# New Student Major Advising Summary for 2016-2017 Frosh

Students are admitted to UCSC with a "proposed major" in most cases, and later petition to officially declare the major. Admission to UCSC does not guarantee acceptance into a particular major. Students must be declared in a major by the end of the second year (or equivalent), so learning about and preparing for a major is a primary goal for first-year students.

## Major: EARTH SCIENCES, B.S.

**Importance of an early start:**

This major is not highly sequential or course intensive. Although it is advisable to begin taking courses toward the major in the first year, it is not required.

**Qualification requirements and/or prerequisites for the major:**

To qualify for any of the Earth sciences majors, students must complete one of the following courses, or their equivalents, with a grade of C or better:

- EART 5: California Geology
- EART 10: Geologic Principles
- EART 20: Environmental Geology

**Frosh who intend to pursue this major should do the following things prior to the beginning of fall term...**

- Determine your Math Placement by completing an assessment in ALEKS before July 17 at [http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/enrollment/math/math-placement/mp-assessment-guidelines.html](http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/enrollment/math/math-placement/mp-assessment-guidelines.html). If you completed a college-level math course, or scored 3 or better on an AP or IB calculus exam, you may be able to use that for placement instead of the ALEKS assessment.

**...and should take these courses their first term:**

The appropriate mathematics course based on placement and EART 5/L. See sample academic plan at: [http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/earth/earths-frosh-plans.html](http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/earth/earths-frosh-plans.html)

**Skills important for success in this major:**

Science majors require skills in critical and logical thought, complex problem solving using scientific rules and methods, and deductive and inductive reasoning.

**Other information:**

Concentrations in the major include: Environmental Geology, Ocean, Planet, and Science Education.

**Links to More Information:**

- [http://admissions.ucsc.edu/academics/majors/](http://admissions.ucsc.edu/academics/majors/) (general info)
- [http://registrar.ucsc.edu/catalog/programs-courses/](http://registrar.ucsc.edu/catalog/programs-courses/) (major requirements, course descriptions, etc.)
- [http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/earth/](http://undergrad.pbsci.ucsc.edu/earth/) (program website)

**Questions? Contact an Adviser!**

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