The Business and Environment (BE) program trains students to be managers and analysts who support private-sector organizations in implementing environmentally sustainable business practices. It incorporates holistic systems thinking and strategic analysis into a curriculum focused on global business structures and trends that impact resource use and ecosystems; supply chains and production-consumption systems; institutional drivers and policies of corporate sustainability; and methods and tools for quantitative analysis. B&E is one of eight available concentrations in the two-year residential Master of Environmental Management (MEM) program.

VISION

The Business and Environment program at the Nicholas School of the Environment seeks to be the premier program in developing a new generation of industry leaders who effectively develop and implement organizational programs which result in both an improved environment and shareholder value.

CURRICULUM

Your faculty advisor will work with you in selecting a curriculum track and area of specialization based on your interests, experience, and goals. You’ll gain knowledge of historical and current environmental and social issues facing industry and explore strategies that provide meaningful value to the environment, the communities where businesses operate and to the shareholders who rely on the company for jobs and economic value. You can choose from courses across Duke and at our partner institutions.

YOUR FUTURE

B&E graduates will find opportunities to contribute to organizations that are engaged in a wide range of business related activities spanning from traditional environmental and sustainability positions, to being part of project teams addressing supply chain, responsible sourcing, logistics, sales & marketing, product design, corporate strategy, government affairs and community engagement.
The industry exposure is the key benefit here. Working on a real business problem for the private sector gives students experiences very similar to working as a consultant and is valuable from a career perspective.

Packaging Innovation and Sustainability Manager, Amazon

The biggest benefits were interacting with companies and learning from the diversity of cases and industries presented to us in class. The opportunities to become GRI certified and learn GaBi were also extremely helpful to my career.

Supply Chain and Sustainability Project Leader, Dow AgroSciences

As someone who went into consulting after graduation, the most valuable experience from the Certificate for me was the opportunity to work with a client during the LCA class project. A client-based project is a very concrete thing to have on your resume. It’s a good way for you to demonstrate that you can work in teams, understand and translate client expectations, and deliver tangible and discrete results. It also provides great talking points during an interview.

Portfolio Management Analyst at SolarCity