# BA IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

## In Workflow

1. ENVS Committee Chair (envs-chair@csus.edu)
2. ENVS Chair (envs-chair@csus.edu)
3. SSIS College Committee Chair (koss@csus.edu; mummawh@skymail.csus.edu; r.silva@csus.edu)
4. SSIS Dean (shane.nordyke@csus.edu)
5. Academic Services (catalog@csus.edu)
6. Senate Curriculum Subcommittee Chair (curriculum@csus.edu)
7. Dean of Undergraduate and Graduate (s.storms@csus.edu)
8. Catalog Editor (catalog@csus.edu)
9. Registrar's Office (k.mcfarland@csus.edu)

## Approval Path

1. 2026-08-13T02:24:46Z
   Jamie Kneitel (kneitel): Approved for ENVS Committee Chair
2. 2026-08-13T02:42:05Z
   Jamie Kneitel (kneitel): Approved for ENVS Chair
3. 2026-09-21T15:50:47Z
   Catheryn Koss (koss): Rollback to ENVS Chair for SSIS College Committee Chair
4. 2026-09-21T19:13:29Z
   Jamie Kneitel (kneitel): Approved for ENVS Chair
5. 2026-09-22T05:06:29Z
   Catheryn Koss (koss): Approved for SSIS College Committee Chair
6. 2026-10-08T21:10:56Z
   Shane Nordyke (shane.nordyke): Approved for SSIS Dean

## History

1. May 3, 2018 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. Aug 8, 2018 by 212408496
3. Oct 2, 2018 by 212408496
4. Apr 28, 2020 by 220267334
5. Apr 23, 2021 by Katie Dickson (katiedickson)
6. Feb 21, 2022 by Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater)
7. Aug 5, 2022 by 302822325
8. Aug 10, 2022 by 302822325
9. Mar 5, 2024 by Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater)
10. Mar 13, 2025 by Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater)

Date Submitted: 2026-08-13T01:55:02Z

### Viewing: BA in Environmental Studies

### Last approved: Thu, 13 Mar 2025 22:49:32 GMT

### Last edit: 2026-09-21T19:13:02Z

Changes proposed by: Jamie Kneitel (102041418)

**Academic Group: (College)**

Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies

**Academic Organization: (Department)**

Environmental Studies

**Catalog Year Effective:**
2026-2027 Catalog

**Individual(s) primarily responsible for drafting the proposed degree major program:**

| Name (First Last) | Email | Phone 999-999-9999 |
|---|---|---|
| Si Gao | s.gao@csus.edu | 916-278-7338 |

## Program Snapshot

**Type of Program:**
Major

**Program Change Type:**
Non-Substantive

**Title of the Program:**
BA in Environmental Studies

**Designation: (degree terminology)**
Bachelor of Arts

**Delivery Mode:**
Fully Face to Face

**Support Mode:**
State Support

Please see the CSU/CIP Code Crosswalk: https://www.csus.edu/academic-affairs/curriculum-workflow/_internal/_documents/csu_codes_to_cip.pdf

TMC Templates: https://c-idsystem.org/transfer-efforts/

**Will this program require accreditation?**
No

**Provide a clear, concise overview of the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification. For NEW programs describe the purpose and focus of the program, identify the target student population(s), and highlight key strengths and distinguishing features of the program.**
The purpose of this proposal is to add a newly developed upper-division ENVS elective courses to the curriculum - ENVS 150 Soil Science & Sustainability and ENVS 180 Climate Resilience.

## University Learning Goals

**Undergraduate Learning Goals:**
Competence in the disciplines
Knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world
Intellectual and practical skills
Personal and social responsibility
Integrative learning

**Will this program be required as part of a teaching credential program, a single subject, or multiple subject waiver program (e.g., Liberal Studies, Biology) or other school personnel preparation program (e.g., School of Nursing)?**
No

## Curriculum Alignment and Assessment

## Program Learning Outcomes

Provide measurable, program-specific learning outcomes that reflect the most important competencies students will demonstrate upon completion of the program. Programs are expected to assess and use PLOs for continuous improvement.

**Program Learning Outcomes**

| Learning Outcome |
| --- |
| Identify and evaluate qualitative and quantitative methods for solving environmental problems (Baccalaureate Learning Goals [BLG] 1, 2, 3) |
| Communicate clearly and persuasively about environmental policy development, implementation, and evaluation (BLG 1, 3) |
| Clarify the diverse relationships between people, ways of knowing, and our environment (BLG 2, 4). |
| Critique environmental problems and solutions by applying social science theory and methods (BLG 1, 2, 3). |
| Creatively examine the intersection of environmental issues with the humanities (BLG 1, 2, 4, 5). |

## Learning Outcomes Display

| Course Code | PLO 1 | PLO 2 | PLO 3 | PLO 4 | PLO 5 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| BIO 1 | | | | | |
| BIO 2 | | | | | |
| BIO 10 | | | | | |
| BIO 15L | | | | | |
| CHEM 6A | | | | | |
| CHEM 1A | | | | | |
| ECON 1B | | | | | |
| ENVS 10 | | | | | |
| ENVS 10H | | | | | |
| GEOG 1 | | | | | |
| GEOL 10 | | | | | |
| ENVS 111 | | | | | |
| ENVS 112 | | | | | |
| ENVS 187 | | | | | |
| ENVS 190 | | | | | |
| ENVS 195 | | | | | |
| ENVS 120 | | | | | |
| ENVS 121 | | | | | |
| ANTH 192B | | | | | |
| ANTH 195B | | | | | |
| ECON 110 | | | | | |
| GEOG 109 | | | | | |
| GEOG 182 | | | | | |
| POLS 100 | | | | | |
| ENVS 122 | | | | | |
| ENVS 128 | | | | | |
| ENVS 155 | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **ENVS 171** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 110** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 130** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 135** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 137** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 138** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 140** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 144** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 147** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 149** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 150** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 151** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 158** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 163** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 165** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 170** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 180** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 199** | | | | | |

**Catalog Description (catalog copy):**

**Units required for Major: 62-64**
**Total units required for BA: 120**

# Program Description

Students will gain an interdisciplinary understanding of environmental challenges and their solutions. Environmental topics are taught in their political, social and scientific context, with an emphasis on environmental behavior, policy and law. Alongside learning the disciplinary knowledge and practice, the degree emphasizes skills in research, evaluation, communication, cooperation, and service.

Graduates are typically employed as social scientists, planners, policy-makers or advocates in government, community-based organizations or industry working in food and agriculture, fish and wildlife, pollution and toxic substances, forestry and fire, air and water resources, recycling and recovery, and environmental consulting, advocacy, enforcement, and regulation.

**Admission and Continuation Requirements (catalog copy): minimum GPA and prerequisites (if applicable), required coursework or preparation, portfolio, test scores, and/or letters of recommendation. For graduate programs: expectations for a relevant bachelor's degree (required or preferred disciplines, prerequisite knowledge, or equivalent experience), include evidence that program requirements conform to the minimum requirements for the culminating experience, as specified in Title 5 Section 40510 The Master's Degree and Section 40511 The Doctoral Degree.**

# Minimum Grade Requirement

A minimum grade of "C-" is required in all courses required for the Environmental Studies B.A. and B.S. majors.

**Program Requirements (catalog copy):**

# Program Requirements

| Code | Title | Units |
|---|---|---|
| **Required Lower Division Courses (23-24 Units)** | | |
| BIO 1 | Biodiversity, Evolution and Ecology [1] | 5 |
| BIO 2 | Cells, Molecules and Genes | 4 - 5 |
| or BIO 10 | Basic Biological Concepts | |
| & BIO 15L | Laboratory Investigations in Biology | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| CHEM 6A | Introduction to General Chemistry [1] | 5 |
| or CHEM 1A | General Chemistry I | |
| ECON 1B | Introduction to Microeconomic Analysis [1] | 3 |
| ENVS 10 | Introduction to Environmental Science [1] | 3 |
| or ENVS 10H | Honors Environmental Science | |
| GEOG 1 | Atmosphere, Landscapes & Life: Intro to Physical Geography [1] | 3 |
| or GEOL 10 | Physical Geology | |
| **Required Upper Division Courses (13 Units)** | | |
| ENVS 111 | Environmental Ethics [1] | 3 |
| ENVS 112 | International Environmental Problems [1] | 3 |
| ENVS 187 | Environmental Studies Seminar | 1 |
| ENVS 190 | Senior Thesis | 3 |
| ENVS 195 | Environmental Studies Internship | 3 |
| **Research Methods (8 Units)** | | |
| ENVS 120 | Quantitative Methods for Environmental Science | 3 |
| A minimum of 5 additional units from the following: | | 5 |
| ENVS 121 | Field Methods in Environmental Science | |
| ANTH 192B | Ethnographic Methods and Research Design [2] | |
| ANTH 195B | Fieldwork in Ethnology [2] | |
| ECON 110 | Cost Benefit Analysis | |
| GEOG 109 | Geographic Information Systems | |
| GEOG 182 | Qualitative Methods in Geography | |
| POLS 100 | Introduction to Research Methods in Political Science | |
| **Policy and Management Electives (6 Units)** | | |
| Select two of the following | | 6 |
| ENVS 122 | Environmental Impact Analysis: CEQA and NEPA | |
| ENVS 128 | Environment and the Law | |
| ENVS 155 | Environmental Management and Decision-Making | |
| ENVS 171 | Environmental Politics and Policy | |
| **Environmental Studies Electives (12 Units)** [3] | | |
| Select four of the following courses: | | 12 |
| ENVS 110 | Contemporary Environmental Issues | |
| ENVS 130 | Environmental Toxicology | |
| ENVS 135 | California Water and Society | |
| ENVS 137 | Conservation and Society | |
| ENVS/SOC 138 | Introduction to Environmental Sociology | |
| ENVS 140 | Energy, Society, and the Environment | |
| ENVS 144 | Sustainability Science & Policy | |
| ENVS 147 | Urban Agriculture and Aquaponics | |
| ENVS 149 | Agroecology | |
| ENVS 150 | Soil Science & Sustainability | |
| ENVS 151 | Restoration Ecology | |
| ENVS 158 | Wetlands Ecology | |
| ENVS 163 | Ethnoecology [1] | |
| ENVS/HIST 165 | American Environmental History [1] | |
| ENVS 170 | Environmental Justice (New course: Environmental Justice - Form A submitted concurrently) | |
| ENVS 180 | Climate Resilience | |
| ENVS 199 | Special Problems ( Requires faculty advisor) | |
| **Total Units** | | **62-63** |

1 Course also satisfies General Education (GE)/Graduation Requirement.
2 We recommend taking ANTH 192B and ANTH 195B as a pair of courses for 3 units to satisfy a Research Methods elective.
3 A student may substitute up to 6 units of ENVS electives from other programs if the substitute course aligns with their career aspirations. Most commonly those courses are taught by Biology, Geography, Geology, History or RPTA but any courses aligned with the student's interests will be considered. Contact your major advisor for approval of a substitute course.

# General Education Requirements [1]

| Code | Title | Units |
|---|---|---|
| **Area A: Basic Subjects (9 Units)** | | |
| A1 - Oral Communication | | 3 |
| A2 - Written Communication | | 3 |
| A3 - Critical Thinking [2] | | 3 |
| **Area B: Physical Universe and Its Life Forms (6 Units)** | | |
| B1 - Physical Science [3] | | 0 |
| B2 - Life Forms [3] | | 0 |
| B3 - Lab (Note: Lab experience to be taken with one of the following: B1, B2 or B5) [3] | | 0 |
| B4 - Math Concepts [4] | | 3 |
| B5 - Additional Course (Any B to reach 12 units) - Take upper-division course to complete Area & upper division requirements. | | 3 |
| **Area C: Arts and Humanities (9 Units)** | | |
| C1 - Arts | | 3 |
| C2 - Humanities | | 3 |
| C1 - Area C Course | | 3 |
| C2 - Area C Course [3] | | 0 |
| **Area D: The Individual and Society (6 Units)** | | |
| Area D Course | | 3 |
| Area D Course [3] | | 0 |
| Area D Course - Take upper-division course to complete Area & upper division requirements. | | 3 |
| **Area E: Understanding Personal Development (3 Units)** | | |
| Area E Course | | 3 |
| **Area F: Ethnic Studies (3 Units)** | | |
| Area F Course | | 3 |
| **Total Units** | | **36** |

1. To help you complete your degree in a timely manner and not take more units than absolutely necessary, there are ways to use single courses to meet more than one requirement (overlap). For further information, please visit the General Education page (https://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/academic-affairs/general-education/).
   **Note:** There is no way to list all possible overlaps so please consult with a professional advisor. The Academic Advising Center can be visited online (http://www.csus.edu/acad), by phone (916) 278-1000, or email (advising@csus.edu).
2. ENVS 11 (Environmental Issues and Critical Thinking recommended for Environmental Study majors to meet the GE A3 requirement
3. Course that satisfies this GE also required by the Environmental Studies major.
4. STAT 1 recommended for Environmental Studies majors because it is also a prerequisite for a required course in the major: ENVS 120 - Quantitative Methods.

## Graduation Requirements [1]

| Code | Title | Units |
|---|---|---|
| **Graduation Requirements (required by CSU) (6 Units)** | | |
| American Institutions: U.S. History | | 3 |
| American Institutions: U.S. Constitution & CA Government | | 3 |
| Writing Intensive (WI) [2] | | 0 |
| **Graduation Requirements (required by Sacramento State) (12 Units)** | | |
| English Composition II | | 3 |
| Race and Ethnicity in American Society (RE) | | 3 |
| Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement [3] | | 6 |

1. To help you complete your degree in a timely manner and not take more units than absolutely necessary, there are ways to use single courses to meet more than one requirement (overlap). For further information, please visit the General Education page (https://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/academic-affairs/general-education/).
   **Note:** There is no way to list all possible overlaps so please consult with a professional advisor. The Academic Advising Center can be visited online (http://www.csus.edu/acad), by phone (916) 278-1000, or email (advising@csus.edu).
2. ENVS 112 - International Environmental Problems - is required by the Major and also satisfies this Graduation Requirement.
3. If not satisfied before entering Sacramento State, it may be satisfied in General Education Area C2 (Humanities). "C- or better required." The alternative methods for satisfying the Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement are described here: https://

www.csus.edu/college/arts-letters/world-languages-literatures/foreign-language-requirement.html (https://www.csus.edu/college/arts-letters/world-languages-literatures/foreign-language-requirement.html)

## Fiscal Impact to Change an Existing Program

**Indicate programmatic or fiscal impact which this change will have on other academic units' programs, and describe the consultation that has occurred with affected units:**

None

**Provide a fiscal analysis of the proposed changes:**

None

**How will the above changes be accommodated within the department/College existing fiscal resources?**

None

**Will the proposed changes require additional resources?**

No

**What additional space, equipment, operating expenses, library, computer, or media resources, clerical/technical support, or other resources will be needed?**

None

**Estimate the cost and indicate how these resource needs will be accommodated:**

None

**Reviewer Comments:**

**Catheryn Koss (koss) (Mon, 21 Sep 2026 15:50:47 GMT):** Rollback: submitter's request

Key: 234