ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, B.A.

The Bachelor of Arts in environmental studies prepares students to address complex environmental problems requiring knowledge from multiple social and scientific disciplines. Students learn to evaluate environmental challenges and to develop just and sustainable solutions that integrate social and economic needs with scientific and technical understanding. The program offers an interdisciplinary and collaborative approach that encourages students to combine coursework in sustainability, anthropology, political science, geography, history, economics, business, media arts and journalism to create an individually tailored curriculum.

Environmental studies majors are prepared to work in areas ranging from sustainable business practices to advocacy and integration of data into policymaking. Strong analytical and communication skills prepare students for graduate or professional school and/or a range of career options in environmental policy, compliance, conservation, resource management and sustainability in the private sector and non-profit or governmental organizations.

Learning Outcomes

1. Students will demonstrate their knowledge of fundamental concepts in environmental studies.
2. Students will be able to utilize information from more than one discipline related to environmental studies, and be able to synthesize that information to analyze interdisciplinary environmental problems.
3. Students will demonstrate effective writing skills.
4. Students will demonstrate effective oral communication skills.

Admission, Progression and Transfer Standards

Environmental Studies majors may enroll in a course for major credit a maximum of twice to earn the required grade of C or higher. For the purposes of this standard of progression, withdrawal with a W does not constitute enrollment.

Special Opportunities

The major endorses the use of independent study courses to further students’ intellectual pursuits in alternative ways. Before students may register for an independent study course, they must submit a completed independent study contract which has been approved by their major advisor and the Director of Undergraduate Studies. No student may apply more than 6 hours of independent study credits toward the degree. A grade-point average of 2.50 or greater is required to enroll in independent study courses.

Admissions

Entrance Requirements

New freshmen who meet University admissions standards are eligible for admission to degree programs offered by the college. A student who wishes to enter the College of Arts and Sciences from another college on the Columbia campus must be in good standing and have a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or higher. A student who wishes to enter the College of Arts and Sciences from another USC campus must fulfill one of the following requirements:

1. Be in good standing, meet the admission requirements for a baccalaureate degree on the Columbia campus, and have a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or higher.
2. Be in good standing and have completed 30 semester hours with a GPA of 2.00 or higher on a USC campus.

Some programs in the College of Arts and Sciences have special admission requirements established by the department or committee that supervises the specific degree program, for example, Cardiovascular Technology, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Economics, Environmental Science, the Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies, and the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies. These requirements are listed in the sections of this bulletin that describe department and special degree programs.

Degree Requirements (120 hours)

Program of Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Carolina Core</td>
<td>32-44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. College Requirements</td>
<td>15-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Program Requirements</td>
<td>21-37</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Major Requirements</td>
<td>36-37</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Founding Documents Requirement

All undergraduate students must take a 3-credit course or its equivalent with a passing grade in the subject areas of History, Political Science, or African American Studies that covers the founding documents including the United State Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation and one or more documents that are foundational to the African American Freedom struggle, and a minimum of five essays from the Federalist papers. This course may count as a requirement in any part of the program of study including the Carolina Core, the major, minor or cognate, or as a general elective. Courses that meet this requirement are listed here (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/founding-document-courses/).

1. Carolina Core (32-44 hours)
CMW – Effective, Engaged, and Persuasive Communication: Written (6 hours)

must be passed with a grade of C or higher and completed in the first 60 hours

- any CC-CMW courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

ARP – Analytical Reasoning and Problem Solving (6-8 hours)

- any CC-ARP courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/carolina-core-courses/)

SCI – Scientific Literacy (8 hours)

Select two from the following:

- BIOL 101* & BIOL 101L* or MSCI 102*
- BIOL 102* & BIOL 102L*
- CHEM 111* & CHEM 111L*

Standards

1. Carolina Core (32-44 hours)
2. College Requirements (15-18 hours)
3. Program Requirements (21-37 hours)
4. Major Requirements (36-37 hours)

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Select two from the following:

- BIOL 101* & BIOL 101L* or MSCI 102*
- BIOL 102* & BIOL 102L*
- CHEM 111* & CHEM 111L*
2. College Requirements (15-18 hours)

Foreign Language (0-3 hours)
- only if needed to meet 122-level proficiency

History (3 hours)
The College of Arts and Sciences requires one additional GHS course beyond the Carolina Core GHS requirement.
- If the Carolina Core GHS requirement is fulfilled by a U.S. history course, the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement must be fulfilled by a non-U.S. history course.
- If the Carolina Core GHS requirement is fulfilled by a non-U.S. history course, the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement must be fulfilled by a U.S. history course.

Select the College of Arts and Sciences history requirement from the approved list of U.S. and non-U.S. history courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/history-requirement/).

Social Science and Fine Arts or Humanities (12 hours)
- Social Science (3 hours)
  - The College of Arts and Science requires one 3-hour Social Science Course (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/courses-acceptable-social-science/)
- Fine Arts/Humanities (9 Hours)
  - A Bachelor of Arts from the College of Arts and Sciences requires three 3-hour Fine Arts/Humanities Courses (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/courses-acceptable-fine-arts-humanities/)

3. Program Requirements (21-37 hours)

Supporting Courses (4 hours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 101 &amp; 101L</td>
<td>Biological Principles I and Biological Principles I Laboratory (*)</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>or MSCI 102</td>
<td>The Living Ocean</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 102 &amp; 102L</td>
<td>Biological Principles II and Biological Principles II Laboratory (*)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>or MSCI 311</td>
<td>Biology of Marine Organisms</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 111 &amp; 111L</td>
<td>General Chemistry I and General Chemistry I Lab (*)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 101 &amp; 101L</td>
<td>Introduction to the Environment and Introduction to the Environment Lab (*)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEO 101</td>
<td>Introduction to the Earth (*)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEO 103</td>
<td>Environment of the Earth (*)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 201</td>
<td>Landform Geography (*)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MSCI 101</td>
<td>The Ocean Environment (*)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSCI 210 &amp; 210L</td>
<td>Oceans and Society and Oceans and Society Laboratory (*)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYS 201 &amp; 201L</td>
<td>General Physics I and General Physics Laboratory I (*)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSC 210</td>
<td>Oceanography (*)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Cognate or Minor (0-18 hours) Optional

This major does not require a cognate or minor.

An optional minor may be added to a student's program of study. A minor is intended to develop a coherent basic preparation in a second area of study. Courses applied toward general education requirements cannot be counted toward the minor. No course may satisfy both major and minor requirements. All minor courses must be passed with a grade of C or higher. At least half of the courses in the minor must be completed in residence at the University. A list of minor programs of study can be found at Programs A-Z. An optional additional major may also be added to a student's program of study. Additional majors must include all major courses as well as any prescribed courses noted (*) in the bulletin. Prescribed courses noted in the bulletin may be shared with Carolina Core, College requirements, and Program requirements in the primary program.

A list of minor programs of study can be found at Programs A-Z (https://academicbulletins.sc.edu/undergraduate/programs-az/).

Electives (17-33 hours)

120 (or 128) degree applicable credits are required to complete any degree at USC. After the cognate, minor or second major is complete, any additional credits needed to reach 120 (or 128) total credits can be fulfilled by electives. No courses of a remedial, developmental, skill-acquiring, or vocational nature may apply as credit toward degrees in the College of Arts and Sciences. The College of Arts and Sciences allows the use of the Pass-Fail option on elective courses. Further clarification on inapplicable courses can be obtained from the College of Arts and Sciences.

4. Major Requirements (36-37 hours)

A minimum grade of C is required in all major courses

Major Courses (27 hours)

All majors must complete at least 36-37 hours of approved courses, including the core requirements of 27 hours. Majors must complete enough additional hours from the selected courses to bring them to the required 36-37 hours total. Students are required to develop a program of study in consultation with their advisor. A minimum grade of C is required for all courses used to fulfill major requirements.

Please see current University of South Carolina undergraduate course catalog for information about prerequisites required to enroll in many of these courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 201</td>
<td>Environmental Science and Policy I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 202</td>
<td>Environmental Science and Policy II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 480</td>
<td>Capstone Seminar in Environmental Science and Environmental Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental and Society- Select two from the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR/ENHS 321</td>
<td>Environmental Pollution and Health</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Credit Hours 24-25

Major Electives (minimum 12 hours)

Students, in consultation with their advisor, will develop a program of study to meet their educational goals in environmental studies courses.

- Students should select four courses from the list of major courses.
- At least six hours must be at 400-level or above.
- At least six hours must have an ENVR designator above ENVR 230.
Note: The six hours of 400-level or above credit and the six hours of ENVR 230+ credit may overlap, as long as a total of 12 credit hours are completed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Select four courses from the following (in consultation with advisor):</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR 231</td>
<td>Introduction to Sustainability Management and Leadership</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 295</td>
<td>Green Technology in Germany</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVR/ENHS 321</td>
<td>Environmental Pollution and Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR/PHIL 322</td>
<td>Environmental Ethics</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR/ENHS 323</td>
<td>Global Environmental Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 331</td>
<td>Integrating Sustainability</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR/ANTH 342</td>
<td>Environmental Anthropology: Cross-cultural Perspectives on Environmental Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 348</td>
<td>Environmental Racism and Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 352</td>
<td>Energy, Society and Sustainability</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 399</td>
<td>Independent Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 460</td>
<td>Congaree National Park: Field Investigations in Environmental Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 490</td>
<td>Special Topics in Sustainability and the Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 499</td>
<td>Research in Environmental Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 500</td>
<td>Environmental Practicum</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 501</td>
<td>Special Topics in the Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 533</td>
<td>Sustainability Projects Course</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 538</td>
<td>Global Food Politics</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR 540</td>
<td>Decolonizing the Environment: Race, Nature, Power</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR/ECON 548</td>
<td>Environmental Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR/BIOL 571</td>
<td>Conservation Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENVR/BIOL 572</td>
<td>Freshwater Ecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>AFAM/ENVR 348</td>
<td>Environmental Racism and Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 208</td>
<td>Anthropology of Globalization and Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 212</td>
<td>Food and Culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 213</td>
<td>Ethnobotany: Plants and Peoples</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 513</td>
<td>Anthropological Ethnobotany</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 525</td>
<td>Ethnoecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 569</td>
<td>International Development and the Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 301</td>
<td>Ecology and Evolution</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 525</td>
<td>Marine Plants</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 526</td>
<td>The Fall Flora</td>
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<td>BIOL 527</td>
<td>The Spring Flora</td>
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<td>BIOL 528</td>
<td>The Summer Flora</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 534</td>
<td>Animal Behavior</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIOL 570</td>
<td>Principles of Ecology</td>
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<td>ECHE 573</td>
<td>Next Energy</td>
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<td>ECON 500</td>
<td>Urban Economics</td>
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<td>ECON 508</td>
<td>Law and Economics</td>
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<td>ECON 509</td>
<td>Economics of Sustainable Development</td>
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<td>ECON 548</td>
<td>Environmental Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 594</td>
<td>Advanced Econometrics</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 434</td>
<td>Environmental Literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 462</td>
<td>Technical Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENHS/ENVR 321</td>
<td>Environmental Pollution and Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENHS 592</td>
<td>Advanced Special Topics in Environmental Health</td>
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<td>ENHS 660</td>
<td>Concepts of Environmental Health Science</td>
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<td>ENHS 665</td>
<td>Biofilms in Environmental Health and Disease</td>
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<td>ENHS 670</td>
<td>Environmental Pollutants and Human Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 202</td>
<td>Weather and Climate</td>
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<td>GEOG 313</td>
<td>Economic Geography</td>
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<td>GEOG 321</td>
<td>Sustainable Cities</td>
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<td>GEOG 330</td>
<td>The Geography of Disasters</td>
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<td>GEOG 343</td>
<td>Environment and Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 345</td>
<td>Introduction to Remote Sensing</td>
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<td>GEOG 346</td>
<td>Climate and Society</td>
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<td>GEOG 347</td>
<td>Water as a Resource</td>
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<td>GEOG 348</td>
<td>Biogeography</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 360</td>
<td>Geography of Wind</td>
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<td>GEOG 263</td>
<td>Geographic Information Systems</td>
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<td>GEOG 365</td>
<td>Hurricanes and Tropical Climatology</td>
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<td>GEOG 370</td>
<td>America's National Parks</td>
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<td>GEOG 371</td>
<td>Air Pollution Fundamentals</td>
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<td>GEOG 510</td>
<td>Special Topics in Geographic Research</td>
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<td>GEOG 516</td>
<td>Coastal Zone Management</td>
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<td>GEOG 530</td>
<td>Environmental Hazards</td>
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<td>GEOG 545</td>
<td>Weather Analysis and Forecasting</td>
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<td>GEOG 546</td>
<td>Applied Climatology</td>
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<td>GEOG 547</td>
<td>Fluvial Geomorphology</td>
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<td>GEOG 549</td>
<td>Water and Watersheds</td>
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<td>GEOG 551</td>
<td>Remote Sensing of the Environment</td>
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<td>GEOG 552</td>
<td>LiDARgrammetric and Photogrammetric Digital Surface Mapping</td>
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<td>GEOG 563</td>
<td>Advanced Geographic Information Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 564</td>
<td>GIS-Based Modeling</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 566</td>
<td>Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 567</td>
<td>Long-Term Environmental Change</td>
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<td>GEOG 568</td>
<td>Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change</td>
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<td>GEOG 569</td>
<td>International Dimensions of Global Environmental Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 570</td>
<td>Geography of Public Land and Water Policy</td>
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<td>GEOG 571</td>
<td>Microclimatology</td>
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<td>GEOG 573</td>
<td>Climatic Change and Variability</td>
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<td>GEOG 579</td>
<td>Rocks and Minerals</td>
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<td>Rocks and Minerals</td>
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<td>GEOG 315</td>
<td>Surface and Near Surface Processes</td>
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<td>GEOL 335</td>
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<td>GEOL 371</td>
<td>A View of the River</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOL 501</td>
<td>Principles of Geomorphology</td>
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<tr>
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</table>

**Total Credit Hours: 12**

## Major Map

A major map is a layout of required courses in a given program of study, including critical courses and suggested course sequences to ensure a clear path to graduation.

Major maps are only a suggested or recommended sequence of courses required in a program of study. Please contact your academic advisor for assistance in the application of specific coursework to a program of study and course selection and planning for upcoming semesters.

Environmental Studies, B.A.