Introduction to the Major

Environmental Sciences (ES) is a broad, interdisciplinary major that examines the impact of human activities on natural systems. Students learn how to apply tools and techniques from a variety of disciplines such as biology, ecology, chemistry, toxicology, geology, hydrology, meteorology, geography, engineering, statistics, behavioral science, policy analysis, economics, and law.

All ES majors complete a senior thesis in which they investigate an environmental issue, design and execute independent research, and present their results in oral and written form.

Amplify Your Major

- Apply to the Sponsored Project for Undergraduate Research (SPUR) program to pursue joint research with a faculty member.
- Get 1:1 mentoring from graduate students with Berkeley Connect in ESPM.
- Conduct field research in the Sierra Nevada at Forestry Field Camp or in French Polynesia through the Moorea Program.
- Join a student group such as the Environmental Sciences Student Association.

The ES Curriculum

ES has three concentrations: Biological Science, Social Science or Physical Science. For all concentrations, lower division coursework emphasizes basic science in a rigorous curriculum drawn from biology, chemistry, mathematics, physics, economics and environmental science.

For upper division courses, students take electives in their area of interest and courses in research methodology and environmental modeling to prepare for the senior research seminar. This yearlong course is the capstone of the major where students design and conduct their own research with guidance from faculty.

What makes ES such a great major is its interdisciplinary nature and the structured execution of a senior thesis of your choosing.

– Aileen Lavelle, ES Student & Peer Advisor

Advising

The Undergraduate Advisors for all Rausser College majors are located in the Office of Instruction and Student Affairs in 260 Mulford Hall.

Visit nature.berkeley.edu/advising/meet-rausser-advisors for detailed office hours and appointment booking links. You may email general advising questions to envsci.ugrad@berkeley.edu.

Connect with Us

Cal Day
Come to UC Berkeley’s annual Open House in April for information sessions, campus tours, special talks, and more.

Golden Bear Orientation
Join your peers in the campus-wide UC Berkeley orientation program for all new students.

Events
Attend department events with students, faculty, and staff. Visit nature.berkeley.edu for news and updates.

How to Use This Map

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

Visit ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps for the latest version of this major map.
**ENVIROMENTAL SCIENCES**

*Bachelor of Science*

**Design Your Journey**

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<th>FIRST YEAR</th>
<th>SECOND YEAR</th>
<th>THIRD YEAR</th>
<th>FOURTH YEAR</th>
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<td><strong>Explore your major</strong></td>
<td><strong>Connect and build community</strong></td>
<td><strong>Discover your passions</strong></td>
<td><strong>Engage locally and globally</strong></td>
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<td>Familiarize yourself with ES major requirements. Meet with the ES major advisor to sketch out a four-year plan. Talk to a peer advisor about life at Rausser College.</td>
<td>Take advantage of the Rausser Student Resource Center. Get 1:1 mentoring with Berkeley Connect in ESPM. Join a student group like the Environmental Sciences Student Association.</td>
<td>Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar or DeCal course like ESPM 98. Learn about research opportunities for Rausser students. Apply for a research position through SPUR.</td>
<td>Attend the Calapalooza Student Resource Center. Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad. Engage with campus sustainability issues via the Student Environmental Resource Center.</td>
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<td><strong>Reflect and plan your future</strong></td>
<td><strong>WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?</strong></td>
<td><strong>Jobs and Employers</strong></td>
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<td>Visit Berkeley Career Engagement and the Career Counseling Library. Develop a plan for getting career ready. Sign up for Handshake and CareerMail. Check out the Environmental Sciences Career Snapshot.</td>
<td>ES graduates are well-prepared for careers in fields such as environmental consulting, education, health, or law, as well as community, urban, or regional planning and other related areas of environmentalism. Graduates are well-qualified for a variety of graduate programs, including environmental policy and management, law school, medical school, and environmental engineering. Analyst Consultant, Accenture Biological Tech, Dept. of Agriculture Biologist Intern, UCSF Business Associate, Next Jump Consultant, NASA Data Analyst, Lucid Software Environmental Compliance Intern, Recology Environmental Scientist, Americorps Forestry Tech, Collins Company GIS Data Specialist, City of San Mateo Naturalist, Aquarium of the Bay Software Ops. Specialist, Nuro</td>
<td></td>
<td>Civil Engineering, PhD Ecology, PhD Environmental Science, Masters Forestry, PhD Law, JD Molecular Biology, PhD Public Health, Masters Public Policy Analysis, Masters</td>
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Examples gathered from LinkedIn and the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.