



HIGHLIGHTS

- Year 1** The Arctic in the Anthropocene
- Year 2** Environmental Ethics
- Year 3** Conservation Biology
- Year 4** Food Security and Climate Change

Introduction to the Major

Global environmental studies explores the complex relationship between humans and the environment, and how we can make a difference in the world.

As a GES major at Clark, you will work with nationally and internationally renowned faculty to study how economic, cultural, and political processes transform the environment, and in turn are shaped by it. Join a vibrant community united by a desire to address today's environmental challenges, and build the skills needed to make a difference. Explore the relationship between society and environment from different perspectives, from biology and economics to psychology and visual arts.

CORE COURSES

The GES major is truly interdisciplinary and students are encouraged to take courses in a variety of other programs. You will build foundational knowledge in core courses and then develop a specialization in one of three areas. Students work with their advisers to actively construct their majors and identify specific learning outcomes.

- Five core courses in Natural Science, State of the Earth, Politics and Economy, and Culture
- Two skills courses, from photography to GIS
- Four elective courses in Political Ecology, Climate Change and Sustainability, or Land and Resources
- Capstone (course, internship, honors, research)

4.5 gigatons:
CO2 footprint of global tourism

"The GES program has transformed my understanding of how integrated humans are with the environment. It isn't only pristine reserves, but also in our backyards and homes."

— AMRITHA PAI '24, GES MAJOR




DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY




Explore and navigate Clark curriculum


Connect and engage with communities









Discover and pursue your passions









Develop professional skills


Reflect, design and plan

YEAR **1**

YEAR **2**

-  **Explore the GES major**
Stop by Jefferson Academic Center to meet our faculty and staff and learn more about the program.
-  **Identify Program of Liberal Studies (PLS) and First-Year Intensive (FYI) courses**
Consult the program faculty and staff to understand degree requirements and core and specialization courses. Work with GES staff and your FY adviser on course planning.
-  **Learn about campus resources**
Visit the Goddard library, the Writing Center, and the Career Connections Center (CCC) to learn about the resources available to you.
-  **Get involved**
Attend a meeting of CUGA, the student-run Clark Undergraduate Geography Association. Visit the Office of Community Engagement and Volunteering to learn about opportunities to make connections and build skills.
-  **Start networking**
Attend department talks and events. Talk with GES faculty about their research areas.
-  **Explore outdoor opportunities**
Check out activities through Clark's Outing Club and other groups. Consider courses that feature fieldwork and off-campus field trips.
-  **Consider what sparks your interest**
What new interests have you discovered? What else do you want to explore? Talk with your adviser and start mapping out courses and activities for the years ahead.

-  **Dig in and declare your major**
Start thinking about which specialization area aligns best with your interests and goals. Work with staff to select a GES adviser and declare your major.
-  **Build your skills**
Consider courses in skills and methods including GIS, Visualization and Film, Research Design, Communication, and Qualitative or Quantitative Analysis.
-  **Explore internship opportunities**
Attend internship and career fairs. Log on to Handshake to search for opportunities. Learn about HERO, a paid undergraduate summer program at Clark focused on environmental research.
-  **Take a Problems of Practice (PoP) course**
Look for courses that feature environmental stewardship and partnerships with organizations in the broader community, such as Mass Audubon.
-  **Consider study abroad**
Visit the Study Abroad Office to learn about opportunities. Work with your adviser to identify courses abroad that fulfill major requirements.
-  **Apply for funding**
Explore funding sources for research and creative projects. Check out the CCC's Opportunity Funding page.
-  **Reflect on your experiences**
What career options are you now considering that you want to test out? What questions do you still want to explore in considering your professional path?

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?


JOBS & EMPLOYERS

Graduates work in policy, programs, data analytics, and more for organizations including the Urban Green Council, Wellesley College, and Energy and Resource Solutions.








GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Alumni have pursued advanced study in landscape architecture, environmental science and policy, and GIS at Harvard, Clark, and other top schools.

YEAR 3

-  **Become a knowledge producer!**
Work with a faculty member on their research or pursue an independent study to gain experience.
-  **Serve in student associations**
Consider running for a CUGA leadership position. Serve as undergraduate student representative for Geography Department meetings.
-  **Grow your networks**
Join a professional association. Attend a regional or national conference.
-  **Consider honors**
Talk with your adviser about whether to pursue an honors thesis next year.
-  **Share your work**
Present your original research or internship work at ClarkFEST or an academic conference.
-  **Build your resume**
Attend a workshop or schedule an individual session at the Career Connections Center (CCC).
-  **Get out of here**
Study abroad or away to add immersive regional or international experience to your major.
-  **Learn about publishing**
Join the board of SURJ, Clark's undergraduate student research journal. Attend peer review workshops.
-  **Plan for senior year and beyond**
Learn about Clark's Accelerated Degree Program (ADP) and see if it fits with your goals. Explore with your GES faculty or advisor the prospect of an honors thesis in your senior year.
-  **No regrets!**
What's on your Clark undergraduate bucket list? Where do you still need to build experience and skills? Where are you confident and where do you need more clarity? workshops.

YEAR 4

-  **Pull it all together with your capstone**
Complete your capstone requirement through a course project, research, honors thesis, or internship.
-  **Strengthen your networks**
Attend Practicing Geography Week and use ClarkCONNECT to engage with alumni and learn about potential opportunities.
-  **What's next?**
Talk with your advisers about your plans. Identify faculty who know you well and will serve as references or write letters of recommendation. Schedule a mock job interview through the CCC to get feedback.
-  **Share your knowledge and give back**
Work as a Peer Learning Assistant (PLA). Lead a discussion section for an introductory course. Present at ClarkFEST and support your fellow student researchers.
-  **Get published!**
Submit a manuscript to SURJ or another peer-reviewed journal. Work with sponsoring faculty or your adviser to identify appropriate journals.
-  **Prepare to launch**
Update your professional profiles including LinkedIn. Find ways to demonstrate qualities such as leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving.
-  **Ask yourself the big questions**
What have you learned that you value? What have you excelled at? What action steps do you need to take this year to finish strong?



LEARNING ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY: FIELD TRIP, BLACKSTONE CANAL, MA

At Clark, your global environmental studies education extends beyond the classroom.

In the multidisciplinary GES major, you learn in the classroom, the local community, and the world. Courses often feature fieldwork, community partnerships with organizations like Mass Audubon, and citizen science projects. Dive into research with GES faculty or in your capstone course and study abroad to add immersive international experience. Pursue internship opportunities in Worcester and beyond to translate your learning into practice. Attend public seminars, career workshops, and social events to expand and enrich your experience.

CONNECT WITH US!

Jefferson Academic Center, Room 220

508-793-7336

ges@clarku.edu

Advising

We are here to support your academic journey.

In your first year at Clark, you will be assigned an adviser to help you select your courses and programs. Once you declare your major, GES faculty will advise you.

CLARK
UNIVERSITY



Challenge Convention.
Change Our World.

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