

Course Advice for 1st Semester Environmental Studies Students

The following is a suggested course of study for first semester transfer or freshman environmental studies students.

ENVS 300: Introduction to Environmental Studies. Definitely take this course your first semester if you can.

ENVS 600: Environmental Problems and Solutions is a good companion course if it works in your schedule. Note: this course is also listed as GEOG 600 and it does not matter under which prefix you take the course.

Beyond these two courses, the main recommendation is to begin taking as many major electives as you can. The major electives are listed under five categories below and you are required to take one course under each category. The only exception is under ecology, where you may take either the two course sequence Biology 230 and Biology 240 or you may take the single course Biology 313. Those in the Natural Resource Management and Conservation concentration must take the Biology 230 and 240 sequence.

MAJOR ELECTIVES (Select one from each category): 15-24 units				
<i>Physical Environment</i>				
GEOG 101	Our Physical Environment (E)	3		
GEOL 270^	Environmental Geology (F)	3		
<i>Human Environment</i>				
GEOG 102	The Human Environment (E)	3		
ANTH 120	Intro to Social & Cultural Anthropology (E)	3		
<i>Environmental Justice/Urban Issues</i>				
ANTH 321^	Endangered Cultures (S+) (III)	3		
RAZA 450^	Indegenismo:IndigenousCultures/Personality (FS) (III)	3		
URBS 514^	Sustainable Development in Cities (F) (III)	4		
URBS 515 ^	Race, Poverty, and the Environment (S) (III)	4		
<i>Ecology</i>				
BIOL 230* and	Introductory Biology I (placement exam)(E) and	5		
BIOL 240*^ or	Introductory Biology II(E) or	5		
BIOL 313*^	Principles of Ecology (E) (III)	3		
<i>Human Values and Environmental Ethics</i>				
BECA 502^	Env. Communication on the Electronic Media (F) (III)	3		
ENG 535*^	Literature and Ecology (R)	3		
ENVS 392^	Nature, Culture, and Technology (F) (III)	3		
PHIL 470^	Environmental Ethics (S?)(III)	3		
PLSI 354*^	Politics, the Environment, and Social Change (F) (III)	4		

* = Prerequisite, or consent of instructor; III = segment 3;

F = Fall; S = Spring; + = Plus other semesters occasionally; A = Alternate years (i.e. every 2 years);

E = Every Semester (FS and Summer); R = rare, if ever; ? = Your guess is as good as mine

^ = Course, **NOT UNITS**, can be double counted (core & concentration or III)

Depending on your concentrations I would recommend the following major electives for your first semester (assuming you start in the fall). For Humanities and the Environment, take BECA 502: Environmental Communication on the Electronic Media which is taught by Nancy (Sami) Reist, who is the Humanities concentration advisor. For the Urban concentration, take URBS 514: Sustainable Development in Cities which is taught by Raquel Pinderhughes, who is the Urban concentration advisor. For Environmental Sustainability and Social Justice concentration, take PLSI 354: Politics, the Environment and Social Change, which is taught by Dean Joel Kassiola who is the ESSJ concentration advisor. If you are in either one of the BS concentrations you could take any of the above recommended courses or you might want to get started on some of your science requirements, such as CHEM 115 or BIO 230, for those in the Natural Resource Management and Conservation concentration.

If you are still looking for an additional class, you could take a course under either the Physical Environment or Human Environment categories.

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