UNIVERSITY STUDIES

Academic Programs and Planning
Kennedy Library (35), Room 319
Phone: 805.756.2246
http://www.academicprograms.calpoly.edu/

University Studies (UNIV) courses provide an opportunity for interdisciplinary study, addressing university-wide learning objectives (such as diversity, environmental literacy, sustainability, etc.). UNIV courses are offered across college boundaries, typically carrying GE and/or USCP credit. The offerings are subject to available funding.

UNIV Courses

UNIV 100. University Studies. 1 unit
CR/NC
Term Typically Offered: F, SU
Course supports the successful student transition to Cal Poly. Establishes links between student needs and campus resources. Covers goal setting, degree planning, campus and academic policies, time management, college and campus culture, growth mindset and effective learning strategies. Not open to students with credit in EDUC/UNIV 125. Credit/No Credit grading only. 1 lecture.

UNIV 125. First Year Seminar. 2 units
CR/NC
Term Typically Offered: TBD
Issues associated with the successful transition from high school or community college to Cal Poly. Links fostered between student needs and campus resources. Coverage of academic policies and procedures, university study skills, goal setting, career planning, wellness and other topics relevant to student success. Not open to students with credit in UNIV 100. Credit/No Credit grading only. 1 lecture, 1 activity. Crosslisted as EDUC/UNIV 125.

UNIV 321. Undergraduate Research Methods and Practice. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: TBD
Research methods and tools for sciences and humanities, including formulating a research question, designing a study, using the scientific method to conduct and analyze surveys, and analyzing data. Emphasis on working in interdisciplinary research teams. Total credit limited to 8 units. 2 lectures, 2 activities. Crosslisted as HNRS/UNIV 321.

Term Typically Offered: TBD
Scientific investigation of the natural features of the Cal Poly landscape and their transformations by land management technology. Analysis of the environmental, economic, social, and political effects of agriculture, resource extraction, and construction technology on that landscape. Emphasis on the educational, land-use, and long term planning issues of technology presented by this case study. 4 lectures. Crosslisted as AG/ISLA/UNIV 330. Fulfills GE Area F.

UNIV 333. World Food Systems. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: SP
Integrated, interdisciplinary study of the technologies of global food production, environmental and social issues related to the application of those technologies, and moral and ethical issues associated with global food production and distribution. Emphasis on the politics of change. 4 lectures. Crosslisted as POLS/UNIV 333. Fulfills GE Area F.

UNIV 350. The Global Environment. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: F
Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Areas A and B.

UNIV 391. Appropriate Technology for the World's People: Development. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: F
Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Areas A and B.

UNIV 392. Appropriate Technology for the World's People: Design. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: F
Prerequisite: Junior standing; completion of GE Area A, and two courses from GE D1-D4.

UNIV 424. Design of Museum Displays of Science, Engineering and Technology. 4 units
Term Typically Offered: TBD
Prerequisite: GE Area B.

The design and creation of educational museum displays that highlight science, engineering, and technology. Projects done by multidisciplinary teams and for clients in the community. Emphasis on design, teamwork, service learning and project management. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Crosslisted as HNRS/UNIV 424.
UNIV 470. Selected Advanced Topics. 1-4 units  
Term Typically Offered: TBD  
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.  

Directed group study of selected topics for advanced students. Open to undergraduate and graduate students. The Schedule of Classes will list title selected. Total credit limited to 8 units. 1 to 4 lectures.

UNIV 491. Appropriate Technology for the World’s People: Development. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: F  
Prerequisite: Consent of instructor, and senior or graduate standing.  
Corequisite: GE Area D5.  

A broad overview of international development and appropriate design for sustainability. Besides traditional classroom work, students work in teams to address problems with technical solutions. Collaboration with mentors from the university, private sector, and nonprofits serves to provide diverse background and mentorship. Seminar paper required. Not open to students with credit in PSC/UNIV/HNRS 391. 4 lectures. Crosslisted as PSC/UNIV 491.

UNIV 492. Appropriate Technology for the World’s People: Design. 4 units  
Term Typically Offered: SP  
Prerequisite: Junior standing and completion of GE Area B, or graduate standing. Recommended: UNIV 391, GE Area D2, and GE Area D3.  

Addresses the needs of international impoverished communities with technological solutions, which are inexpensive, ecologically sustainable, and socially appropriate. Group study of target communities, and design and construction of an appropriate technology prototype. Seminar paper required. Not open to students with credit in PSC/UNIV/HNRS 392. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory. Crosslisted as PSC/UNIV 492.