

**College of Liberal Arts****Master in Environmental Social Science (MENV SOS)**

The program aims to develop Social Science Specialists in environmental work.

It aims to impart comprehensive training in social science theories and research methods for studying and understanding people's perceptions and behavior in various environmental development concerns. It also seeks to provide a multidisciplinary orientation that integrates the social sciences with environmental science and humanities, and to sensitize professionals to ethical, social, and cultural imperatives in crafting environmental policies, plans, and programs for the country.

Admission Requirements: the applicant must have a 4-Year Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree in the Social Sciences or Environment-related fields; average of B or 2.0 in the official Transcript of Records; acceptable scores in the admission examinations; Interview with the BSD Graduate Program Coordinator; other requirements of the DLSU Graduate Admissions Office

Total number of units required: a non-thesis degree program comprising 30 units of core and major courses and 6 units of mentored independent study

Duration: five-year course requirement.

The student has to pass the written comprehensive examinations in order to graduate.

\* Every academic year, 2 students are given 50-100% tuition fee discount.

**ESS522M (Environmental Social Science Methods 1)****3 units**

This course provides an overview of the principles and processes of social research with reference to environmental themes. It aims to develop skills in conceptualizing research problems on a chosen theme and in reviewing the literature to gain a comprehensive understanding of this theme. The main course requirement is a research concept paper that will be further fleshed out in the Environmental Social Science Methods 2 Course.

**ESS527M (Environmental Social Science Methods 2)****3 units**

The course seeks to provide knowledge about various types of applied social research and to develop skills in designing social research projects utilizing both quantitative and qualitative approaches and methodologies. Practical experiences will be provided in constructing research instruments and gathering data through such tools as observation, interview, and focus group discussion. The main course requirement is a research project proposal that will be implemented in the Master's Research Course.

**ESS534M (Social Theories and the Environment)**  
**3 units**

The course provides a historical analysis of how environment has become a perennial theme in human social thought. The ways people value, use, and think about the environment are embedded in the recent concept of social theory as an umbrella body that encompasses a plethora of theoretical interests from various disciplines, including sociology, anthropology, political science, economics, demography, geography, and psychology. Environmental issues are discussed within the intersection of these disciplines.

**ESS535M (Environment and Social Issues)**  
**3 units**

The course tackles how major social issues affect the environment and vice versa. The social issues include population growth, poverty, gender, poor health, marginalization of indigenous peoples, ideological conflicts or war, and terrorism. Their repercussions on the biophysical environment, especially on biological diversity and soil, water, and air quality, as well as the environment's role in creating particular social issues will be the focus of the discourses.

**ESS537M (Environment and Sustainable Development)**  
**3 units**

This course traces the changes in the environmental state as societies evolved and advanced technologically from hunting and gathering, to horticultural or pastoral, agricultural, industrial, and post-industrial. It also analyzes how various contemporary development paradigms and strategies, including globalization and sustainable development, have impacted on the environment.

**ESS538M (Participatory Resource Management)**  
**3 units**

The course focuses on the philosophy, legal or policy framework, concepts, and approaches for partnership among community or peoples organizations, non-governmental organizations, private entities (such as those from industry and academe), and local/national governments in resource management or governance, including protection, conservation, and restoration. Civil society empowerment will be discussed. Varying cases of partnerships will be analyzed to extricate working principles, facilitating and hindering mechanisms, and other learnings.

**ESS544M (Seminar Course)**  
**3 units**

Under the guidance of a mentor, students in this course shall develop and present a seminar paper on a relevant environmental topic that can be studied from the social science perspective. All students are required to attend the seminar presentations scheduled towards the end of the term.

**ESS545M (Master's Research)**  
**3 units**

This culminating activity will be undertaken in the last one or two terms of the program. Under a mentor's guidance, students shall design and implement an applied social research project on a relevant environmental topic. The research results will be written up and presented before other students and faculty mentors during a master's research convention to be held in the final term.

**ESS574M (Environmental Policy Studies)****3 units**

This course reviews and analyzes the historical development of Philippine environmental legislations and policies in the forestry, agriculture, mining, and fishery sectors. The major constraints to policy development and implementation will be elicited. The course shall provide knowledge and skills in undertaking a policy study or analyzing environmental policy impacts.

**ESS584M (Resource Ethics and Economics)****3 units**

The course combines ethics and economics because economic pursuits have often yielded ethical breaches. It scrutinizes the different religious philosophies and cultural value systems that influence societal relationship with the environment in order to draw out environmental ethical principles. It looks at economic models and resource valuation schemes that are consistent with these principles. It seeks to integrate environmental ethics in the work beliefs and practices of students.

**ESS593M (Social Impacts of Modern Technologies)****3 units**

This course covers the rationale, principles, and methods of three tools for studying the impacts of modern technologies on society and the environment, namely social impact assessment (SIA), health impact assessment (HIA), and environmental impact assessment (EIA). Case studies will be utilized to elicit pertinent issues in and demonstrate the practice of SIA, HIA, and EIA in the Philippines or other Southeast Asian countries.

**ESS687M (Disaster and Risk Management)****3 units**

This course discusses foreign and local examples that highlight a variety of environmental risks and disasters, and people's perceptions of and responses to them. Lessons in risk reduction and disaster prevention, communication, and management to ensure safer communities will be extricated.