

# Earth and Environmental Sciences - B.A.

College of  
Arts and Sciences

The earth and environmental sciences encompass a wide variety of studies of our planet, including the study of its composition, structure, prehistoric life, internal and surficial processes, and history. These studies have important implications for understanding how our planet functions, as well as for understanding the interactions between humans and their environment. The discipline includes numerous applications in the discovery and use of mineral, energy, and water resources; in the protection and restoration of the environment; and in planning for the impacts of natural hazards (earthquakes, landslides, etc.) and climate change on global societal development. Students undertake the study of earth and environmental sciences in the classroom, laboratory, and field.

Students in earth and environmental sciences earn the Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Earth and Environmental Sciences. The B.S. program is designed for students who plan a career as a professional geologist or who plan to attend graduate school. The B.A. program is designed for students planning a career in public policy relating to earth science and environmental issues, earth-science education, business (environmental consulting), environmental law, or environmental medicine.

### 120 hours (minimum)

Any student earning a Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree must complete a minimum of 39 hours at the 300+ level. These hours are generally completed by the major requirements. However, keep this hour requirement in mind as you choose your course work for the requirements in the major. See the complete description of College requirements for a Bachelor of Arts degree in the *Arts and Sciences* section of the 2024-2025 Undergraduate Catalog.

### UK Core Requirements

See the *UK Core* section of the 2024-2025 Undergraduate Catalog for the complete UK Core requirements. The courses listed below are (a) recommended by the college, or (b) required courses that also fulfill UK Core areas. Students should work closely with their advisor to complete the UK Core requirements.

#### I. Intellectual Inquiry in Arts and Creativity

Choose one course from approved list.....3

#### II. Intellectual Inquiry in the Humanities

Choose one course from approved list.....3

#### III. Intellectual Inquiry in the Social Sciences

Choose one course from approved list.....3

#### IV. Intellectual Inquiry in the Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences

Fulfilled by Premajor Requirement – CHE 105/CHE 111

#### V. Composition and Communication I

CIS/WRD 110 Composition and Communication I .....3

#### VI. Composition and Communication II

CIS/WRD 111 Composition and Communication II .....3

#### VII. Quantitative Foundations

Fulfilled by Premajor Requirement – MA 123 or MA 113

#### VIII. Statistical Inferential Reasoning

Choose one course from approved list.....3

#### IX. Community, Culture and Citizenship in the USA

Choose one course from approved list.....3

#### X. Global Dynamics

Choose one course from approved list.....3

**UK Core hours ..... 24**

### Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement (GCCR)

EES 235 Fundamentals of Geology II .....3

EES 461 Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology .....4

### Graduation Composition and Communication Requirement hours (GCCR)..... 7

### College Requirements

I. Foreign Language (*placement exam recommended*) ..... 0-14

II. Disciplinary Requirements

a. Natural Science (*completed by Major Requirements*)

b. Social Science (*can be partially fulfilled by Major Requirements*) .....6

c. Humanities.....6

III. Laboratory or Field Work (*completed by Premajor Requirement*)

IV. Race and Ethnicity Requirement..... 0-3

V. Electives.....6

**College Requirement hours: ..... 18-35**

### Premajor Requirements

\*CHE 105 General College Chemistry I .....4

\*CHE 111 General Chemistry I Laboratory ..... 1

EES 220 Principles of Physical Geology .....4

EES 295 Geoscience Orientation..... 1

\*MA 123 Elementary Calculus and its Applications

or

\*MA 113 Calculus I .....4

\*PHY 211 General Physics

or

\*PHY 231/241 General University Physics/Lab .....5

**Premajor hours:..... 19**

### Major Requirements

#### Major Core Requirements

EES 230 Fundamentals of Geology I.....3

EES 235 Fundamentals of Geology II .....3

EES 350 Regional Historical Geology .....3

EES 360 Mineralogy .....4

EES 420G Structural Geology .....4

EES 450G Sedimentary Geology.....4

EES 461 Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology .....4

**Major Core hours:..... 25**

– CONTINUED –

The University of Kentucky is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award associate, baccalaureate, masters, educational specialist, and doctorate degrees. The University of Kentucky also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of the University of Kentucky may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website ([www.sacscoc.org](http://www.sacscoc.org)).

# Earth and Environmental Sciences (B.A.) • 2

---

## Other Course Work Required for the Major

### From the Major Department:

**Elective I** .....6  
Choose six hours of EES courses at the 400+ level, not to include EES 495 or 496

**Elective II** .....6  
Choose six additional hours of 300+ EES or related courses

**NOTE:** Fourteen hours at the 200 level or higher must be completed outside Earth and Environmental Sciences. Partial fulfillment of this requirement can be completed by the PHY and EES Elective II Requirements..... 3-14

**Other Major hours:** ..... **0-17**

**Total Minimum hours Required for Degree**..... **120**

*\*Course used towards completion of a UK Core Requirement.*