

# ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES MINOR

Offered at: San Luis Obispo Campus

The purpose of the environmental studies minor is to provide an interdisciplinary understanding of the environment, with particular focus on human-environment interactions from scientific, sociological, economic, ethical, and political perspectives. Students who complete the minor will develop a broad understanding of environmental issues, which will prepare them for further advanced study, or for working in an area of environmental concern that requires interdisciplinary knowledge and skills.

## Program Learning Objectives

1. Analyze, explain, and evaluate environmental issues from multiple perspectives including scientific, technical, social, political, economic, and ethical perspectives.
2. Integrate and synthesize knowledge about environmental issues from multiple disciplines.
3. Explain and apply the methodologies and approaches that different disciplines bring to bear on complex environmental problems.
4. Work productively and effectively with students from other disciplines and with other points of view.
5. Confront and grapple with environmental issues of contemporary significance.

## Minor Requirements and Curriculum

The minor must be completed prior to, or at the same time as, the requirements for the bachelor's degree. A major and a minor may not be taken in the same degree program, and a minor is not required for a degree. Requirements for the minor include:

- At least half of the units must be from upper-division courses (3000-4000 level).
- At least half of the units must be taken at Cal Poly (in residence).
- No more than one-third of the units will be taken with credit-no credit grading (CR/NC), not counting courses with mandatory CR/NC. Departments may further limit CR/NC grading if desired.
- A minimum 2.0 GPA is required in all units counted for completion of the minor.

| Code                        | Title                                           | Units |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------|
| <b>REQUIRED COURSES</b>     |                                                 |       |
| <b>Biology and Ecology</b>  |                                                 |       |
| Select from the following:  |                                                 | 3-4   |
| BIO 1114                    | Plant Diversity and Ecology                     |       |
| BIO 2217                    | Wildlife Conservation Biology                   |       |
| MSCI 3300                   | Marine Ecology                                  |       |
| BOT 3326                    | Plant Ecology                                   |       |
| BIO 3327                    | Wildlife Ecology                                |       |
| BIO 3343                    | Principles of Conservation Biology              |       |
| MSCI 3301                   | Biological Oceanography                         |       |
| NR 3306                     | Natural Resource Ecology and Habitat Management |       |
| BIO 4443                    | Climate Change Biology                          |       |
| BIO 4446                    | Ecosystem Ecology                               |       |
| <b>Earth Science</b>        |                                                 |       |
| Select from the following:  |                                                 | 3-4   |
| ERSC 1144                   | Introduction to Earth Science                   |       |
| GEOL 2240                   | Physical Geology                                |       |
| GEOG/ERSC 2250              | Physical Geography                              |       |
| GEOG/ERSC 4414              | Global and Regional Climatology                 |       |
| PHYS 3314                   | Ocean Dynamics                                  |       |
| PSC 2201                    | Physical Oceanography                           |       |
| SS 1120                     | Introductory Soil Science                       |       |
| <b>Energy and Pollution</b> |                                                 |       |
| Select from the following:  |                                                 | 3-4   |
| BRAE 3348                   | Energy for a Sustainable Society                |       |
| CHEM 3372                   | Environmental Chemistry                         |       |
| ENVE 3324                   | Introduction to Air Pollution                   |       |

|           |                                           |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------|
| ENVE 2331 | Fundamentals of Environmental Engineering |
| PHYS 3310 | Physics of Energy                         |
| PSC 3320  | Energy, Society, and the Environment      |

## Social, Political, Economic, and Ethical Issues

Select from the following: 3-4

|                |                                                              |
|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| COMS 3390      | Environmental Communication                                  |
| CRP/NR 4404    | Environmental Law                                            |
| ECON 3071      | Environmental and Natural Resource Economics                 |
| ECON 4071      | Environmental Economics                                      |
| ECON 4072      | Economics of Energy and Resources                            |
| ECON 4073      | Economics of Land and Water                                  |
| EIM 3302       | Environmental and Wilderness Education                       |
| GEOG 3308      | Global Geography                                             |
| GEOG/ERSC 3325 | Climate and Humanity                                         |
| GEOG 4408      | Geography of International Development                       |
| ISLA 3303      | Values and Technology                                        |
| NR 3308        | Fire and Society                                             |
| PHIL 3340      | Environmental Ethics                                         |
| POLS 3325      | Global Political Issues                                      |
| POLS 3332      | World Food Systems                                           |
| PSC/UNIV 3391  | Engaging in Sustainable Global Development                   |
| PSC/UNIV 3392  | Collaboratively Developing Sustainable Technologies Globally |

## Environmental Planning, Management, and Sustainability

Select from the following: 3-4

|                  |                                                |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| AG/PLSC 3315     | Principles of Organic Crop Production          |
| AG/ISLA/SCM 3330 | Cal Poly Land: Nature, Technology, and Society |
| AG/ASCI 3360     | Holistic Management                            |
| ASCI 2239        | Principles of Rangeland Management             |
| CRP 3336         | Introduction to Environmental Planning         |
| EDES 4406        | Sustainable Environments                       |
| EIM 3313         | Sustainability in the Experience Industry      |
| MSCI 4439        | Marine Fisheries and Conservation              |
| NR 1142          | Environmental Management                       |

## Capstone Courses

Select from the following: 3

|                                 |                                                             |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| AG/EDES/ENGR/ISLA/SCM/UNIV 3350 | The Global Environment                                      |
| SCM 3360                        | Selected Environmental Issues of California's Central Coast |

**Total Units**
**18**