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.

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 221Z & BI 222Z & BI 223Z	Principles of Biology I: Cells and Principles of Biology II: Organisms and Principles of Biology III: Ecology and Evolution	

or CH 111	Introduction to Chemical Principles
& BI 221Z	and Principles of Biology I: Cells
& BI 223Z	and Principles of Biology III: Ecology and Evolution
or CH 221Z	General Chemistry I
	and Principles of Biology I: Cells
& BI 221Z	and Principles of Biology III: Ecology and Evolution
& BI 223Z	
Chemistry	
CH 221Z	General Chemistry I
& CH 222Z	and General Chemistry II
& CH 223Z	and General Chemistry III
Earth Sciences	
ERTH 101	Exploring Planet Earth
or ERTH 201	Dynamic Planet Earth
ERTH 102	Exploring Earth's Environment
or ERTH 202	Earth's Surface and Environment
ERTH 103	Exploring Earth History
or ERTH 203	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
	and General Physics
& PHYS 202	and General Physics
& PHYS 203	
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		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		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
CH 341	Majors Track Organic Chemistry I	4
CH 342	Majors Track Organic Chemistry II	4
CH 343	Majors Track 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	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 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 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 1st-year second-language sequence		4	
Core-education course		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
ENVS 202	Introduction to Environmental Studies: Natural Sciences	4	
WR 122Z	Composition II	4	
Second term of 1st-year second-language sequence		4	
Core-education course		4	
	Credits	**16**	

Spring		
ENVS 203	Introduction to Environmental Studies: Humanities	4
Third term of 1st-year second-language sequence		4
MATH 111Z	Precalculus I: Functions	4
Core-education course that also satisfies global perspective cultural literacy requirement		4
	Credits	**16**
Second Year		
Fall		
First term of 2nd-year second-language sequence		4
ERTH 201	Dynamic Planet Earth	4
SOC 312	Statistical Analysis in Sociology	4
Core-education course		4
	Credits	**16**
Winter		
Second term of 2nd-year second-language sequence		4
ERTH 202	Earth's Surface and Environment	4
Core-education course		4
Core-education course that also satisfies US: DIA cultural literacy requirement		4
	Credits	**16**
Spring		
Third term of 2nd-year second-language sequence		4
ERTH 203	History of Life	4
Core-education courses		8
	Credits	**16**
Third Year		
Fall		
ANTH 170	Introduction to Human Origins	4
GEOG 341	Population and Environment	4
PS 477	International Environmental Politics	4
Core-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**
Fourth Year		
Fall		
GLBL 425	Global Food Security	4
Course that satisfies minor requirements		4
	Credits	**8**
Winter		
ENVS 411	Environmental Issues: [Topic]	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]	4
Course that satisfies minor requirements		4
	Credits	**12**
	Total Credits	**172**

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	
Core-education course in arts and letters		4	
Cultural literacy course in global perspective		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
ENVS 202	Introduction to Environmental Studies: Natural Sciences	4	
WR 122Z	Composition II	4	
Core-education course in social science		4	
Core-education course in arts and letters		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Spring			
ENVS 203	Introduction to Environmental Studies: Humanities	4	
MATH 111Z	Precalculus I: Functions	4	
Cultural literacy course in US: DIA		4	
Core-education course in arts and letters		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Second Year			
Fall			
CH 111	Introduction to Chemical Principles	4	
MATH 112Z	Precalculus II: Trigonometry	4	
GEOG 141	The Natural Environment	4	
Core-education course in social science		4	
	Credits	**16**	
Winter			
BI 221Z	Principles of Biology I: Cells	5	
Core-education course in arts and letters		4	
STAT 243Z	Elementary Statistics I	4	

Elective course		4
	Credits	**17**
Spring		
BI 223Z	Principles of 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**
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**
Fourth Year		
Fall		
ENVS 411	Environmental Issues: [Topic]	4
PHIL 309	Global Justice	4
Elective course		4
	Credits	**12**
Winter		
ARCH 435	Principles of Urban Design	4
Elective courses		8
	Credits	**12**
Spring		
ENVS 404	Internship: [Topic]	4
Elective courses		8
	Credits	**12**
	Total Credits	**182**