

Environmental Studies Guidelines for Individualized Concentration Proposals

Introduction:

In addition to the six core classes, each student completing a major in Environmental Studies must have a specialization or concentration in one area. Luther currently offers three designated concentrations – *environmental policy*, *environmental science*, and *environment, culture, and society* – as well as the option for students to propose an individualized concentration. Students interested in the individualized concentration option must consult with a faculty member and devise a proposal for six courses that link together as a coherent whole. Any student may propose this option by completing this form. The Environmental Studies Steering Committee reviews all individualized concentration proposals.

Title:

Your individualized concentration title should reflect the theme that ties your courses together and should *briefly* convey the main idea of the concentration.

Six Courses

The four courses making up the concentration should, collectively, provide you with an opportunity for in-depth exploration of your chosen area of environmental studies. The six courses should be linked by key concepts, methodologies and/or applications. We expect that at least some of these courses will be drawn from those that count towards the other concentrations, but that some will not. Suggested templates to create concentrations in *environmental humanities* can be found on the environmental studies website. We expect that you will discuss your plans with professors who teach the relevant courses to ensure that you know when they will be taught.

Additional Courses/Experience

Identify any additional courses, study abroad, internships or other experiences that have or will contribute to your depth of understanding in the area of concentration. Since the four courses identified in the previous section must be sufficient to justify the proposed concentration, it is neither required nor expected that you include this section in your petition.

Rationale

In 2-3 paragraphs, please address the following questions:

1. What is the common issue or area of inquiry addressed by the concentration?
2. How do the courses in the proposed concentration connect to each other and contribute to an in-depth understanding of the area of concentration?
3. How do any other relevant courses and experiences contribute to the concentration?
4. How does this concentration contribute to your overall education and/or future goals?

Submission

You should consult with an Environmental Studies faculty member in designing your individualized concentration proposal, and this faculty member must endorse your proposal. Completed proposals should be submitted to the director of Environmental Studies by email no later than Dec. 1 of the student's junior year. Be sure to attach a current copy of your Luther transcript to the proposal.

**Environmental Studies Major
Petition for Individualized Concentration**

Name:

E-mail:

Date of submission:

Expected Graduation Date:

Name of Environmental Studies faculty member endorsing your proposal.

Concentration Title:

Six courses (24 credits) comprising the concentration

Course number & title	Term/year taken or planned
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	

Other relevant courses and experiences

Rationale

Please attach a copy of your transcript