

Earth and Environmental Sciences, BA

LAESBA

This program's name has changed effective Fall 2024. The previous name was Earth and Environmental Studies.

Explore today's most pressing challenges in environmental health, climate change and natural resources, and develop your capacity to improve the human condition, both present and future. Develop critical thinking, problem-solving and communication skills as you become an environmental steward and changemaker.

Program description

The BA in Earth and environmental sciences helps students understand the function and evolution of the world and the vulnerabilities of the environment. The degree provides broad training in physical science and geoscience, with emphasis on understanding Earth's life-sustaining surface environment.


The program explores climate change, energy resources, natural hazards, ocean environments and implications for sustainable human civilizations, empowering graduates to help Arizona and the global community address many critical environmental challenges facing society.

Elective tracks allow students to focus their studies on climate and environmental change, environmental policy, sustainability, Earth resources, environmental management or environmental education.

In addition to the guidelines in the Concurrent Program Options section below, students interested in pursuing concurrent or second baccalaureate degrees in The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are advised to visit [The College's website](#) for more information and requirements.

At a glance

- **College/School:** [The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences](#)
- **Location:** [Tempe](#) or [Online](#), [ASU Local](#)

- **Second language requirement:** Yes
- **First required math course:** MAT 117 - College Algebra or higher
- **Math intensity:** Moderate 

Required courses (Major Map)

[2024 - 2025 Major Map \(on-campus\)](#)

[2024 - 2025 Major Map \(online\)](#)

[Major Map \(Archives\)](#)

Concurrent program options

Students pursuing concurrent degrees (also known as a "double major") earn two distinct degrees and receive two diplomas. Working with their academic advisors, students can create their own concurrent degree combination. Some combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum.

Admission requirements

General university admission requirements:

All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

[First-year](#) | [Transfer](#) | [International](#) | [Readmission](#)

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should visit the [Change of Major form](#) for information about how to change a major to this program.

Attend online

ASU Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may [view the program's ASU Online page](#) for program descriptions and to request more information.

ASU Local

It is now possible to earn an ASU degree with [ASU Local](#), an integrated college experience in which students take advantage of in-person success coaching and programming experiences on site while completing one of 130+ undergraduate online degree programs, all of which come with online faculty interaction and tutoring support.

Transfer options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use [MyPath2ASU®](#) to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has [transfer partnerships](#) in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and they help students save time and money in their college journey.

Global opportunities

Global experience

Not only is the physical environment varied across the globe, so is the human treatment of it. [Global education programs](#) allow students to gain a deeper understanding of the global environment, how culture affects the environment and how to best communicate environmental research to a diverse audience. Programs are offered in a variety of countries around the world.

Career opportunities

The Bureau of Labor Statistics and the American Geosciences Institute project strong job growth in environmental science and geoscience. Graduates will be well prepared for "green" professional careers in fields such as environmental education, environmental reporting, public planning, environmental consulting and natural resource management, or for graduate school in related disciplines such as natural and environmental sciences or education, environmental public policy and environmental management.

Career opportunities include:

- conservation scientist or natural resource manager
- data analyst
- environmental monitoring and exposure assessor
- environmental or sustainability consultant or planner
- environmental protection or remediation scientist, consultant or manager
- environmental specialist, analyst or technician

- natural hazards assessment and mitigation specialist
- public policy and planning specialist
- science teacher
- water resources specialist

Career settings include:

- educational institutions
- environmental consulting firms
- environmental engineering firms
- federal, state and local government agencies
- museums
- nongovernmental organizations
- nonprofit organizations
- publishing companies
- regulatory agencies
- utility companies

For more information, please see the [career opportunities page on the School of Earth and Space Exploration website](#).

Example job titles and salaries listed below are not necessarily entry level, and students should take into consideration how years of experience and geographical location may affect pay scales. Some jobs also may require advanced degrees, certifications or state-specific licensure.

Career	*Growth	*Median salary
Climate Change Analyst ☀	6.1%	\$76,480
Data Scientist ☀	35.2%	\$103,500
Elementary Teacher	0.7%	\$61,690
Environmental Analyst	4.1%	\$64,460
Environmental Protection Specialist ☀	6.1%	\$76,480
Environmental Restoration Planner ☀	6.1%	\$76,480
Environmental Sciences Professor	4.2%	\$83,040
Forest Ranger ☀	14.8%	\$48,110
High School Teacher	1.0%	\$62,360
Middle School Teacher	0.8%	\$61,810

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

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Contact information

