

# Environmental Studies

## Program Overview

In a time of increasing globalization, where human activity is now seen to have far reaching, often adverse, implications for the world's ecosystems it is essential to have the awareness, knowledge, skill and experience to address these issues. Environmental understanding, protection and remediation are significant, growing concerns in today's society. [Environmental Studies](#) at Langara College is an interdisciplinary program within the [Department of Interdisciplinary Studies](#). It draws from four critical study areas - biology, chemistry, english, geography – as well as including a number of specific environmental courses. Elective courses are chosen from a wide range of subjects to suit a particular student's interests. A one-week field school is conducted at the end of the second year.

## Self-Study

Environmental Studies launched its program review in academic year 2021/22 with a Self-Study. The primary Self-Study writer was Andrew Egan, Instructor of Environmental Studies. Additional support was provided by:

- Johanne Penafiel (Coordinator, Environmental Studies)
- Mike Smith-Cairns (Department Chair, Interdisciplinary Studies)
- Darren Bernaerd (Dean, Faculty of Arts)
- Sunita Wiebe (Director, Office of Academic Quality Assurance)
- Roshni Riar (Department Assistant, Office of Academic Quality Assurance)
- Pennie Poon (Manager, Office of Academic Quality Assurance)
- Institutional Research analysts

Data sources for the Self-Study included:

- Institutional Research-compiled student administrative data (e.g., headcounts, retention, satisfaction)
- Student survey
- Alumni survey
- Faculty survey

The Self-Study was completed in October 2021.

## External Review

Environmental Studies' external review took place on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The External Review Team consisted of:

- Deland Jessop, Faculty, Business Management, Langara School of Management, Langara College (External Review Chair)
- Dr. Tara Ivanochko, Associate Professor of Teaching, Department of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, UBC
- Dr. Eric Anderson, Program Head, Ecological Restoration BSc, BCIT

### Action Plan Goals

In response to the Self-Study and External Review, Environmental Studies created an Action Plan with these goals:

- Goal 1: Program Restructuring: The Revamp
- Goal 2: Student Success
- Goal 3: Faculty and External Relations

### Examples of Post-Review Successes

Forthcoming.