Environmental Studies (BA/BS)

The environmental studies major provides students with opportunities to work alongside world-class scholars and researchers, develop concrete skills and analytical abilities, and gain hands-on experience solving environmental issues. The environmental studies major emphasizes an interdisciplinary approach to environmental topics that combines the natural sciences, social sciences, policy studies, sustainable design, and the humanities. The curriculum includes environmentally-related courses taught by more than 100 participating faculty from 30 campus programs and departments.

The environmental studies major is flexible, allowing you to tailor coursework with a focal point of your choice to meet specific educational and career goals. We prioritizes practical learning experiences where you will link theory to practice and build transferable skills through internships, research, and community involvement. Our Environmental Leadership Program and a robust internship program offer capstone experiences for undergraduate students that provide training in teamwork, time management, communication, and problem solving skills that are increasingly valued in all careers.

Program's Admission Requirements

Please visit the program's website (https://cas.uoregon.edu/envs/apply/).

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Articulate the contributions from the social sciences, natural sciences, and humanities in understanding environmental issues.
- Articulate major root causes of environmental problems and avenues for addressing them.
- Discuss several key concepts within the field of environmental studies (e.g. sustainability, environmental justice, climate change, humans varied ways of understanding and representing nature, the relationship between nature and culture), drawing on interdisciplinary perspectives.
- Demonstrate critical thinking and communication skills, including the ability to: a) Critically analyze environmental information, data and problems; b) Interpret a variety of environmental writings; c) Synthesize diverse information sources; d) Communicate effectively through written and oral communication.

Courses applied to the major, except environmental studies courses numbered 401 through 409, must be taken for letter grades and passed with grades of C– or better. As many as four upper-division courses may be used to fulfill requirements of another major.

Environmental Studies Major Requirements

Upper-division credit may be earned through coursework or through a combination of coursework and an honors thesis. Major requirements sheets containing detailed information about specific courses that meet the major requirements are available on the program website (http://envs.uoregon.edu/undergrad/envsfocus/), in the program office, or from an SDS flight path Tykeson Advisor.

Code	Title	Credits
Lower-Division Core Courses		
ENVS 201	Introduction to Environmental Studies: Social Sciences	4
ENVS 202	Introduction to Environmental Studies: Natural Sciences	4
ENVS 203	Introduction to Environmental Studies: Humanities	4
Lower-Division Mathematics and Science Courses		
MATH 111Z	Precalculus I: Functions [1]	4
Statistics course		4
STAT 243Z	Elementary Statistics I	
MATH 425	Statistical Methods I	
ERTH 418	Earth and Environmental Data Analysis	
GEOG 495	Geographic Data Analysis	
Approved introductory sequence in natural science		12
Course from different natural science sequence or from the list of approved science courses		4
Upper-Division Natural Science Courses		
Two upper-division natural science courses from the major requirements sheet		8
Upper-Division Social Science, Policy, Humanities, and Design Courses		
Social science foundation course		4
Policy foundation course		4
Humanities foundation course		4
Design foundation course		4
Six additional courses: three from one of the above areas; three from another		24
Environmental Issues Course		
ENVS 411	Environmental Issues: [Topic]	4
or ENVS 425	Environmental Education Theory and Practice	
or ENVS 427	Environmental and Ecological Monitoring	
Practical Learning Experience		
Choose from one of several approved practical learning experience options. These include internships, participation in the Environmental Leadership Program, research experiences with UO faculty members, honors thesis.		4
Total Credits		**92**

[1] Recommended course; however, a university-level mathematics course that counts toward the bachelor of science mathematics requirement fulfills the requirement.

Approved Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Introductory Sequence in Natural Science		
Life Sciences		
BI 211	General Biology I: Cells	
& BI 212	and General Biology II: Organisms	
& BI 213	and General Biology III: Ecology and Evolution	
or CH 111	Introduction to Chemical Principles	
& BI 211	and General Biology I: Cells	
& BI 213	and General Biology III: Ecology and Evolution	

Chemistry	
CH 221	General Chemistry I
& CH 222	and General Chemistry II
& CH 223	and General Chemistry III
Earth Sciences	
ERTH 101	Exploring Planet Earth
& ERTH 102	and Exploring Earth's Environment
& ERTH 103	and Exploring Earth History
or ERTH 201	Dynamic Planet Earth
& ERTH 202	and Earth's Surface and Environment
& ERTH 203	and History of Life
Physical Sciences	
CH 111	Introduction to Chemical Principles
& PHYS 161	and Physics of Energy and Environment
& PHYS 162	and Solar and Other Renewable Energies
or PHYS 201	General Physics
& PHYS 202	and General Physics
& PHYS 203	and General Physics
Non-Sequence Science Courses	
ANTH 270	Introduction to Biological Anthropology [1]
BI 130	Introduction to Ecology [1]
CH 113	The Chemistry of Sustainability
GEOG 141	The Natural Environment
GEOG 181	Our Digital Earth
ERTH 213	Geology of National Parks

[1] These courses cannot be used with the Life Science sequence.

Upper-Division Natural Science Courses

Code	Title	Credits
ANTH 341	Food Origins	4
ANTH 361	Human Evolution	4
ANTH 362	Human Biological Variation	4
ANTH 463	Primate Behavior	4
ANTH 472	Primate Conservation Biology	4
BI 307	Forest Biology	4
BI 309	Tropical Diseases in Africa	4
BI 330	Microbiology	3
BI 331	Microbiology Laboratory	3
BI 357	Marine Biology	4
BI 359	Plant Biology	4
BI 370	Ecology	5
BI 374	Conservation Biology	4
BI 380	Evolution	4
BI 390	Animal Behavior	4
BI 395	Tropical Ecology	4
BI 432	Mycology	5
BI 442	Systematic Botany	5
BI 448	Field Botany	4
BI 451	Invertebrate Zoology [1]	1-8
BI 452	Insect Biology	4
BI 454	Estuarine Biology	5
BI 455	Marine Birds and Mammals	1-6
BI 457	Marine Biology: [Topic]	1-8
BI 458	Biological Oceanography	5
BI 468	Amphibians and Reptiles of Oregon	4
BI 471	Population Ecology	4
BI 472	Community Ecology	4
BI 474	Marine Ecology [1]	1-8
BI 476		4
CH 331	Organic Chemistry I	4
CH 335	Organic Chemistry II	4
CH 336	Organic Chemistry III	4
ENVS 350	Ecological Footprint of Energy Generation	4
ENVS 465	Wetland Ecology and Management	4
ENVS 477	Soil Science	4
GEOG 321	Climatology	4
GEOG 322	Geomorphology	4
GEOG 323	Biogeography	4
GEOG 360	Watershed Science and Policy	4
GEOG 361	Global Environmental Change	4
GEOG 425	Hydrology and Water Resources	4
GEOG 427	Fluvial Geomorphology	4
GEOG 430	Long-Term Environmental Change	4
GEOG 433	Fire and Natural Disturbances	4
GEOG 481	GIScience I	4
GEOG 482	GIScience II	4
GEOG 485	Remote Sensing I	4
GEOG 486	Remote Sensing II	4
GEOG 491	Advanced Geographic Information Systems	4
ERTH 304	The Fossil Record [2]	4
ERTH 305	Dinosaurs [2]	4
ERTH 306	Volcanoes and Earthquakes [2]	4
ERTH 307	Oceanography [2]	4
ERTH 308	Geology of Oregon and the Pacific Northwest [2]	4
ERTH 310	Earth Resources and the Environment	4
ERTH 311	Earth Materials	5
ERTH 315	Earth Physics	4
ERTH 316	Introduction to Hydrogeology	4
ERTH 331	Mineralogy	5
ERTH 332	Introduction to Petrology	5
ERTH 334	Sedimentology and Stratigraphy	4
ERTH 350	Structural Geology	3
ERTH 353	Geologic Hazards	4
ERTH 425	Geology of Ore Deposits	5
ERTH 433	Paleobotany	4
ERTH 434	Vertebrate Paleontology	4
ERTH 435	Paleopedology	4
ERTH 438	Geobiology	4
ERTH 441	Hillslope Geomorphology	4
ERTH 451	Hydrogeology	4
ERTH 462	Environmental Geomechanics	4
ERTH 468	Introduction to Seismology	4
ERTH 472	Aqueous-Mineral-Gas Equilibria	4
ERTH 473	Isotope Geochemistry	4

[1] If 8 credits, then counts as 2 courses.

[2] Only one course of ERTH 30X will apply.

Upper-Division Social Science, Policy, Humanities, and Design Courses

Code	Title	Credits
Social Science - Foundation Courses		
ENVS 435	Environmental Justice	4
ENVS 450	Political Ecology	4
ENVS 455	Sustainability	4
GEOG 341	Population and Environment	4
SOC 416	Issues in Environmental Sociology [Topic]	4
Social Science - Elective Courses		
ANTH 320	Native North Americans	4
ES 350	Native Americans and the Environment	4
GEOG 342	Geography of Globalization	4
GEOG 442	Urban Geography	4
GEOG 465	Environment and Development	4
GEOG 471	North American Historical Landscapes	4
GLBL 420	Global Community Development	4
GLBL 421	Gender and International Development	4
GLBL 432	Indigenous Cultural Survival	4
SOC 304	Community, Environment, and Society	4
WGS 331	Science, Technology, and Gender	4
Policy - Foundation Courses		
ENVS 335	Allocating Scarce Environmental Resources	4
PPPM 443	Natural Resource Policy	4
PPPM 444	Environmental Policy	4
PS 367	Politics, Science, and Climate Change	4
PS 477	International Environmental Politics	4
Policy - Elective Courses		
EC 330	Urban and Regional Economic Problems	4
EC 333	Resource and Environmental Economic Issues	4
EC 434	Environmental Economics	4
EC 435	Natural Resource Economics	4
GEOG 467		4
PPPM 331	Environmental Management	4
PPPM 340	Climate-Change Policy	4
PPPM 418	Introduction to Public Law	4
PPPM 438	Transportation Issues in Planning: [Topic]	4
PPPM 446	Socioeconomic Development Planning	4
PPPM 480	Nonprofit Management	4
Humanities - Foundation Courses		
ENG 469	Literature and the Environment: [Topic]	4
ENVS 345	Environmental Ethics	4
HIST 378	American Environmental History to 1890	4
HIST 379	American Environmental History, 1890-Present	4
HIST 473	American Environmental History: [Topic]	4
PHIL 340	Environmental Philosophy	4
Humanities - Elective Courses		
ENG 325	Literature of the Northwest	4
PHIL 309	Global Justice	4
PHIL 339	Introduction to Philosophy of Science	4
PHIL 345	Place in the Cosmos	4
Design - Foundation Courses		
ARCH 431	Community Design	3
ARCH 435	Principles of Urban Design	4
ENVS 467	Sustainable Agriculture	4
PPPM 442	Sustainable Urban Development	4
PPPM 445	Green Cities	4
Design - Elective Courses		
LA 326	Plants: Fall	4
LA 337	Landscape Field Work: [Topic]	1-4
LA 390	Urban Farm	2-4
LA 429	Civic Agriculture	4

Four-Year Degree Plan

The degree plan shown is only a sample of how students may complete their degrees in four years. There are alternative ways. Students should consult their advisor to determine the best path for them.

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies (Policy and Social Science Focus)

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
First Year			
Fall			
ENVS 201	Introduction to Environmental Studies: Social Sciences	4	
WR 121Z	Composition I	4	
First term of first-year second-language sequence		4	
General-education course		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
ENVS 202	Introduction to Environmental Studies: Natural Sciences	4	
WR 122Z	Composition II	4	
Second term of first-year second-language sequence		4	
General-education course		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
ENVS 203	Introduction to Environmental Studies: Humanities	4	
Third term of first-year second-language sequence		4	
MATH 111Z	Precalculus I: Functions	4	
General-education course that also satisfies international cultures multicultural requirement		4	
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**48**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Second Year			
Fall			
First term of second-year second-language sequence		4	

ERTH 201	Dynamic Planet Earth	4
SOC 312	Statistical Analysis in Sociology	4
General-education course		4
	Credits	**16**
Winter		
Second term of second-year second-language sequence		4
ERTH 202	Earth's Surface and Environment	4
General-education course		4
General-education course that also satisfies international cultures multicultural requirement		4
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
Third term of second-year second-language sequence		
ERTH 203	History of Life	4
General-education courses		8
	Credits	**12**
	Total Credits	**44**

Course	Title	Credits Milestones
Third Year		
Fall		
ANTH 170	Introduction to Human Origins	4
GEOG 341	Population and Environment	4
PS 477	International Environmental Politics	4
General-education course		4
	Credits	**16**
Winter		
GEOG 321	Climatology	4
LA 440	Introduction to Landscape Planning Analysis	4
PHIL 340	Environmental Philosophy	4
Course that satisfies minor requirements		4
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
ES 350	Native Americans and the Environment	4
ERTH 304	The Fossil Record	4
Course that satisfies minor requirements		4
	Credits	**12**
	Total Credits	**44**

Course	Title	Credits Milestones
Fourth Year		
Fall		
GLBL 425	Global Food Security	4
Course that satisfies minor requirements		4
	Credits	**8**
Winter		
ENVS 411	Environmental Issues: [Topic] (Environmental Interpretation)	4
GLBL 446	Development and Social Change in Latin America	4
Course that satisfies minor requirements		4
	Credits	**12**
Spring		
EC 330	Urban and Regional Economic Problems	4
ENVS 404	Internship: [Topic]	1-12
Course that satisfies minor requirements		4
	Credits	**9-20**
	Total Credits	**29-40**

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies (Humanities and Sustainable Design Focus)

Course	Title	Credits Milestones
First Year		
Fall		
ENVS 201	Introduction to Environmental Studies: Social Sciences	4
WR 121Z	Composition I	4
General-education course in arts and letters		4
Multicultural course in international cultures		4
	Credits	**16**
Winter		
ENVS 202	Introduction to Environmental Studies: Natural Sciences	4
WR 122Z	Composition II	4
General-education course in social science		4
General-education course in arts and letters		4
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
ENVS 203	Introduction to Environmental Studies: Humanities	4
MATH 111Z	Precalculus I: Functions	4
Multicultural course in identity, pluralism, and tolerance		4
General-education course in arts and letters		4
	Credits	**16**
	Total Credits	**48**

Course	Title	Credits Milestones
Second Year		
Fall		
CH 111	Introduction to Chemical Principles	4
MATH 112Z	Precalculus II: Trigonometry	4
GEOG 141	The Natural Environment	4
General-education course in social science		4
	Credits	**16**
Winter		
BI 211	General Biology I: Cells	5
General-education course in arts and letters		4
STAT 243Z	Elementary Statistics I	4
Elective course		4
	Credits	**17**

Spring		
BI 213	General Biology III: Ecology and Evolution	5
GEOG 341	Population and Environment	4
PS 367	Politics, Science, and Climate Change	4
Elective course		4
	Credits	**17**
	Total Credits	**50**

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Third Year			
Fall			
ENVS 345	Environmental Ethics	4	
PPPM 445	Green Cities	4	
BI 357	Marine Biology	4	
Elective course		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
ENG 325	Literature of the Northwest	4	
LA 390	Urban Farm	4	
BI 307	Forest Biology	4	
Elective course		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
HIST 378	American Environmental History to 1890	4	
ENVS 467	Sustainable Agriculture	4	
Elective courses		8	
	Credits	**16**	
	Total Credits	**48**	

Course	Title	Credits	Milestones
Fourth Year			
Fall			
ENVS 411	Environmental Issues: [Topic]	4	
PHIL 309	Global Justice	4	
Elective course		4	
	Credits	**12**	
Winter			
ARCH 436	Theory of Urban Design I	3	
Elective courses		8	
	Credits	**11**	
Spring			
ENVS 404	Internship: [Topic]	4	
Elective courses		8	
	Credits	**12**	
	Total Credits	**35**	