Environmental Health Major

In the Bachelor of Science program in Environmental Health, students learn to identify, prevent, and control environmental factors that threaten human health. Students choose one of three interest areas: biomedical sciences, health and environmental sciences, or environmental public health practice. The coursework introduces students to basic principles of environmental health regulation, environmental sampling, microbiology, epidemiology, toxicology, and risk assessment. The program prepares students for admission to graduate programs and professional programs such as medical school. Graduates are also prepared for direct entry into careers, such as environmental health specialist, occupational health and safety manager, and public health adviser. The program is accredited by the National Environmental Health Science & Protection Accreditation Council.

B.S. Environmental Health (180 credits)

General Education

- English Composition (5)
- Quantitative & Symbolic Reasoning (5)
- Writing (10 including one Environmental Health Technical Writing course)
- Visual, Literary and Performing Arts (10)
- Individual and Societies (10)
- Natural World (20)

Environmental Health Core Courses

- ENV H 311 (3) Intro Environmental Health (A,Sp)
- ENV H 405 (3) Toxic Chemicals & Human Health (Sp)
- ENV H 431 (3) Sampling and Analysis I (A)
- ENV H 432 (4) Sampling and Analysis II (W)
- ENV H 433 (4) Sampling and Analysis III (Sp)
- ENV H 472 (3) Environmental Risk and Society (W)
- ENV H 482 (variable 2-15) EH Internship (A,W,Sp,S)
- EPI 420 (3) Introduction to Epidemiology (Sp)
- MICROM 301 (3) General Microbiology (A,Sp,S)
- MICROM 302 (2) General Microbiology Lab (A,Sp,S)

Supporting Science

- MATH 124 (5) Calculus I or equivalent*
- STAT 311 (5) Elements of Statistical Methods or equivalent*
- BIOL 180, 200, 220 (15) Introductory Biology with labs
- CHEM 142, 152, 162 (15) General Chemistry with labs
- CHEM 237, 238, 239 (12) Organic Chemistry, labs not required
- PHYS 114/117, 115/118 (10) General Physics with labs

Environmental Health Selectives

Choose three of the following:

- ENV H 440 (3) Water, Wastewater and Health (A)
- ENV H 441 (3) Food Protection (W)
- ENV H 442 (3) Zoonotic Diseases (W)
- ENV H 445 (3) Solid Waste Management (Sp)
- ENV H 446 (3) Hazardous Waste Management (W)
- ENV H 448 (3) Community Air Pollution (Sp)
- ENV H 453 (3) Industrial Hygiene (A)
- ENV H 460 (3) Occupational Safety Mgmt (Sp)
- ENV H 473 (3) Environmental Health Policy & Practice (Sp)

Environmental Health Electives

27 credits from among Biomedical Sciences, Health & Environmental Sciences, or Environmental Public Health Practice interest areas.

Full list of courses: deohs.washington.edu/academics/undergraduate-degree/electives

Admission

The application deadline is the third Friday of each quarter. Applications are evaluated on overall grades, performance in math, science, and composition courses; demonstrated writing ability; and understanding of and potential fit with the major. Students with 30-90 credits completed at the time of application may apply under early admissions, students with more than 90 credits may apply under upper division requirements. Each prerequisite course must be completed with a 2.0 GPA.

Application instructions: deohs.washington.edu/prospective-students/undergraduate-program

Early Admission Prerequisites (30 - 90 credits completed)

- Chemistry Series: CHEM 142, 152, 162
- Calculus: MATH 124 or equivalent*
- English Composition: ENG 131 or equivalent*

Upper Division Admission Prerequisites (90+ credits completed)

- All early admission prerequisites plus:
- Organic Chemistry Series: CHEM 237, 238, 239 or CHEM 223, 224, labs not required
- Biology Series: BIOL 180, 200, 220

*See degree requirements for equivalent course information: deohs.washington.edu/academics/undergraduate-degree/courses
Internships & Research

All students complete a required internship, giving them invaluable connections to careers after graduation. Students also have the opportunity to conduct research and gain lab experience, which helps them become competitive applicants for graduate and professional programs.

Internships held by Environmental Health Majors:

- U.S. Public Health Service
- WA State Department of Health
- Boeing
- Amazon
- Environmental Consulting Firms

After Graduation

Many students go directly into career level positions, such as:

- Environmental Health Investigator
  Public Health - Seattle & King County
- Environmental Health Specialist
  WA State Department of Health
- Occupational Safety Specialist
  Amazon

Other students go directly into graduate and professional programs, such as:

Graduate Programs
- Medicine
- Pharmacy
- Dentistry
- Health Services
- Occupational Therapy

Professional Programs
- Global Health
- Epidemiology
- Biostatistics
- Exposure Sciences
- Toxicology
- Public Health
- Health Professions