

Department of Environment and Society  
College of Natural Resources

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Effective for students beginning degree Summer Sem. 2009 thru Spring Sem. 2010

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## Admission Requirements For This Major

1. New freshmen admitted to USU in good standing qualify for admission to this major.

2. Transfer students from other institutions or from other USU majors need a 2.5 total GPA to be admitted to the Environmental Studies major in good standing. Special attention will be given to the amount of, and performance in, prerequisite math and science courses.

3. The Environmental Studies major is open to all students who meet the above criteria, **except** for those with a first major or previous USU degree in Recreation Resource Management.

## The Program

Unlike most other majors in the College of Natural Resources, the Environmental Studies major is not a single field of study leading to a specific profession. Instead, the curriculum emphasizes flexibility while preparing students who wish to pursue a variety of careers that involve people as well as the natural world.

Students begin the major by building the academic foundation for upper-division professional courses that explore the human dimensions of natural resource science and management. This foundation includes classes in mathematics and the biological, physical, and social sciences. The first two years are also when students take most of their University Studies (general education) courses, some of which also fulfill major requirements. Transfer students who have completed general education requirements elsewhere may need to take additional lower-division courses to be ready to start their professional courses.

As juniors and seniors, students take courses which more directly prepare them to understand the relationships between people and ecosystems. These include courses in plant and wildlife sciences, natural resources policy and economics, social impacts of nature, and spatial and quantitative analysis. Also at this time, students work with their advisors to develop an "area of emphasis" of 15 or more credits that is designed to meet their specific goals for careers or further education.

The Department of Environment and Society administers the Environmental Studies major and assigns departmental faculty to advise students in this major. Some students may wish to seek an additional advisor in another department, if that person has expertise in a field of special interest. Such arrangements should be discussed with the student's assigned advisor.

## Career Opportunities

There are many career paths students may follow if they wish to take part in the protection and use of nature. The Environmental Studies major is designed for students who want to help set the future course of environmental and natural resource management, but who prefer not to work in a traditional land management profession. Students prepare for careers as environmental educators or communicators; with businesses that depend on natural settings or resources; in the legal profession; as environmental consultants; as advocates for environmental causes or natural resource constituencies; fostering sustainable development internationally or in the U.S.; or serving public land management agencies in nontraditional fields, such as public affairs, visitor services, or cultural resource management.

All of the careers listed above require an understanding of natural environments, but also an understanding of the human dimensions of natural resource management. For that reason, the curriculum emphasizes both biological and social sciences, with slightly greater emphasis on the latter. Environmental Studies majors learn about the ecology of natural areas, but also about the political, economic, geographic, and social aspects of nature and its management. Students focus on the natural resource and environmental issues confronting society, looking for solutions that can sustain both the natural environment and human communities.

## Degrees and Programs Offered Through This Department

**Environmental Studies:** Bachelor of Science (BS)

**Geography:** BS, Bachelor of Arts (BA), Master of Science (MS), and Master of Arts (MA)

**Recreation Resource Management:** BS, MS, and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

**Bioregional Planning:** MS

**Human Dimensions of Ecosystem Science and Management:** MS, PhD

**Ecology:** MS, PhD

**Natural Resources:** Master of Natural Resources (MNR)

## Academic Advisement

All students should contact their academic advisor for assistance with course selection, program planning, and meeting graduation requirements. If they do not know who their advisor is, students should contact the Department of Environment and Society (NR 201) or the College of Natural Resources Academic Service Center (NR 120).

## Graduation Requirements: BS Degree in Environmental Studies

### Minimum University Requirements\*

Total credits . . . . .	120
Grade point average (most majors require higher GPA) . . . . .	2.00 GPA
Credits of C- or better . . . . .	100
Credits of upper-division courses (#3000 or above) . . . . .	40
USU credits . . . . .	30
(20 of which must be upper division, including 10 required by major)	
Completion of approved major program of study . . . . .	See department
Credits in minor (if required by department) . . . . .	12
Credits in American Institutions (ECN 1500; HIST 1700, 2700, or 2710; POLS 1100; or USU 1300) . . . . .	3
University Studies requirements . . . . .	See next page

\*Colleges and departments may require more credits or a higher GPA. See requirements on this sheet.

## University Studies Requirements for Environmental Studies Major

**Note:** Approved University Studies courses and requirements are listed in the *General Catalog*. The most current listings are shown online at: <http://www.usu.edu/generalcatalog/>

### General Education Requirements (30-34 credits)

#### Competency Requirements (9-10 credits)

##### Communications Literacy (CL1 and CL2) (6 credits)

ENGL 1010 (CL1) (3 credits) or satisfactory AP, CLEP, IBO, ACT, or SAT score

**AND**

ENGL 2010 (CL2) (3 credits) or satisfactory IBO score

##### Quantitative Literacy (QL) (3-4 credits)

MATH 1050 (4 credits)

**OR**

One MATH or STAT course requiring MATH 1050 as a prerequisite

**OR**

Satisfactory AP, CLEP, IBO, ACT, or SAT score

##### Computer and Information Literacy (0 credits)

Passing grade on six computer and information literacy related examinations. Students must pass all six examinations before earning 37 USU semester credits. (Effective Spring Semester 2010, students must fulfill this requirement prior to enrolling in ENGL 2010.)

#### Breadth Requirements (18-20 credits)

Select at least one approved course from each of the following six categories: **American Institutions (BAI)**, **Creative Arts (BCA)**, **Humanities (BHU)**, **Life Sciences (BLS)**, **Physical Sciences (BPS)**, and **Social Sciences (BSS)**. (CLEP or AP credit may be used.) At least two of the six breadth courses must be University Studies courses with a **USU prefix** (excluding USU 1000, 1010, 1100, 3330, 4900, and 6900). CHEM 1110 (BPS), BIOL 1010 (BLS), and ENVS 2340 (BSS) may be used toward this requirement.

#### Exploration Requirement (3-4 credits)

Choose an additional class from one of the following General Education categories: QL, BAI, BCA, BHU, BLS, BPS, or BSS. GEOG 1000 (BPS) or GEO 1110 (BPS) will fulfill this requirement for students in the Environmental Studies major.

### Depth Education Requirements

#### Communications Intensive (CI) (2 courses)

WATS 3700, plus another course having CI designation, will meet this requirement.

#### Quantitative Intensive (QI) (1 course)

ENVS 3500 will meet this requirement.

#### Depth Course Requirements (4 credits minimum, including 2 credits minimum completed in each of two courses)

Complete at least 2 credits in approved 3000-level or above courses from each of the following two categories: **Humanities and Creative Arts (DHA)** and **Life and Physical Sciences (DSC)**. *Either* HIST 3950 (DHA/CI) or PHIL 3510 (DHA) *and either* WATS 3100 (DSC/CI) or ENVS 3600 (DSC) will meet this requirement.

## Environmental Studies Major Requirements (75-78 credits)

All courses required for the major and minor must be taken on an *A-B-C-D-F* basis. A grade of *C-* or better is required for all ENVS or GEOG courses taken to meet requirements for the major. Students graduating in this major **must have a 2.5 or higher GPA in all courses taken from departments within the College of Natural Resources.**

A. Disciplinary Foundation (18 credits)	Credits
<input type="checkbox"/> BIOL 1010 (BLS) Biology and the Citizen (F,Sp,Su) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> BIOL 1020 Biological Discovery: A Lab Course (F,Sp) . . . . .	1
<input type="checkbox"/> CHEM 1110 (BPS) General Chemistry I (F,Sp) . . . . .	4

Credits

<input type="checkbox"/> HIST 3950 (DHA/CI) Environmental History (3 cr) <b>or</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> PHIL 3510 (DHA) Environmental Ethics (Sp) (3 cr) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MATH 1050 (QL) College Algebra (F,Sp,Su) . . . . .	4
<input type="checkbox"/> STAT 2000 (QI) Statistical Methods (F,Sp). . . . .	3

#### B. Professional Coursework (34-35 credits)

<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 1990 Professional Orientation for Environment and Society (F). . . . .	2
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 2340 (BSS) Natural Resources and Society (F,Sp). . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 3000 Natural Resources Policy and Economics (F) . . . . .	4
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 3330 Environment and Society (Sp) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 3500 (QI) Quantitative Assessment of Environmental and Natural Resource Problems (F). . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 4000 Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Management (F). . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 5000 Collaborative Problem-Solving for Environment and Natural Resources (Sp) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> GEOG 1000 (BPS) Physical Geography (F,Sp,Su) (3 cr) <b>or</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> GEO 1110 (BPS) The Dynamic Earth: Physical Geology (F,Sp) (4 cr). . . . .	3 or 4
<input type="checkbox"/> WATS 2930 Introduction to Geographic Information Sciences (F). . . . .	4
<input type="checkbox"/> WATS 3700 (CI) Fundamentals of Watershed Science (Sp) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> WILD 2200 (BLS) Ecology of Our Changing World (F,Sp) . . . . .	3

#### C. Animal Course (select 3 credits)

<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 3600 (DSC) Living With Wildlife (Sp) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> WATS 3100 (CI/DSC) Fish Diversity and Conservation (F) . . . . .	3

#### D. Plant Course (select 3-4 credits)

<input type="checkbox"/> BIOL 3040 (DSC) Plants and Civilization (F). . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> PLSC 3500 The Structure and Function of Economic Crop Plants (Sp). . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> WILD 3600 Wildland Plant Ecology and Identification (F). . . . .	4

#### E. Policy Course (select 2-3 credits)

The course chosen from this section *cannot* also be applied toward the emphasis area.

<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 4130 Recreation Policy and Planning (Sp) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 5300 Natural Resources Law and Policy (Sp) . . . . .	2
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 5320 Water Law and Policy in the United States (Sp) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 5570 Sustainable Living (Sp). . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS/SOC 5640 Conflict Management in Natural Resources (Sp) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Another course related to natural resource or environmental policy, numbered 3000 or higher . . . . .	3

#### F. Area of Emphasis (15 credits)

Students majoring in Environmental Studies are required to select an emphasis of at least 15 credits to complement their general professional foundation. Students must file an approved emphasis plan prior to applying for graduation, but it is recommended that they meet with their advisor to develop and gain approval for the emphasis *no later* than midway through the first semester of their junior year.

Complete 15 credits chosen from one of the following seven emphasis areas:

Business and Economics	Credits
<input type="checkbox"/> APEC 5560 Natural Resource and Environmental Economics (Sp) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> ECN 3170 Law and Economics (Sp). . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 5550 Sustainable Development (Sp) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MGT 2050 Legal and Ethical Environment of Business (F,Sp,Su) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MGT 3110 (DSS) Managing Organizations and People (F,Sp,Su) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> MGT 3500 Fundamentals of Marketing (F,Sp,Su) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Other business or economics course approved by faculty advisor . . . . .	3-4

## Communications

- ENGL 3440 Creative Nonfiction Writing (F,Sp) . . . . . 3
- ENGL 4630 American Nature Writers (F,Sp) . . . . . 3
- ENVS 4600 Natural Resource Interpretation (F) . . . . . 3
- ENVS 5110 Environmental Education (Sp) . . . . . 3
- JCOM 1130 Beginning Newswriting for the Mass Media (F,Sp,Su) . . . . . 3
- SPCH 5250 Environmental Rhetoric (Sp) . . . . . 3
- Other communications course approved by faculty advisor . . . . . 3-4

## Credits

### Environmental Policy

- ENVS 4130 Recreation Policy and Planning (Sp) . . . . . 3
- ENVS 5300 Natural Resources Law and Policy (Sp) . . . . . 3
- ENVS 5320 Water Law and Policy in the United States (Sp) . . . . . 3
- ENVS 5570 Sustainable Living (Sp) . . . . . 3
- ENVS/SOC 5640 Conflict Management in  
Natural Resources (Sp) . . . . . 3
- POLS 5180 Natural Resource Policy (Sp) . . . . . 3
- Other policy course approved by faculty advisor . . . . . 3-4

### Human Impacts on the Environment

- ENVS 5570 Sustainable Living (Sp) . . . . . 3
- GEO 3100 (DSC) Natural Disasters (Sp) . . . . . 3
- HIST 3950 (DHA/CI) Environmental History (cannot be applied  
toward this option if already used to fulfill  
requirements in *Section A*) . . . . . 3
- SOC 4620 (DSS) Sociology of the Environment and  
Natural Resources (Sp) . . . . . 3
- WATS/CLIM 3820 (DSC/QI) Climate Change (Sp) . . . . . 3
- WILD 4600 Conservation Biology (Sp) . . . . . 3
- Other appropriate course approved by faculty advisor . . . . . 3-4

### International

- ANTH 2010 (BSS) Peoples of the Contemporary World (Sp) . . . . . 3
- ECN 5400 International Trade Theory (F) . . . . . 3
- ENVS 5550 Sustainable Development (Sp) . . . . . 3
- GEOG 1300 (BSS) World Regional Geography (F) . . . . . 3
- GEOG 4200 (CI) Regional Geography (F,Sp,Su) . . . . . 3
- GEOG/ANTH/SOC 5650 Developing Societies (F) . . . . . 3
- SOC 4730 Women in International Development (Sp) . . . . . 3
- Other course with international focus approved by faculty advisor . . . . . 3-4

### Planning and Analysis

- BIOL 5010 Biogeography (Sp) . . . . . 3
- ENVS/SOC 5640 Conflict Management in  
Natural Resources (Sp) . . . . . 3
- GEO 3100 (DSC) Natural Disasters (Sp) . . . . . 3
- GEOG 3610 Geography of Rural/Urban Planning (F) . . . . . 3
- LAEP 3700 City and Regional Planning (Sp) . . . . . 3
- WATS 4930 Geographic Information Systems (F) . . . . . 4
- WATS 5330 Large River Management (Sp) . . . . . 3
- Other planning course approved by faculty advisor . . . . . 3-4

### Environmental Stewardship

In consultation with his or her advisor, a student may develop a custom emphasis of at least 15 credits. Students pursuing this option must fill out an emphasis form describing educational goals and specific courses to be taken. A University-approved minor may be used to meet this requirement, subject to approval by the student's advisor and department head.

## G. Electives

Students may take the remainder of the 120 credits from any department. The guidelines described previously under "Breadth Requirements" and "Depth Education Requirements" should be consulted to ensure meeting University Studies Requirements.

Students who transfer to USU with an Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degree from an approved institution will have satisfied the General Education portion of the University Studies requirements, but will still need to complete the Depth Education portion.

## Environmental Studies Major Recommended Four-Year Plan of Study

Students should meet regularly with their faculty advisor and carefully plan their academic program, keeping in mind that many upper-division courses have prerequisites and must be taken in sequence. Students following the recommended schedule listed below should be able to complete degree requirements in four years (eight semesters).

### A. Freshman Year (28-29 credits)

### Credits

#### Fall Semester (14-15 credits)

- ENGL 1010 (CL1) Introduction to Writing: Academic Prose . . . . . 3
- ENVS 1990 Professional Orientation for Environment  
and Society . . . . . 2
- GEOG 1000 (BPS) Physical Geography (3 cr) **or**
- GEO 1110 (BPS) The Dynamic Earth:  
Physical Geology (4 cr) . . . . . 3 or 4
- USU 1300 (BAI) U.S. Institutions (3 cr) **or**
- Other approved Breadth American Institutions (BAI) course (3 cr) . . . 3
- USU 1320 (BHU) Civilization: Humanities (3 cr) **or**
- Other approved Breadth Humanities (BHU) course (3 cr) . . . . . 3

#### Spring Semester (14 credits)

- BIOL 1010 (BLS) Biology and the Citizen . . . . . 3
- BIOL 1020 Biological Discovery: A Lab Course . . . . . 1
- ENVS 2340 (BSS) Natural Resources and Society . . . . . 3
- MATH 1050 (QL) College Algebra . . . . . 4
- USU 1330 (BCA) Civilization: Creative Arts (3 cr) **or**
- Other approved Breadth Creative Arts (BCA) course (3 cr) . . . . . 3

### B. Sophomore Year (29-30 credits)

#### Fall Semester (14 credits)

- CHEM 1110 (BPS) General Chemistry I . . . . . 4
- STAT 2000 (QI) Statistical Methods . . . . . 3
- WATS 2930 Introduction to Geographic Information  
Sciences . . . . . 4
- WILD 2200 (BLS) Ecology of Our Changing World . . . . . 3

#### Spring Semester (15-16 credits)

- ENGL 2010 (CL2) Intermediate Writing: Research Writing  
in a Persuasive Mode . . . . . 3
- ENVS 3330 Environment and Society . . . . . 3
- HIST 3950 (DHA/CI)<sup>1</sup> Environmental History (3 cr) **or**
- PHIL 3510 (DHA) Environmental Ethics (3 cr) . . . . . 3
- Animal or plant course . . . . . 3-4
- Policy or area of emphasis course . . . . . 3

<sup>1</sup>HIST 3950 is taught intermittently. For more information, contact the History Department.

### C. Junior Year (27-31 credits)

#### Fall Semester (14-16 credits)

- ENVS 3000 Natural Resources Policy and Economics . . . . . 4
- Animal or plant course . . . . . 3-4
- Area of emphasis or elective courses . . . . . 7-8

#### Spring Semester (13-15 credits)

- WATS 3700 (CI) Fundamentals of Watershed Science . . . . . 3
- Policy or area of emphasis course(s) . . . . . 6-8
- Area of emphasis or elective courses . . . . . 4

<b>D. Senior Year (30-33 credits)</b>	<b>Credits</b>
<b>Fall Semester (15-16 credits)</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 3500 (QI) Quantitative Assessment of Environmental and Natural Resource Problems. . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 4000 Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Management . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Area of emphasis or elective courses . . . . .	9-10
 <b>Spring Semester (15-17 credits)</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 5000 Collaborative Problem-Solving for Environment and Natural Resources . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy, area of emphasis, or elective courses . . . . .	12-14

## Environmental Studies Minor (15-17 credits)

The Environmental Studies minor is open to all majors *except* those in the College of Natural Resources. However, this minor *is available* to students enrolled in the Geography major. Students wishing to minor in Environmental Studies should contact the Department of Environment and Society to meet with the department's designated minor advisor. All courses required for the minor must be taken on an *A-B-C-D-F* basis. A grade of *C-* or better is required for all ENVS courses taken to meet requirements for the minor. A minimum GPA of 2.5 is required for courses taken to complete the minor.

<b>A. Required Courses (10 credits)</b>	<b>Credits</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 2340 (BSS) Natural Resources and Society (F,Sp). . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 3000 Natural Resources Policy and Economics (F) . . . . .	4
<input type="checkbox"/> WILD 2200 (BLS) Ecology of our Changing World (F,Sp) . . . . .	3

<b>B. Policy or Economics Course (2-3 credits)</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Select <b>one</b> of the following courses in natural resources policy or economics:	
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 4130 Recreation Policy and Planning (Sp) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 5300 Natural Resources Law and Policy (Sp) . . . . .	2
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 5320 Water Law and Policy in the United States (Sp) . . . . .	3
<input type="checkbox"/> ENVS 5570 Sustainable Living (Sp) . . . . .	3

**C. Electives (3 credits)**  
Select one additional upper-division (3000-level or higher) course of 3 credits or more, which provides greater depth in an area of natural or social sciences that can be applied to the management of natural resources and the environment, to be selected in consultation with the Environmental Studies minor advisor.

## Requirement Changes

Graduation requirements shown on this sheet are subject to change. Students should check with their faculty advisor regarding possible changes or for additional information regarding degree requirements, course sequencing, and departmental specialization options and their related coursework.

## Materials for Persons with Disabilities

This requirement sheet is available in digital format, recordings, or large print upon request to the USU Disability Resource Center.

## For information contact

**Environment and Society Department**; Natural Resources 201;  
Utah State University; 5215 Old Main Hill; Logan UT 84322-5215;  
tel. (435) 797-1790; <http://www.cnr.usu.edu/envs>

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