



Understand environmental change, globalization, health and social inequalities, urbanization and transportation.

Go on an urban studies field camp in ENVSOCY 3MF3!

# Environment & Society

The Environment & Society program focuses on the dynamic relationship between human populations and the natural, social and built environments they inhabit.

Offered by the School of Earth, Environment & Society, this program focuses on understanding environmental change, globalization, urbanization, health and social inequalities, and transportation. Students explore how to solve the human challenges related to these thematic areas.

This interdisciplinary program combines insights and skills from Human Geography, Environmental Studies, Geographic Information Science (GIS), and Urban Studies to deliver a flexible program of study that equips students with knowledge and skills essential to an expanding range of careers in environmental management, sustainability, urban planning and GIS.



## Degree options

To apply to Environment & Society, students must successfully complete any Level I program, including one of Environment & Society 1HA3 or 1HB3.

Honours Environment & Society B.A.

Grade Point Average of 5.0 (C) including an average of at least 5.0 (C) in one of ENVSOCY 1HA3 or 1HB3.

Combined Honours in Environment & Society and another subject B.A.

Concurrent Certificates

Urban Studies and Planning  
Geographic Information Science (GIS)

Minors

Environment and Society  
Sustainability

*For students interested in pursuing the Environment & Society B.A., please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar.*

## Research and Teaching Facilities

The School of Earth, Environment and Society is home to several research and teaching facilities, including:

- Designated GIS (Geographic Information Systems) labs: These labs, staffed by our GIS Specialist, offer hands-on experience that can help meet requirements for professional certification (offered by the GIS Certification Institute)
- The Transportation Research Lab (TransLAB): This lab uses travel behaviour, geographic information systems/science (GIS) and sustainable urban planning to understand how to move people more sustainably
- Social Science Active Learning Classroom: Innovative teaching space, organized around small 'pods' (of four students), facilitates active participation and discussion of course topics

## Level I courses

Both introductory courses provide an opportunity for students to conduct fieldwork in the local Hamilton area.

### Environment & Society 1HA3

#### Society, Culture and Environment

An introduction to geographic perspectives on social, cultural and environmental issues. Topics include cultural difference, rural and urban societies, geopolitics and human impacts on the environment.

### Environment & Society 1HB3

#### Population, Cities and Development

Discover geographic perspectives on cities, globalization and inequality. Topics include globalization, uneven development, urbanization, sustainability, and population health.

## Beyond first year

Choose from a variety of courses, such as:

- Environment & Society
- Globalization
- Geopolitics
- Health and Population
- Cities of the Developing World
- Global Economy
- Urban Planning
- Health and Healthcare
- Geographic Information Systems
- World Regional Geography
- Environmental Policy
- Sustainability
- Environmental Catastrophes
- Population and Aging
- Transportation
- Field Study and Field Camps

## Careers & Experiential Education

### Experiential Learning

As an Environment and Society student, you can get involved in many hands-on activities that link to your academics. Through Careers & Experiential Education programs, you can participate in: paid internships, a tuition-free career planning course, academic placements in courses, and job shadowing opportunities. You can also apply for funding for research or other unique activities.

### Field Experience

As a student, you can participate in a range of field-based activities in both local and distant sites of interest. Many courses involve fieldwork in the local Hamilton area. We also offer dedicated field courses for our program students, which provide opportunities for hands-on, practical experience in data collection, fieldwork techniques and environmental assessment.

An **Environment & Society degree** also provides the foundation for postgraduate studies in geography, urban planning, environment, sustainability, law, MBA programs and education.

## Skills development

You will develop a broad range of transferable skills, including: critical research, policy analysis, writing and presentation skills, and data analysis using geographic information systems.

## Potential careers

- Environmental Analyst
- GIS Analyst
- Urban Planner
- Policy Analyst
- Civil Servant
- Community Developer
- Demographer
- Outdoor Recreation Management
- Conservation Officer
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Environmental Consultant
- Tourism

### MEET A FACULTY MEMBER

*"My teaching is fueled by a desire to help students make personal connections to global challenges, like migration, inequality, urbanization and consumerism.*

*In my courses, I help students understand the context, and complexity of these challenges. But I am most satisfied when I see students acting to make social and environmental change."* – **Michael Mercier**



### MEET A RECENT GRAD

*"I loved my program because of smaller class sizes. These gave me the opportunity to get to know my professors and build stronger relationships with my peers. McMaster may seem like a big school, but it doesn't feel that way because you are a part of a community."*

**Aysha Akhtar**

