

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 prioritize 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.

Environmental Studies Major Requirements

The Environmental Studies major is customizable, allowing students to tailor their coursework to meet specific education and career goals. Students can concentrate on focal areas of their choosing and select from a variety of courses across disciplines, which provides students with a robust, well-rounded educational experience. The major requires a minimum of 92 credits including 56 upper-division credits. Except for ENVS 401-409, all courses applied to the major or minor must be graded, and a C- or better must be earned in all graded courses. As many as four upper-division courses may be used to fulfill the requirements of another major. Major requirements sheets containing detailed information about specific courses are available on the Environmental Studies website, in

the Environmental Studies office, or by visiting an advisor in Tykeson Hall.

Code	Title	Credits
Area 1. Lower-Division ENVS Core		
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
Area 2. Lower-Division Math and Science		
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
Area 3A. Upper-Division Natural Science		
	Two upper-division natural science courses from the major requirements sheet	8
Area 3B. Upper-Division Soc Sci, Policy, Humanities and Design		
	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
Area 4. Environmental Issues		
ENVS 411	Environmental Issues: [Topic]	4
	or ENVS 425 Environmental Education Theory and Practice	
	or ENVS 427 Environmental and Ecological Monitoring	
Area 5. 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 & BI 212 & BI 213	General Biology I: Cells and General Biology II: Organisms and General Biology III: Ecology and Evolution	

or CH 111 & BI 211 & BI 213	Introduction to Chemical Principles and General Biology I: Cells and General Biology III: Ecology and Evolution
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Chemistry

CH 221 & CH 222 & CH 223	General Chemistry I and General Chemistry II and General Chemistry III
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Earth Sciences

ERTH 101 or ERTH 201	Exploring Planet Earth Dynamic Planet Earth
ERTH 102 or ERTH 202	Exploring Earth's Environment Earth's Surface and Environment
ERTH 103 or ERTH 203	Exploring Earth History History of Life

Physical Sciences

CH 111 & PHYS 161 & PHYS 162 or PHYS 201 and General Physics & PHYS 202 and General Physics & PHYS 203	Introduction to Chemical Principles and Physics of Energy and Environment and Solar and Other Renewable Energies General Physics and General Physics and General Physics
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Non-Sequence Science Courses

ANTH 170	Introduction to Human Origins
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		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		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		5
ERTH 433		4
ERTH 434	Vertebrate Paleontology	4
ERTH 435		4
ERTH 438		4

ERTH 441	Hillslope Geomorphology	4
ERTH 451	Hydrogeology	4
ERTH 462		4
ERTH 468	Introduction to Seismology	4
ERTH 472		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		4
GLBL 420	Global Community Development	4
GLBL 421	Gender and International Development	4
GLBL 432		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		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		4

ENVS 345	Environmental Ethics	4
HIST 378	American Environmental History to 1890	4
HIST 379	American Environmental History 1890 to 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
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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
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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
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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
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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	Winter	
Second Year					
Fall					
CH 111	Introduction to Chemical Principles	4		ARCH 435	Principles of Urban Design 4
MATH 112Z	Precalculus II: Trigonometry	4		Elective courses 8	
GEOG 141	The Natural Environment	4		Credits 12	
General-education course in social science			4	Spring	
Credits			16	ENVS 404	Internship: [Topic] 4
Winter					
BI 211			General Biology I: Cells	5	Elective courses 8
General-education course in arts and letters			4	Credits 12	
STAT 243Z			Elementary Statistics I	4	Total Credits 36
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		