



Undergraduate Global Learning Semester Environmental Studies: Fall 2016

Priority Applications are due March 1 and the final deadline is May 1, 2016. Visit www.dukekunshan.edu for details.

With its rapid economic growth and enormous population, China is playing a larger role in shaping the future of our global environment. To be a global citizen it is important to understand China's environmental challenges and how they relate to the global picture.

Immerse yourself in Environmental Studies in China at Duke Kunshan University.

Ecosystems, Resource Management, Sustainability

The course focuses on the principle that several key competencies are required in order to carry out sustainability research and problem-solving in social-ecological systems (SESs). The first of these, system thinking competence, relates to achieving understanding of the SES under study (information on ecosystem function along with sensitivities and knowledge about the influences of social system drivers). Anticipatory competence refers to developing the ability to examine future alternatives with a variety of established and newly developing approaches. Strategic competence involves the selection of a vision for success, considering potentials but also societal norms and social preferences, and establishing a roadmap for accomplishing desired goals via backcasting, i.e., identification of strategic steps and actions that will move the SES toward desired goals. Further essential is the communication of this roadmap along with alternative measures and consequences to those involved in governance.

Human Domination of the Earth ENV390K

Human domination of the Earth encompasses a wide range of topics, including climate change, land use change (deforestation, loss of biodiversity, agriculture, etc.), population growth, pollution of land/water/air, etc. Humans developed agriculture, cities and contemporary civilizations during the Holocene (the geologic epoch of the past 12,000 years) when the world's population was very small, widely-dispersed and technologically-limited. Overnight (at least in geologic terms) the human population has exploded to 7+ billion and human-induced changes are evident everywhere: over 40-50% of the planet's land surface has been transformed by agriculture, urbanization and commercialization. It's evident the Earth has entered a new geologic epoch – the Anthropocene – one that is uniquely characterized by the overwhelming impact of human activities on both the biophysical and biological spheres of the Earth. The question is: can our planet continue to provide an accommodating environment for humanity?

Information, Ethics and Policy PUBPOL372K

This is a course about the politics and policy surrounding technology. There will be a lot of emphasis on the internet. Not about how to use the internet nor even simply how people, groups, or organizations use the internet, but about how politicians, policymakers, economists, citizens, and society watchers talk about, worry about, and understand the internet and other technology. This is a volatile, dynamic, exciting issue, one that is clearly changing the way we look at the world and the way the world looks at us. Themes will emphasize China and the environment.

Other electives offered for Fall 2016 semester at Duke Kunshan University:

Chinese Language – All Levels

Contemporary Documentary Film AMI205K, DOCS270K

Global Health Ethics: Interdisciplinary Perspectives GLHTLH210K, PUBPOL350K

Introductory Astronomy PHYSICS 134K

Meteoritics

Visit www.dukekunshan.edu for the full list of courses.

Courses are taught in 7-week intensive sessions (except Chinese language)

Students select 4 courses for the semester

Connect with an Admissions Advisor for more details: admissions@dku.edu.cn



The Environmental Studies focused semester features interactive courses and engaging field trips within the local community.

International students engage in co-curricular activities that deepen the experience of Chinese culture, develop camaraderie, and build confidence.

Students make a difference – both inside and outside of the classroom.

