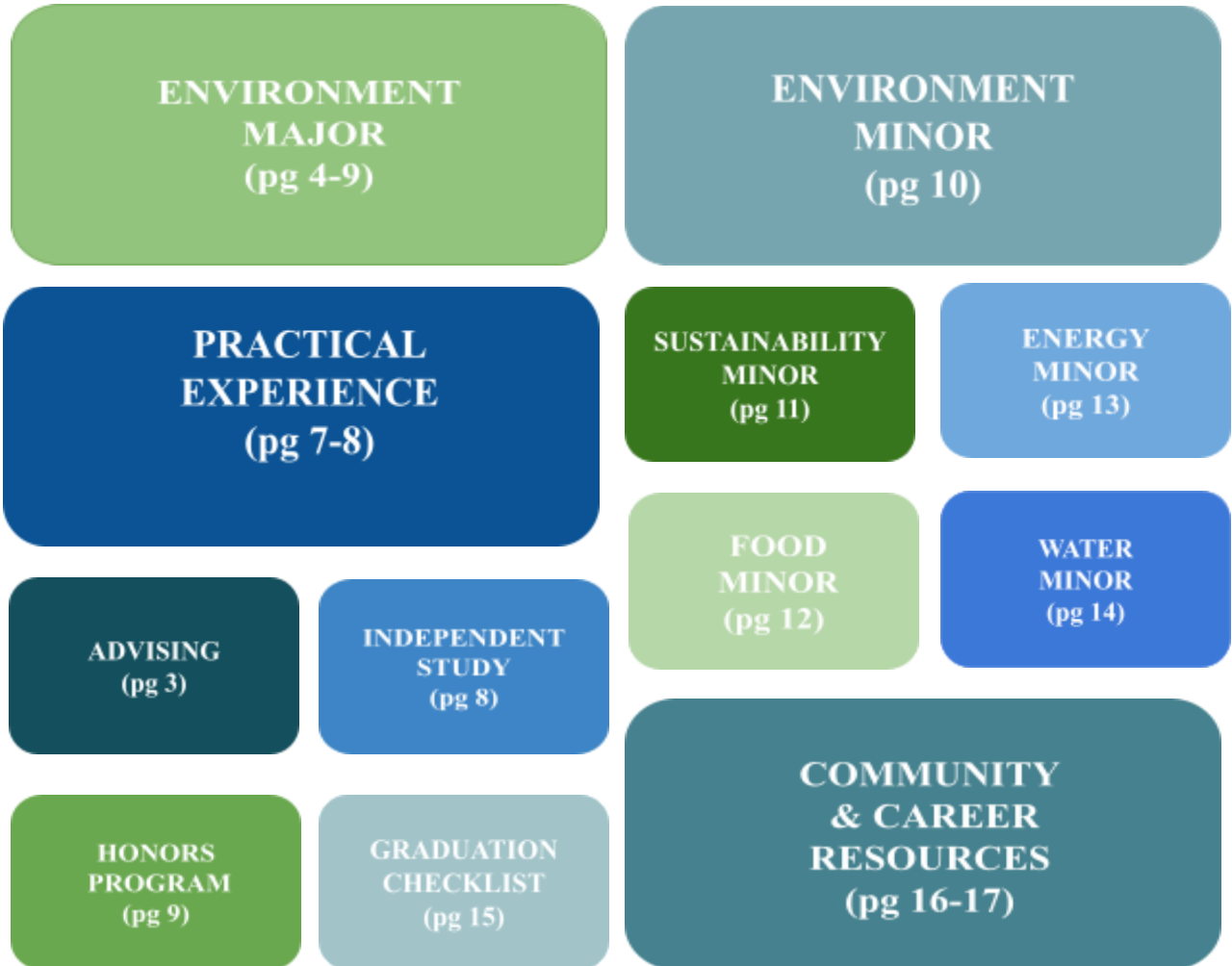
**PROGRAM IN THE
ENVIRONMENT**
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

STUDENT HANDBOOK



Mission Statement

“The Program in the Environment’s mission is to develop environmentally informed citizens and leaders through an undergraduate program that balances rigorous environmental studies in many disciplines, hones practical problem-solving skills, and fosters intellectual risk taking.”



Visit the PitE Office

Our offices are located at 1520 Dana Bldg. Our office hours are 8:00am-5:00pm, Monday-Friday. You may also reach us at (734) 615-7346 or environment.program@umich.edu.

Advising:

For virtual advising, please see the PitE Peer Advising schedule on the [advising webpage](#). Use [this link](#) to connect to remote Open Peer Advising hours. To make an appointment with an advisor, please visit the online scheduling system on the same website. *Note: You MUST attend an information session before making an appointment with an advisor. See the website to register and for more information.*

Meet our advisors!



Jaime Langdon



Chris Pozza

The Environment Major



Pre-Requisites

| <u>Requirement</u> | <u>Course Options</u> |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Introductory Interdisciplinary Course | <i>Choose ONE of the following courses:</i> ENVIRON 101, 110, 111, 139, 167, 201, 229, 270; or AP Credit (EARTH 219) |
| Introduction to Biology | BIOLOGY 171 <u>or</u> AP Credit (BIOLOGY 195) |
| Introduction to Geology and Geology Lab | EARTH 118 <u>and</u> EARTH 119 <u>or</u> EARTH 120 <u>or</u> EARTH 116 (Camp Davis) |
| Introductory Social Science Course | <i>Choose ONE of the following courses:</i> ECON 101; ENVIRON 207, 208, 209, 211, 222, 235, 237, 270, 290 |

Things to Note:

You do NOT have to complete all prerequisites before declaring a major or taking core courses; however, it is recommended that students take Introduction to Biology before taking General Ecology (see page 5).

AP credits can be counted toward prerequisites, however you must have scored a 4 or 5 on the exam, depending on the course.

All prerequisites may be taken pass/fail; however, it is important to keep in mind that the fewer pass/fail classes, the better.



Core Courses

| Requirement | Course Options |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| General Ecology | ENVIRON 281 <u>and</u> 372 <u>or</u> ENVIRON 282 <u>and</u> 373 (Biological Station) |
| Analytics Course | Choose <u>one</u> of the following courses: STATS 206, 250, 280; SOC 210; QMSS 201 |
| Culture and Environment Course | Choose <u>one</u> course from approved list or advisor-approved |
| Natural Science Course | Choose <u>one</u> course from approved list or advisor-approved (ENVIRON 201 & 229 do NOT count) |
| <u>Two</u> Social Science Courses | Choose <u>two</u> courses from approved list or advisor-approved (<u>one</u> must be 300-level or above) |
| Senior Capstone | Choose <u>one</u> course from approved list or advisor-approved |

Things to Note:

All core courses must be 200-level or above. These courses are meant to provide a background on the variety of environmental topics available for study.

General Ecology

ENVIRON 281 (lecture) & ENVIRON 372 (lab) are both offered on campus. The lab and lecture are both offered both semesters. Students can also take ENVIRON 282 (lecture) & ENVIRON 373 (lab) at the University of Michigan Biological Station in spring or summer semesters. There are also some study abroad field research programs that provide equivalent courses as well. See a PitE advisor for details!

Culture & Environment, Natural Science, Social Science

The courses that fulfill these requirements change every semester. There is a list of pre-approved courses for each requirement that are generally offered every semester. If you are unsure whether a course fulfills one of these requirements, check with an advisor.

Senior Capstone

This is an interdisciplinary course studying environmental issues holistically, looking at issues from the perspective of the various stakeholders involved. This is often likened to the upper level version of the introductory interdisciplinary course. Students can take this class at any time--it does not need to be fulfilled during their senior year.



Specialization

The specialization requirement is intended to help students define their special interests by encouraging them to delve deeper into a particular area of study. This requirement includes **three courses, 300-level or above**, that coincide to create a meaningful vision. Students may elect a commonly approved specialization, or they may craft their own (see below). Regardless of what the topic is, **students must get specializations approved.**

Specializations **MUST** be submitted by the end of **junior year** via the [online form](#).

Courses listed for a specialization do not have to be completed by the end of junior year; however, they must be identified and planned as to when they will be completed.

Commonly Approved Specializations:

Environmental Business & Economics

ENVIRON/EARTH 380: Natural Resources, Econ & Environ
ENVIRON 391: Sustainability and the Campus
ECON 330: American Industries
STRAT 400: Strategy for Sustainable Development
STRAT 411: The Corporation and Society

Environmental Psychology/Education

ENVIRON 360: Behavior and Environment
ENVIRON 361: The Psych of Environmental Stewardship
ENVIRON 382: Intro to Environmental Education
ENVIRON/COMM 413: Environmental Communication
AAS/RCSSCI 330: Urban and Community Studies I

Environmental Law & Policy

ENVIRON 306: Global Water
ENVIRON 312: Environmental Politics and Policy
ENVIRON 345/SOC 380: Environ Public Opinion Analysis
ENVIRON 365: International Environmental Policy
ENVIRON 405: Urban Sprawl: Politics and Policy
ENVIRON 475: Environmental Law

Natural Resources Management

ENVIRON 317: Conservation of Biological
Diversity
ENVIRON 321: Climate Change & Adaptation
ENVIRON 324: Water Law & Policy
ENVIRON/EARTH 380: Natural Resources, Econ & Environ
ENVIRON 408: Land Use Law & Policy
ENVIRON 305: Sustainability Issues in the Gr Lks Region

Urban Planning

ENVIRON 350: The Built Environment
ENVIRON 370/UP 423: Intro to Urban Planning
ENVIRON 405: Urban Sprawl
ENVIRON 407: Sustainable Cities
ENVIRON 408: Land Use Law & Policy

Conservation Biology

ENVIRON 317: Conservation of Biological Diversity
ENVIRON 421: Restoration Ecology
ENVIRON 438: Wildlife Ecology
ENVIRON 453: Tropical Conservation & Ecology
EEB 476: Ecosystem Ecology

Agriculture/Food

ENVIRON 314: Food Literacy for All
ENVIRON 430/EEB 489: Soil Ecology
EEB 498: The Ecology of Agroecosystems
ALA 370 Measure of Our Meals
ANTHRBIO 364: Nutrition and Evolution
CLARCH/CLCIV 382: Food in the Ancient World

Environmental & Public Health

ENVIRON 308: Sustainability & Health
ENVIRON 310: Toxicol: Environ Chemicals & Disease
ANTHRBIO 364: Nutrition & Evolution
PUBHLTH 305: Environ & Human Health
PUBHLTH 350: Global Public Health
PUBHLTH 360: Community, Culture & Soc Justice

Practical Experience

The practical experience seeks to cover a broad set of material and ideas in a setting where much of the learning is experiential. All practical experiences must be at least 3-credits and include a research component. There are three different ways to complete a practical experience.

Things to Note:

All credit hours earned through practical experience may be used toward another requirement in the major.



1. Approved Residential Field Course

- a) The [University of Michigan Biological Station \(UMBS\)](#) in northern Michigan offers various biological science and humanities courses during the spring and summer terms, including EEB 381: General Ecology (lecture and lab).
- b) The [Camp Davis Field Station](#) in Jackson Hole, Wyoming offers geology and various environmental science and humanities courses during the summer term, including EARTH 116: Introduction to Geology (lecture and lab).
- c) The [New England Literature Program \(NELP\)](#) in New Hampshire offers several environmental humanities courses during the spring term.
- d) [Semester in Detroit \(SiD\)](#) administered by the Residential College provides a semester-long experience in Detroit, either in the fall or winter.
- e) [Michigan in Washington](#) provides a semester-long experience in Washington, DC, either in the fall or winter.

2. Study Abroad Programs

There are several programs offered through the U-M [Center for Global and Intercultural Study \(CGIS\)](#). Students must apply through their application portals for the following programs:

- a) [Environmental and Sustainable Development](#) in Costa Rica
- b) [Frontier's Abroad](#) and [EcoQuest](#) in New Zealand
- c) [Development and Globalization](#) in Thailand
- d) [Environmental and Sustainability Studies](#) in Denmark
- e) [Environment and British Landscape](#) at Oxford in England
- f) [School for Field Studies](#) in Tanzania, Cambodia, Panama, Chile, Turks & Caicos, Bhutan

Other non-U-M study abroad programs in various locations include:

- a) [CIEE](#)
- b) [School for International Training \(SIT\)](#)
- c) [Wildlands Studies](#)
- d) [Center for Food & Sustainability Studies](#) in Perugia, Italy
- e) and more!

Other study abroad programs **must be pre-approved** by a PitE advisor before attending the program.

3. Internship

Acceptable internships involve applying ideas and knowledge from coursework into an experience in which active, experiential learning occurs by working directly on an environmental issue. Internships may include working with a governmental agency, a non-governmental organization or a private business, where there are predominant environmental aspects to your work.



In order to receive credit for these experiences, students must complete an internship **research project** and engage in a series of reflective activities before, during, and after the internship experience through the **Michigan Internship Learning Environment (MILE)**. All required assignments and activities are outlined and submitted through [MILE](#): an online program designed to help orient students to the internship process and make the most of their experience.

NEW - Self-Directed Independent Study in MILE Option - see [Internships, Research and Other Opportunities](#) for further information on this option.

Other Options for Practical Experience

In some cases, students may do independent research or work with a faculty member that is environmentally related and that may count toward Practical Experience, **but needs to be discussed with a PitE advisor first for pre-approval**. Check out our [Other Opportunities](#) portion of the Practical Experience page for further information.

Honors Program

The Honors Program entails a two-year, 9-credit-hour sequence starting in the winter term of the student's junior year with ENVIRON 399 (3 credits) and culminating in the completion of a senior honors thesis with ENVIRON 499 (6 credits) at the end of senior year. This is a substantial scholarly research project carried out with the supervision of a faculty advisor. Successful completion of an honors thesis is recognized by an honors designation (either Highest Honors, High Honors, or Honors) on the diploma and transcript. Decisions about the designation are based on faculty evaluation of the student's thesis.

The Honors Program is open to all students who have achieved an overall cumulative grade point average of 3.50/4.00 or better. Students on the cusp of a 3.50 may request admission to the Honors Program by meeting with an advisor to discuss the program. The Honors Program is not open to students who will be studying abroad during the winter semester of their junior year.

Participation in the Honors Program will fulfill the Practical Experience requirement.

PitE/SEAS Accelerated Master's Degree Program (AMDP)

PitE/SEAS introduced an accelerated master's degree program in 2020. It is a 5-6 year program, depending on which masters area you would like to pursue with SEAS (MS takes 5 years total and MLA takes 6 years total). The AMD program is open to all JUNIORS who have an overall cumulative grade point average of 3.50/4.00 or better. The application deadline for this program is always January 15, in the winter semester of your junior year. Please see the AMD website and the AMD handbook for further information.

The Environment Minor



*Minimum of 17 credits
Two courses must be taken at the 300-level or above
 10 of the 17 credits must be taken in residence*

| <u>Requirement</u> | <u>Course Options</u> |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Introductory Interdisciplinary Course | <i>Choose <u>one</u> of the following courses: ENVIRON 101, 110, 111, 139, 167, 201, 229, 270; EARTH 219</i> |
| Natural Science Course | <i>Choose <u>one</u> course from approved list or advisor approved (not 201 or 229)</i> |
| Social Science Course | <i>Choose <u>one</u> course from approved list or advisor approved</i> |
| Culture and Environment Course | <i>Choose <u>one</u> course from approved list or advisor approved</i> |
| Analytics Course <u>or</u> Field Experience | <i>Choose <u>one</u> of the following courses <u>or</u> complete a field experience: STATS 250, 280; SOC 210; QMSS 201; OMS 301(Ross)</i> |

Things to Note:

All courses except the introductory interdisciplinary course must be 200-level or above.

Students may choose to take an analytics course OR complete a field experience.

LSA policy mandates that a major and a minor may only share one course.

Minor in Sustainability



*Minimum of 18 credits
9 credits must be taken at the 300-level or above*

| <u>Requirement</u> | <u>Course Options</u> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Introductory Course | ENVIRON 207 or 208 |
| Sustainability Capstone Course | <i>Choose <u>one</u> course from approved list</i> |
| 9 Core Credits | <p><i>Choose <u>one</u> course from <u>three</u> of the following areas (from approved list or advisor approved):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Society, Culture, Justice, and Activism ● Business and Economics ● Public Policy, Urban Planning, and Law ● Natural Science and Public Health ● Technology, Engineering and Design |
| Practical Experience | <i>Choose from approved list - Study Abroad in the field, Field Station, or complete and environmentally related internship</i> |

Things to Note:

All courses must be 200-level or above.

Students must complete a practical experience.

LSA policy mandates that a major and a minor may only share one course.

Minor in Food and the Environment



*Minimum of 15 credits
Two courses must be taken at the 300-level or above*

| <u>Requirement</u> | <u>Course Options</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Introductory Food Course | <i>Choose <u>one</u> of the following courses: ENVIRON 101, 270, 290; UC 254: Much Depends on Dinner</i> |
| Topical Food Courses | <i>Choose <u>three</u> courses from approved list or advisor approved</i> |
| Synthesis Food Course | <i>Choose <u>one</u> course from approved list or advisor approved</i> |

Things to Note:

All courses must be 200-level or above.

LSA policy mandates that a major and a minor may only share one course.

Minor in Energy Science and Policy



*Minimum of 15 credits
Two courses must be taken at the 300-level or above*

| <u>Requirement</u> | <u>Course Options</u> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Introductory Energy Science and Policy Course | <i>Choose <u>one</u> of the following courses: ENVIRON/PUBPOL 250 <u>or</u> ENVIRON/PHYSICS 210</i> |
| Topics Courses: Energy Economics & Policy | <i>Choose <u>two</u> courses from approved list or advisor approved</i> |
| Topics Courses: Energy Production/Extraction/Technology | <i>Choose <u>two</u> courses from approved list or advisor approved</i> |
| Breadth (optional) | <i>Choose one breadth course from approved list to substitute for one of the Topic Area courses above</i> |

Things to Note:

All courses must be 200-level or above.

The four topics courses must total at least 12 credits. Students may choose to substitute one topic course with one breadth course (from approved list or advisor approved).

LSA policy mandates that a major and a minor may only share one course.

Minor in Water and the Environment



*Minimum of 18 credits
9 credits must be taken at the 300-level or above*

| <u>Requirement</u> | <u>Course Options</u> |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Introductory Water Courses (<i>need 2</i>) | ENVIRON 204: Under Pressure: Water & Society (fall only) and Choose <u>one</u> additional course from the following: ENVIRON 110, 111, 206, 232; Biology 109; EARTH 110, 206, 222, 277; or History 240 |
| 9 Core Credits | Choose <u>one</u> course from <u>three</u> of the following areas (from approved list or advisor approved): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Culture ● Economics, Policy, and Planning ● Natural Sciences and Resource Management ● Public Health ● Technology, Engineering, and Design |
| Practical Experience | Choose from approved list - Study Abroad in the field, Field Station, or complete and environmentally related internship |

Things to Note:

All courses must be 200-level or above.

LSA policy mandates that a major and a minor may only share one course.

Graduation Checklist

Official Degree Audit: You should arrange an Official Degree Audit during the semester before you graduate (e.g. September 2018 if you are graduating in May 2019).

Environment Majors:

- Submit your Specialization for approval. If this is not submitted, you won't get your Environment major release for graduation.
- Make an appointment with your PitE Advisor to check degree progress and obtain a major release.
- Make appointments with other majors or minors to obtain releases
- Apply to graduate in Wolverine Access under Student Business.
- Rent a cap and gown from PitE or purchase graduation regalia at one of the campus bookstores. PitE doesn't rent tassels, so pick one up at the bookstore!

All PitE Minors:

- Make an appointment with your PitE Advisor for a minor release.
- Make appointments with other majors or minors to obtain releases.
- Apply to graduate in Wolverine Access under Student Business.
- Rent a cap and gown from PitE or purchase graduation regalia at one of the campus bookstores. PitE doesn't rent tassels, so pick one up at the bookstore!

Community & Career Resources



The Program in the Environment has some resources specifically targeted to the environmental job search. These include:

- Check out the [Careers Page](#) on the PitE Website
- For Job and Internship Postings: [SEAS Career Link](#)
- Job Websites: [Environmental Career Opportunities](#); [Environmental Career Center](#); [Environmental Jobs.com](#)

SEAS/PitE Career Resources:

- PitE Peer Advisor resume review and feedback (see Peer advising [calendar](#))
- Find jobs and internships just for environ students on [SEAS Career Link](#)
- Green Career Fair in Winter semester

Career Center Resources:

- Instant Resume Feedback! [VMOCK](#) through the Career Center offers instant feedback on your resume.
- Find jobs posted specifically for UM students through [Handshake](#)
- Make an [appointment](#) to discuss your resume and cover letter with a career counselor.

LSA Opportunity Hub Resources:

- Resume and cover letter [advice](#) on appearance and content of your resume.
- Check out jobs posted just for LSA students with [LSA Engage](#)
- There is also a [video](#) on creating an effective LinkedIn presence as well.



Graduate Study

Students often go on to pursue a wide range of graduate studies. Graduate programs such as medical school, law school, business school, public health, public policy, and Master's and Doctoral programs. PitE often hosts graduate school panels for students interested in learning more.

Graduate School Web Resources

- [Environment Graduate Programs](#)
- [Graduate Guide](#)

Get Connected!

Social Media

E-mail is the primary means we use to communicate with PitE students. **You are responsible for the information we give you via email.** All majors and minors are members of the PitE email group, "environ.students." This allows you to receive messages regarding upcoming PitE events, academic deadlines, course announcements, funding opportunities, and co-curricular activities. You can also find us on the following social media platforms:



PitE Club



PitE Club is a group of like-minded individuals that come together weekly to plan events and volunteering opportunities for the greater community.

Find PitE Club at Festifall or Winterfest. Their current meeting time this W23 semester is Tuesdays, 7-8pm in 2024 Dana Bldg.