The Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences (DEES) hosts one of the top-rated earth and environmental science programs internationally. Faculty from all over the world bring their expertise and knowledge to our classrooms preparing students to take on the current challenges facing earth and humanity. The program provides an understanding of the natural functioning of our planet and considers the consequences of human interactions with it. It is designed to instill a comprehension of how the complex earth systems work, at a level that will encourage students to think creatively about how to address multidisciplinary environmental problems.

With climate change rapidly reshaping the earth, it has never been a more crucial time to train the next generation of scientists in the earth and environmental science fields. Students will graduate with a degree that readies them to think critically and tackle the problems of Earth's unpredictable future.

The breadth of material covered in the program provides an excellent background for students to continue on to careers in various fields or graduate school in the earth and environmental sciences. The skills developed in the program can open up many career paths such as law, business, environmental consulting, research, public policy, teaching, and journalism.

**Director of Undergraduate Studies:**

**Professor Terry Plank**

**Undergraduate Program Manager:**

**Julianna Russo**

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The Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences shares staff and facilities with Columbia University's world renowned research institution, the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. Since its founding in 1949, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory has been a leader in the earth sciences. The Department is also affiliated with the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) and the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH).

Undergraduate students can participate in research alongside professors and graduate students at Lamont, NASA GISS, and AMNH.

### COURSES

#### Fall 2023

- Dinosaurs & History of Life - UN1001 / 1401
- Oceanography - UN1030
- Environmental Risks & Disasters - UN1201
- Earth Resources & Sustainable Development - UN1600/GU4600
- Climate System - UN2100
- Solid Earth System - UN2200
- Science for Sustainable Development - UN2330
- Chemistry of Climate - UN3031
- Geochemistry for a Habitable Planet - UN3101
- Sedimentology and Stratigraphy - UN3223
- Computational Earth Science - UN3400
- Intro to Atmospheric Science - GU4008
- Global Assessment & Remote Sensing - GU4050
- Intro to Mineralogy - GU4113
- Paleobiology & Earth System History - GU4480
- Plant Ecophysiology - GU4550
- Earth Resources & Sustainable Development - GU4600
- Wetlands & Climate Change - GU4835
- Stable Isotope Geochemistry - GU4888
- Intro to Physical Oceanography - GU4925

*Spring 2024 courses on our website*

### RESEARCH

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### FIELD TRIPS

The department hosts field trips to bring lessons from the classroom to the outdoors. We have a field-geology course for majors offered annually, typically in Italy or Barbados. We also offer trips to California's Death Valley and other destinations for first and second-year students. Some professors in the department also host their own field trips as part of their coursework.