

# WHAT'S THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN...

## INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES



This concentration focuses on understanding international environmental challenges through a multidisciplinary lens and the ways in which states, non-state actors, and the international community seek to address these challenges. Key issues include climate change, sustainable development in relation to the environment, energy and natural resource use, and environmental security.

## INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



This concentration focuses on understanding the various barriers that groups and societies face in achieving or maintaining well-being. In addition, it assesses the effectiveness of development approaches that aim to provide solutions. Key concerns are reducing poverty and inequality while enhancing sustainability and equity. The assessment of governments' capabilities, people's political, economic, and social opportunities, community resilience, and humanitarian needs are other dimensions of international development.

### DISTINCTION

International Environmental Studies and International Development overlap in their interest in sustainable development; however, International Environmental Studies is more squarely centered on environmental concerns while International Development addresses a wider variety of topics.



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#### Resources:

[elliott.gwu.edu/undergraduate-academic-advising](http://elliott.gwu.edu/undergraduate-academic-advising)  
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