ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES MAJOR, B.S.P.H.

Contact Information
Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering
www.sph.unc.edu/ese (http://www.sph.unc.edu/ese)
161 Rosenau Hall, CB# 7431
(919) 966-3844

Barbara J. Turpin, Chair
Louise Ball, Program Director
lmball@unc.edu

Wake Harper, Student Services
wbh@unc.edu

The undergraduate major in environmental health sciences is designed to develop a comprehensive understanding of the environmental factors that impact human health; the physical, chemical, and biological processes that underlie the impact of human activity on the environment and human health; methods used to assess the impact of human activity on the environment and human health; and science-based solutions for environmental problems. Students may choose to emphasize environmental chemistry, environmental health biology, or environmental physics by selecting those concentrations. Admission into the program requires satisfactory completion of coursework in basic sciences and mathematics. Recent graduates have entered graduate programs in environmental science, microbiology, marine science, applied mathematics, and environmental engineering. Students who pursued employment after completing the B.S.P.H. degree are working in environmental advocacy organizations, environmental consulting firms, industry, and investment banking firms.

Upon completion of the B.S. in environmental science and engineering, students should be able to:

• Demonstrate knowledge of the fundamental sciences
• Describe the relationship between public health and environmental sciences and engineering
• Identify major issues in environmental sciences and engineering
• Describe significant regulatory components that have shaped environmental policy
• Demonstrate written and oral communication skills related to environmental sciences and engineering issues within a public health context

Requirements
In addition to the program requirements listed below, students must

• attain a final cumulative GPA of at least 2.0
• complete a minimum of 45 academic credit hours earned from UNC–Chapel Hill courses
• take at least half of their major course requirements (courses and credit hours) at UNC–Chapel Hill.

For more information, please consult the degree requirements section of the catalog (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/general-education-curriculum-degree-requirements/#degreerequirementstext).

Admission (http://catalog.unc.edu/undergraduate/schools-college/public-health) to the program is required. Students apply in the spring of their sophomore year. By the end of their sophomore year successful applicants should have earned a grade of C or better from UNC–Chapel Hill in at least one course per group in three of the following groups:

Group 1
BIOL 201 Ecology and Evolution H 4
BIOL 202 Molecular Biology and Genetics H 4

Group 2
CHEM 102 General Descriptive Chemistry II and Quantitative Chemistry Laboratory II H 4
CHEM 261 Introduction to Organic Chemistry I H 3

Group 3
COMP 116 Introduction to Scientific Programming 3
or approved alternatives:
BIOL 201H Ecology and Evolution 4
BIOL/MATH 553 Mathematical and Computational Models in Biology 3
GEOG 597 Ecological Modeling 3

Group 4
MATH 231 Calculus of Functions of One Variable I 3-4
or MATH 241 BioCalculus I
MATH 232 Calculus of Functions of One Variable II 3-4
or MATH 283 BioCalculus II
MATH 233 Calculus of Functions of Several Variables H 4

Group 5
PHYS 114 General Physics I: For Students of the Life Sciences 4
PHYS 115 General Physics II: For Students of the Life Sciences 4
PHYS 118 Introductory Calculus-based Mechanics and Relativity 4
PHYS 119 Introductory Calculus-based Electromagnetism and Quanta 4

H Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

The major in environmental health sciences includes several concentrations:

• General (p. 2)
• Environmental Chemistry (p. 2)
• Environmental Health Biology (p. 2)
• Environmental Physics (p. 3)

Requirements for All Concentrations
Core Requirements
Public Health Core Courses:
BIOS 600 Principles of Statistical Inference 3
EPID 600 Principles of Epidemiology 3
HBEH 600 Social and Behavioral Sciences in Public Health 3
HPM 600 Introduction to Health Policy and Management 3

Other Core Courses:
### General Concentration

**Environmental Health Electives**

Complete four advanced (400-level or above) courses with a substantive environmental health content.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 233</td>
<td>Calculus of Functions of Several Variables</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Requirements**

- MATH 234 or MATH 235
- CHEM 101 or CHEM 102
- PHYS 119 or PHYS 118
- BIOL 101 or BIOL 102
- ENVR 600

### Additional Requirements

- Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

### Environmental Chemistry Concentration

**Environmental Health Electives**

All students must complete four advanced (400-level or above) courses selected from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 430</td>
<td>Environmental Chemistry Processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 416</td>
<td>Aerosol Physics and Chemistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 420</td>
<td>Environmental Health Microbiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 421</td>
<td>Environmental Health Microbiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 423</td>
<td>Industrial Toxicology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 425</td>
<td>Introduction to Health Physics: Radiation and Radiation Protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 433</td>
<td>Health Hazards of Industrial Operation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 442</td>
<td>Biochemical Toxicology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 468</td>
<td>Advanced Functions of Temporal GIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 610</td>
<td>Global Perspectives on Environmental Health Inequalities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Requirements**

- CHEM 481 | Physical Chemistry I |
- MATH 233 | Calculus of Functions of Several Variables |
- MATH 383 | First Course in Differential Equations |
- PHYS 118 | Introductory Calculus-based Mechanics and Relativity |
- PHYS 119 | Introductory Calculus-based Electromagnetism and Quanta |

**H** Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

### Environmental Health Biology Concentration

**Environmental Health Electives**

All students must complete four advanced (400-level or above) courses selected from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 411</td>
<td>Laboratory Techniques and Field Measurements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 412</td>
<td>Ecological Microbiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 420</td>
<td>Environmental Health Microbiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 421</td>
<td>Environmental Health Microbiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 423</td>
<td>Industrial Toxicology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 425</td>
<td>Introduction to Health Physics: Radiation and Radiation Protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 433</td>
<td>Health Hazards of Industrial Operation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 442</td>
<td>Biochemical Toxicology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 468</td>
<td>Advanced Functions of Temporal GIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 610</td>
<td>Global Perspectives on Environmental Health Inequalities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Requirements**

- ENVR 630 | Systems Biology in Environmental Health |

**H** Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.
Environmental Health Sciences Major, B.S.P.H.

Environmental Physics Concentration

All students must complete four advanced (400-level or above) courses selected from the following list:

- ENVR 403 Environmental Chemistry Processes
- ENVR 416 Aerosol Physics and Chemistry
- ENVR 451 Elements of Chemical Reactor Engineering
- ENVR 452 Fluid Dynamics
- ENVR 453 Groundwater Hydrology
- ENVR 666 Numerical Methods
- ENVR 671 Environmental Physics I
- ENVR 472 Quantitative Risk Assessment in Environmental Health Microbiology
- ENVR 675 Air Pollution, Chemistry, and Physics

Environmental Health Electives

All students must complete four advanced (400-level or above) courses selected from the following list:

- ENVR 403 Environmental Chemistry Processes
- ENVR 416 Aerosol Physics and Chemistry
- ENVR 451 Elements of Chemical Reactor Engineering
- ENVR 452 Fluid Dynamics
- ENVR 453 Groundwater Hydrology
- ENVR 666 Numerical Methods
- ENVR 671 Environmental Physics I
- ENVR 472 Quantitative Risk Assessment in Environmental Health Microbiology
- ENVR 675 Air Pollution, Chemistry, and Physics

Additional Requirements

- MATH 233 Calculus of Functions of Several Variables
- MATH 383 First Course in Differential Equations

H: Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

Sample Plan of Study

Sample plans can be used as a guide to identify the courses required to complete the major and other requirements needed for degree completion within the expected eight semesters. The actual degree plan may differ depending on the course of study selected (second major, minor, etc.). Students should meet with their academic advisor to create a degree plan that is specific and unique to their interests. The sample plans represented in this catalog are intended for first-year students entering UNC—Chapel Hill in the fall term. Some courses may not be offered every term.

Course Title Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th></th>
<th>Title</th>
<th></th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Semester</td>
<td></td>
<td>Calculus of Functions of One Variable I or BioCalculus I</td>
<td>3-4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 231</td>
<td>or MATH 241</td>
<td>Principles of Biology and Introductory Biology Laboratory H</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 101 &amp; 101L</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ecology and Evolution H</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Semester</td>
<td></td>
<td>General Descriptive Chemistry I</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 101 &amp; 101L</td>
<td></td>
<td>Quantitative Chemistry Laboratory I</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 201</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ecology and Evolution H</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomore Year</td>
<td></td>
<td>General Descriptive Chemistry II</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Semester</td>
<td></td>
<td>Quantitative Chemistry Laboratory II H</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 102 &amp; 102L</td>
<td></td>
<td>Calculus of Functions of One Variable II</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 232</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Hours 79-84

H: Honors version available. An honors course fulfills the same requirements as the nonhonors version of that course. Enrollment and GPA restrictions may apply.

Special Opportunities in Environmental Health Sciences

Honors in Environmental Health Sciences

Students who have a grade point average of 3.3 or higher are eligible to participate in honors research and to write an honors thesis.

Study Abroad

There are several opportunities for pursuing environmental study abroad, both through the department and through the UNC Study Abroad Office (http://studyabroad.unc.edu/studyabroad.cfm).

Undergraduate Research

Many undergraduate students participate in the research programs of the department. Students are encouraged to consult individual faculty.
members for opportunities to participate in such research. In addition, the department has information concerning fellowships and internships, some of which are combined with research opportunities in laboratories or field settings.