

Environmental Studies - Frosh

University of California, Santa Cruz
2009-2010

THE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES MAJOR

The Department of Environmental Studies welcomes you to UCSC. A degree in environmental studies prepares students for meaningful lifetime engagement with the major environmental challenges facing society and for increasingly diverse career opportunities.

Introductory courses address the ecological and political-economic aspects of environmental issues. The interdisciplinary upper-division curriculum emphasizes the integration of ecological knowledge with an understanding of social institutions and policies in ways that support the conservation of biodiversity, the practice of sustainable agriculture, and the careful management of other ecological and environmental systems. The faculty work on these issues at local, regional, and global levels. Current faculty research focuses on Costa Rica, Panama, Mexico, Ethiopia, Peru, China, California, and the Monterey Bay region.

As a complement to classroom instruction and research, many of our students participate in field studies, internships, education abroad and independent study. The Environmental Studies Internship Program helps qualified students find placements with government and educational agencies, community organizations, and private firms. In addition, students are encouraged to participate in faculty-directed research on specific problems.

Students may undertake an environmental studies major or combined majors in

- environmental studies/biology
- environmental studies/Earth sciences
- environmental studies/economics

We encourage students to add an additional major or add a minor in order to develop depth and an emphasis within Environmental Studies.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Students graduating from UCSC with a major in Environmental Studies have a good academic foundation for careers in the following fields, some of which require graduate study or other professional training.

Environmental consulting
Environmental impact assessment
Sustainable development
Environmental law
Environmental policy/research
Government, local/state/federal
Journalism
Environmental/science education
Natural resource ecology/
conservation
Parks/natural reserve
management
Land use research/management
Restoration ecology
Conservation biology research
Agroecology
Integrated pest management
Sustainable agriculture and
development

The Environmental Studies Undergraduate Handbook presents detailed information about requirements for the major. The handbook is available on line at <http://envs.ucsc.edu>. The department also coordinates the combined majors in environmental studies/biology, environmental studies/earth sciences and environmental studies/economics.

The major requires six lower-division prerequisite courses and nine upper-division courses, including satisfaction of the senior exit/comprehensive requirement, for graduation from UCSC with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies.

PREPARING FOR THE MAJOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

There are six lower division prerequisites to be completed in the first two years and must be completed before moving on to the upper division curriculum with the Envs 100/100L core course (taught fall qtr.only).

(1) The Physical and Chemical Environment.

Environmental Studies 23
(or Chem 1A or equivalent)

(2) General Ecology

Environmental Studies 24 (precalc or prestats is a requirement)

(3) Political Economy and the Environment

Environmental Studies 25

(4) Bio-Statistics

AMS (Applied Math & Statistics)7,
or Economics 113

(5) Precalculus/Pre-Stats

Math 3 or AMS 2 or 3 or a score on the mathematics placement exam or the College Board AP Calculus exam sufficient to be placed into calculus.

(6) Cultural Anthropology or Intro to Sociology or Ethics

Anthropology 2 or Sociology 1 or 15
or Philosophy 21, 22, 24 or 80G

Important note: Additional prerequisites apply for students wishing to pursue combined or double majors.

There are nine required upper-division courses:

- Core course: ENVS 100/100L Ecology and Society
- Seven upper division environmental studies electives
- Senior comprehensive requirement

SAMPLE PROGRAM FOR FIRST TWO YEARS FROSH/SOPH

Fall college core gen ed/elective CultAnth/Soc/Ethics	Winter college core Gen ed/elective Math 2	Spring gen ed/elective ENVS 23 (best to take before ENVS 24) Math 3 or AMS 2 or 3
Fall Envs 24 AMS 7/L gen ed/elective FALL QUARTER OF YOUR 3 RD YEAR, YOU WILL BE PREPARED TO TAKE OUR CORE COURSE, ENVS 100/L AND PROGRESS TO OUR UPPER DIVISION ELECTIVES	Winter gen ed/elective Envs 25 gen ed/elective	Spring gen ed/elective gen ed/elective gen ed/elective

For students planning **physical/biological science** programs, chemistry, physics and math will be added to this possible plan

BEST WAYS TO GET ADVICE:

For questions about prerequisites, preparing for the major, selecting courses and preparing for careers in environmental studies: read the Environmental Studies Undergraduate Handbook, refer to the Undergraduate Program online <http://envs.ucsc.edu>, and come to the Fall Orientation for Freshman, plan on attending our Advising Fair, where you can talk with faculty, teaching assistants and juniors and seniors in the major.

FACULTY

All of the faculty hold office hours during fall, winter and spring quarters, unless they are on sabbatical. The department does not assign faculty advisors to students, rather, we encourage students to take advantage of office hours and visit several faculty. The more you talk with faculty the better you will be able to decide upon and meet your goals.

Jeffrey Bury- Sustainable Development/Geography

Weixin Cheng – Soil Ecology

Timothy Duane – Environmental Law and Resource Management

Margaret FitzSimmons—Environmental Policy

Gregory Gilbert--- Ecology and Conservation Biology

Stephen Gliessman— Agroecology, natural history

Brent Haddad—Public Policy

Karen Holl—Restoration ecology

Michael Loik—Plant Physiological Ecology, Climate Change Ecology, Ecohydrology

Deborah K. Letourneau—Ecology/Entomology

Barry Nickel – Spatial/landscape ecology: geospatial tool development, ecological models,

Daniel Press— *Department Chair* Applied Environmental Policy Analysis

Ravi Rajan—Environmental history and political ecology

Alan Richards - Environmental economics

Carol Shennan— Agroecology and sustainable agriculture,

Zdravka Tzankova – Marine and Coastal Policy

Christopher Wilmers – Conservation Biology

Erika Zavaleta--- Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

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