

Marketing Your Human Ecology Education

An education that can be strategically applied to the world in which we live

The College of Human Ecology (CHE) at Cornell offers the rigor of an Ivy League education with a powerful bridge between academic insight and real-world application. Our interdisciplinary curriculum challenges students to think critically and creatively about complex societal problems, from health and design to policy and human behavior.

Students are trained to: analyze challenges from multiple perspectives, envision solutions beyond the obvious, and recognize the human context behind every system, service, and structure. Human Ecology graduates are agile thinkers, excellent communicators, and collaborative leaders. With strong technical and organizational skills and a deep sensitivity to social and multicultural dynamics, they're equipped to lead across industries while keeping people and communities at the heart of their work.

Skills & Qualities Built in Human Ecology (and Valued by Employers):

- Exceptional written and verbal communication
- Analytical and systems thinking
- Problem-solving across disciplines
- Time management and multitasking
- Teamwork and group facilitation
- Leadership and initiative
- Adaptability and flexibility
- Technical and digital fluency
- Cultural competence and empathy

What Makes Human Ecology Unique?

- Theory applied to real-world issues and systems
- Interdisciplinary learning across science, design, health, and policy
- Training in both quantitative and qualitative research methods
- A balance of technical skills and human-centered thinking
- Project-based learning, internships, and community partnerships
- Emphasis on equity, inclusion, and social impact
- Graduates who are both deeply specialized and broadly capable

Marketing your Major:

Design & Environmental Analysis

Designing sustainable, inclusive, and human-centered environments

A systems-thinking approach to people, place, and process, grounded in design research, environmental psychology, and strategic planning. Focus areas include sustainable design, health & wellness, ergonomics, innovation strategy, and spatial experience design.

Fashion Design & Management

The art and business of fashion

The only fashion major in the Ivy League. Combines design, technical garment creation, and global supply chain management. Students explore aesthetics, branding, innovation, entrepreneurship, marketing, and the social dimensions of fashion.



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Fiber Science

Engineering the future of fibers and materials

Blends chemistry, physics, and materials science to create next-gen textiles with applications in health, sustainability, and industry. Emphasizes materials innovation, performance testing, product development, and nanotechnology.

Global & Public Health Sciences

Population-level health solutions with global scope

Addresses health challenges through interdisciplinary, preventive approaches that span biomedical, behavioral, policy, and environmental sciences. Students gain skills in epidemiology, policy evaluation, community health, and global systems.

Human Biology, Health & Society

Health science with a social lens

Pairs rigorous training in biology with critical coursework in nutrition, psychology, and sociology. Emphasizes holistic wellness, health equity, policy, and behavioral science in real-world contexts.

Health Care Policy

Where policy meets care delivery

Prepares students to understand and shape health systems using tools from economics, statistics, and policy analysis. Students learn health finance, regulation, population health, and applied policy research.

Human Development

Understanding people across the lifespan

Explores how people grow and change within social, cultural, and biological systems. Focuses on cognitive, emotional, and social development, as well as learning, aging, and environmental influences.

Nutritional Sciences

From molecule to meal to public health

Studies how food, science, and society interact to shape human well-being. Emphasizes metabolism, health disparities, diet assessment, disease prevention, and evidence-based nutrition interventions.

Your major is just the beginning. Human Ecology empowers you to shape your academic and professional journey with flexibility, intention, and impact. Use your unique combination of skills, values, and interests to make your mark, wherever your path leads.

Want to Learn More? Visit 1172 MVR or explore your major's department website for details, course offerings, and student stories.

