An education that can be strategically applied to the world in which we live
Human Ecology provides the rigor of an Ivy League education while building an effective bridge between academia and the workplace. The interdisciplinary curriculum and emphasis on real-world examples encourage perspective. Students are taught to analyze a problem, see possibilities, and develop creative solutions beyond the obvious. Sensitized to the human element in any process, they enter the workforce with an appreciation of human knowledge and skills to proceed in the workplace without losing sight of the human dimension. Human Ecology graduates are educated to be excellent communicators, experienced in teamwork and group process, armed with superior organizational and technical skills, and sensitive to social and multicultural issues.

Skills and qualities desired by employers that are cultivated by a Human Ecology education:
• Communication and writing
• Analytical and problem solving skills
• Ability to multi-task
• Team-oriented
• Leadership
• Adaptability
• Initiative and motivation attitude
• Technical abilities

What is unique about a Human Ecology education?
• Teaches theories that are strategically applied to the world in which we live.
• Builds on an interdisciplinary curriculum with emphasis on real-world examples.
• Emphasizes organizational, communication, and technical knowledge.
• Develops qualitative thinking and quantitative skills.
• Sensitizes students to the human element in any process or system.
• Provides experience in teamwork and group process.
• Promotes awareness of social and multicultural issues.

Marketing Your Major:

Design & Environmental Analysis
Creating a sustainable and healthy future through design innovation and research
Design and Environmental Analysis (DEA) combines innovative design thinking with insightful design research to understand how the built environment impacts our daily lives. Through multi-disciplinary training in human-centered design, environmental psychology, ergonomics, and facility strategy and management we tackle problems from a systems view—people, process, and place—to create strategic, sustainable, and healthy futures by design.

Fashion Design & Management
A design-centered program in Fashion Design, Technical Apparel Design, and Fashion Design Management
Study the art of fashion design and the business of designing, marketing, and manufacturing apparel in a global production system. Students develop an understanding of fashion and the creative process, aesthetics, and technical skills, and apply management and marketing principles to this specialized industry within the context of an Ivy League university education. This is the only fashion design and management major in the Ivy League.
Fiber Science
Build on the foundations in the natural, life, and physical sciences, engineering, and mathematics to develop and control fibrous materials to better human lives. Fibers are a one-dimensional material, making them especially unique. The fiber industry needs people who understand this property and the distinct process to make and develop fibers. Properties of length, strength, and failure rates must be understood in a way that differs from other materials as these properties are mission critical. Students complete the college’s liberal arts-based requirements in the natural and social sciences, humanities, writing, statistics, and calculus to provide context to major work, and customize their curriculum through broad engineering or science categories or through electives.

Global & Public Health Sciences
A focus on preventative, population-level solutions to health issues in domestic and international settings
The Global and Public Health Sciences major applies comprehensive, multidisciplinary perspectives to public health research, problems, and solutions. Sustained improvement of the health of populations requires an approach that involves the biomedical, social, behavioral, political and environmental sciences, and consideration of the cultural context.

Human Biology, Health & Society
Biology in the context of life
The Human Biology, Health, and Society major provides a strong background in human biology while preparing students to investigate health issues from a social science perspective. The biological bases of health and illness of individuals are critically examined alongside the social, psychological, economic, cultural, and policy aspects. In addition, coursework in Nutritional Sciences allows students to comprehensively and holistically focus on health and wellness.

Human Development
Why people become who and what they are
Human Development is a multidisciplinary field of study that spans development across the life course. Human Development majors explore the psychological, social, cultural, and biological development of people from conception through old age, focusing on the processes and mechanisms of growth and change over the life span. An important emphasis is the role that social factors such as schools, workplaces, neighborhoods, and culture play in human development, as well as the influence that developing humans have on their environment.

Nutritional Sciences
Food for thought about sciences and health
The Nutritional Sciences major provides a thorough foundation in basic life sciences and teaches how nutrition affects the well being of individuals, families, communities, and nations.

Policy Analysis & Management
Putting theory into practice in the public and private sectors
Policy Analysis and Management students and faculty study the effects of government policies on individuals and families, public health, education, crime, product markets, financial markets, and a variety of other social impacts. The major’s unique strength stems from the research tools learned and used—robust theory, rigorous empirical quantitative skills, analytical thinking and planning, practical applications to real world policy issues—all of which are highly sought after by the best in government and industry.

These major descriptions come from the informational handouts in the Admissions Office. To learn more, stop by 172 MVR, or check out your major’s website.