Environmental Justice

The Environmental Justice concentration includes the study of justice, discrimination, morality, equality, human rights, property rights, democracy, transparency, compensation, vulnerability, and susceptibility. These topics are important guides for creating just and equitable solutions that benefit the environment, resource sustainability, human health and well-being. Economic development and environmental policies have often avoided the plight of susceptible populations: the poor, homeless, unemployed, migrants, those who are stateless, the very young, the elderly, and the ill. All of these topics may be appropriate for a specialization in environmental justice.

Additional focal topics of this field include: disproportionate minority group exposures to polluted air and water; degraded lands; contaminated foods; racial discrimination in institutional policies and practices; deliberate neglect of minority group environments; unequal opportunities for access to clean air, drinking water, safe and nutritious food, affordable housing, affordable health care, and quality education; the exploitation and abuse of immigrant labor and their families; the absence of rights to participate in corporate, governmental, and NGO decision-making affecting their environments and health; and confiscation of property rights without consent or compensation.

Courses in the concentration provide a path for fulfilling the Human Rights Studies Multidisciplinary Academic Program or for completing a double-major in Environmental Studies and any one of several related fields in the social sciences or humanities.

Senior Essays, Environmental Justice: 2017-2021

**Epongue Ekille, BA 2021:** "Agriculture is a part of me": A History and Personal Narratives of Farming in Cameroon, Advisor: Louisa Lombard
**Post Grad:** YSE Five-Year MEM Program

**Lauren Kim, BA 2021:** Precarious Infrastructure: An analysis of equity gaps in perceptions of and responses to extreme heat events & wildfires in California, Advisor: Jennifer Marlon
**Post Grad:** Research Analyst at HR&A in their Los Angeles Office, Urban Resilience and Inclusive Cities practice

**Victoria Lim, BA 2021:** THE DE- AND RE-POLITICIZATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM IN SINGAPORE: UNDERSTANDING PRAGMATIC RESISTANCE & STATE-SOCIETY RELATIONS THROUGH THE LENS OF TWO YOUTH CLIMATE GROUPS, Advisor: Yew Wei Lit (YNUS)
**Post Grad:** Working with UNESCO Vietnam's Natural Sciences Unit for 1 year, then returning to Singapore to work for the government for another 6. Plans to work for an organization that focuses on EJ and/or human rights related work

**Alanis Allen, BA 2020:** The "Make Me" State: How Environmental Injustice Still Prevails in the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Advisor: Marianne Engelman-Lado
Post Grad: Connecticut Careers Trainee at Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in the Office of Climate Planning (2020-present)

Post Grad: Research Associate, Environmental Law Institute (2020-present)

Post Grad: Internship with the Wilderness Society (2020); Plans to attend grad school (2021)

Alexander DeJesus, BA 2020: Environmental Justice in the Community and Home: Monitoring Indoor and Outdoor NO2 Pollution in Springfield, Advisor: Krystal Politt

Post Grad: Holmes Lab: Critical Studies in Food, Health & Environment, UC Berkeley

Devin Moore, BA 2020: Land Acquisition, Displacement and Emergency Management: A History of Injustice in Michigan, Advisor: Michael Fotos

Yasamin Sharifi, BA 2020: Tracing the Environmental History of Palestinian Refugee Camps in Lebanon, 1949-1969: Material Manifestations of Inequality, Advisor: Michael Fotos
Post Grad: State Children’s Rights Advocate, Southern Poverty Law Center (2019-present)

Post Grad: Campaign Assistant with The Environmental Voter Project, and Editorial Fellow with Sierra Club Magazine (2019); YSE’s Five-Year MEM Program (’21); Environmental Fellow at The Environmental Fellowship Program (2021-present)

Ian Ishmael Irungu, BA 2019: SUSTAINABILITY IN AFRICA’S DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES, A Case Study of Vision 2030 in Kenya, Advisor: John Wa’Njogu
Post Grad: Harvard Business School 2+2 Program. Analyst, Dalberg (2018-19); Associate, Boston Consulting Group (2019-2021); Business Development Manager, Microsoft (2021)

Marissa Medici, BA 2019: Injustice Atop Environmental Injustices: Ethical Questions Raised by Retainers Offered in Environmental Justice Communities, Advisor: Marianne Engelman-Lado
**Post Grad**: FoodCorps, food justice in East Harlem (2019-20); Senior Investigative Analyst, Hate Crimes Unit at Manhattan District Attorney’s Office (2021-Present)


**Post Grad**: Woodbridge Fellow, Yale Office of International Affairs (2019-2020); Master’s Student at the Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability at the University of British Columbia

**Tien Tran, BS 2019**: *Mapping Heat Vulnerability of Homeless Residents and Accessibility to Cooling Centers in Los Angeles, California*, Advisor: Amity Doolittle

**Post Grad**: California State Senate Fellow (2019-2020); Associate Government Program Analyst at CA State Water Resources Control Board (2020-present)

**Maya Jenkins, BA 2018**: *Environmental Violence & Resistance while Incarcerated: An Exploration of Spatial Rupturing & Imaginations around New York Prison*, Advisor: Laura Barroclough

**Post Grad**: Program Analyst at Vera Institute of Justice - Center on Youth Justice (2019-2020)


**Post Grad**: Green Corps Fellow and Community Organizer


**Post Grad**: Pubic Engagement Associate at Public Agenda, Brooklyn NY (2019-present)

**Sofia Gulaid, BA 2019**: *Unequal Urban Green Space: Barriers of access to urban green space for immigrants in Paris, France*, Advisor: Amity Doolittle

**Post Grad**: Project Manager, Graduate Research Assistant, Civic Design Lab (2019-present); Master in City Planning Candidate at MIT

**Duane Bean, BA 2017**: *Climate Realism: An Environmental Justice Approach to Climate Fiction*, Advisor: Millicent Marcus

**Post Grad**: Yale-China Fellow (2017-present)

**Nate Sievert, BA 2017**: *Diversity and Inclusion in Environmental Education: Case Studies of Promising Organizational Change*, Advisor: Gordon Geballe

**Post Grad**: International Mountain Guide (2015-present)