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:** ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, B.A.

| Importance of an early start: | This is a course-intensive and/or sequential program, and students who intend to pursue this major must begin taking classes for the major some time in their first year at UCSC. |
| Qualification requirements and/or prerequisites for the major: | There are multiple courses required to qualify for the environmental studies major; specific information about qualifying for the major will be available during Summer Orientation. |
| 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 as soon as possible, and by July 23 at the very latest. See [https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu](https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu) for information about ALEKS. If you completed a college-level math course, or scored 3 or better on an AP calculus exam, or 5 or better on an IBH mathematics exam, you may be able to use that for placement instead of the ALEKS assessment. See [https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu/courses/course-credit/](https://mathcoach.sites.ucsc.edu/courses/course-credit/) for information on placement based on college courses or AP/IBH. |

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

- For students who place in pre-calculus or below: Math class (MATH 2 or 3 or AMS 3 or 6)
- For students who place above pre-calculus: ENVS 24: *General Ecology*

Sample first year plan:

- **Fall:** MATH 2 or 3 or AMS 3 or 6 (depending on math placement), or ENVS 24: *General Ecology*
- **Winter:** ENVS 25: *Environmental Policy & Economics*, and MATH 3: *Precalculus* or AMS 7/L: *Statistical Methods*, and One of: ANTH 2, SOCY 1, 10, or 15, PHIL, 22, 24, 28, or 80G
- **Spring:** ENVS 23: *Physical and Chemical Environment*, and AMS 7/L: *Statistical Methods* (if not taken before)

Skills important for success in this major:

- Critical reading and thinking skills, analytical writing abilities and cultural analysis as well as skills in mathematics and formal reasoning.

Other information:

- A concentration in agroecology and sustainable food systems is now offered for any of the majors in environmental studies. Contact the adviser if you are interested in this option.
- Combined majors with biology, earth sciences, and economics are available, and offer a way to specify a focus of interest within the major. Contact the adviser if you are interested in a combined major.

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://envs.ucsc.edu/undergraduate/](http://envs.ucsc.edu/undergraduate/) (program website)

Questions? Contact an Adviser!

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