

## Department of Environmental Studies

### I. Program Overview

Established in 1999, the Department of Environmental Studies offers an interdisciplinary program focusing on the natural and social sciences while also including the humanities and arts. The department is grouped in the Social Science cluster by the College, which is consistent with other departments (Anthropology and Psychology) who have interests in both the natural and social sciences. Currently, the program supports undergraduates only. Of the 40 Emory College departments, Environmental Studies is ranked 14<sup>th</sup> for the number of graduating majors/minors per year. The degrees offered are a Bachelor of Science, a Bachelor of Arts, and a minor in Environmental Studies. As of spring semester 2005, the department has 66 declared majors, 20 minors, and 2 honors students.

The department has four tenure track faculty, three lecturers and four temporary lecturers. The research interests of the faculty include public policy, ichnology, ethnobotany, paleontology, human ecology, geology, environmental management, fisheries, and ecology. The department is currently seeking applicants to fill the department chair position. Over the next five years the department seeks to fill 2-3 senior faculty positions with expertise in ecology, ecological economics, or earth and atmospheric sciences. A graduate program is expected to be established in this time as well.

Environmental Studies faculty have affiliations with several Emory departments:

- Anthropology
- Political Science
- School of Public Health
- School of Law

Courses are often cross-listed and taught by faculty in the departments of religion, political science, biology, anthropology, history, and philosophy.

Environmental Studies faculty are involved in various campus programs:

- Sustainability Committee supporting the Strategic Theme: “Creating Community — Engaging Society”
- Center for International Programs Abroad (CIPA) – Costa Rica, Mexico, and Kenya.
- Faculty Science Council
- Chief Environmental Officer of the University, Facilities Management
- University Senate
- Emory herbarium.
- Piedmont Project and Green Luncheons

## II. Description of Material Collected

### Subject Areas

The major environmental studies LC areas are:

- GE (all) environmental science
- HD 101-1395 land use
- QE (all) geology, mineralogy, petrology, regional geology, and paleontology
- QH 540-549 ecology
- S 900 – 972 conservation of natural resources
- SH (all) fisheries

Popular topics, such as climate change, environmental policy, and sustainable agriculture, are not limited to these ranges. Additional LC ranges of interest include:

- HC economic history
- GF anthropogeography
- HT communities
- QC 851-999 meteorology, climatology
- QH 1-199 general natural history
- S - SK (all) – agriculture (includes forestry, parks, wildlife management)
- TD (all) – environmental technology
- T –TX (all) – technology and engineering

### Scope of the Collection

The collection focuses on current materials with very little out-of-print materials collected. Ecology and environmental studies as we know it are relatively new fields beginning in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Much of the research interest is on current events. English is the major language collected.

The bulk of our geology collection was built to support the now defunct Geology Department. Geological topics of interest these days include water resources and pollution, paleontology, global climate change, and natural resources. Historical information remains very pertinent to geologists, thus we will maintain much of our collection. The geosciences are now supported by the environmental studies collection plan.

The major geographic areas to collect are:

Metro-Atlanta	South America
Georgia	Africa
Southeast United States	Southeast Asia (primarily Thailand and Indonesia)
North America	Australia
Europe	New Zealand
Bahamas	

## **Formats & Publication Types**

Serials and monographs are the major publication types purchased. Serials are the major research tool and are considered a primary source for environmental researchers. Most researchers prefer e-journal access.

Textbooks are collected if published by leading researchers. In the environmental sciences, these textbooks tend to become major texts cited by other researchers. Conference proceedings are not usually purchased.

Government documents of interest are produced from numerous departments, including EPA, FWS, NPS, and USGS. The United Nations is also a major producer of environmental research and documents. Both U.S. and international documents are collected.

Electronic publications are growing in number and use. Oftentimes, electronic documents are the only format available from NGOs in Georgia. E-only publications produced by the United States government, United Nations, Georgia non-governmental agencies, and other related environmental organizations are collected. If deemed necessary and legal, an e-book is printed, bound, and added to our print collection.

The environmental studies film collection is a growing area of interest. Educational films, documentaries, and major motion picture movies are purchased from PBS, Bullfrog Films, Films for Humanities & Sciences, Hawkhill, Video Project, Amazon, and other smaller distributors. The films cover such topics as historical climate change, environmental ethics, resource use, and environmental health. Films must meet the following criterion: balanced, educational, scientifically-sound, and current. Films that have a bias are collected only at a faculty member's request.

Microforms are not routinely collected for environmental studies except government documents. LexisNexis does sell the microfiche for Environment Abstracts, and in the future we may need to consider purchasing this set.

