# BS 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. 2026-08-13T02:24:57Z
   Jamie Kneitel (kneitel): Approved for ENVS Committee Chair
2. 2026-08-13T02:42:09Z
   Jamie Kneitel (kneitel): Approved for ENVS Chair
3. 2026-09-21T15:50:35Z
   Catheryn Koss (koss): Rollback to ENVS Chair for SSIS College Committee Chair
4. 2026-09-21T19:13:40Z
   Jamie Kneitel (kneitel): Approved for ENVS Chair
5. 2026-09-22T05:06:54Z
   Catheryn Koss (koss): Approved for SSIS College Committee Chair
6. 2026-10-08T21:11:17Z
   Shane Nordyke (shane.nordyke): Approved for SSIS Dean

## History

1. May 3, 2018 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. Aug 8, 2018 by 212408496
3. Dec 6, 2018 by 216279922
4. Apr 28, 2020 by 220267334
5. Apr 23, 2021 by Katie Dickson (katiedickson)
6. Feb 23, 2022 by Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater)
7. Aug 5, 2022 by 302822325
8. Aug 10, 2022 by 302822325
9. Apr 9, 2025 by Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater)

Date Submitted: 2026-08-13T01:29:09Z

### Viewing: BS in Environmental Studies

### Last approved: Wed, 09 Apr 2025 17:30:04 GMT

### Last edit: 2026-09-21T19:12:40Z

Changes proposed by: Jamie Kneitel (102041418)

**Academic Group: (College)**

Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies

**Academic Organization: (Department)**

Environmental Studies

**Catalog Year Effective:**
2027-2028 Catalog

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

| Name (First Last) | Email | Phone 999-999-9999 |
|---|---|---|
| Jamie Kneitel | kneitel@csus.edu | 9162786620 |

## Program Snapshot

**Type of Program:**
Major

**Program Change Type:**
Non-Substantive

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

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

**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 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 |
|---|
| 1. Appraise environmental problems and solutions by critically applying natural science theory and methods [Baccalaureate Learning Goal (BLG) 1, 2, 3, 5]. |
| 2. Communicate clearly and persuasively about scientific investigation and environmental analysis [BLG 1, 3]. |
| 3. Clarify the diverse relationships between people, ways of knowing, and our environment [BLG 2, 4, 5]. |
| 4. Identify and evaluate empirical methods for solving environmental problems [BLG 1, 3]. |
| 5. Creatively synthesize information from complementary environmental disciplines [BLG 1, 2, 3, 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 1A | | | | | |
| CHEM 6A | | | | | |
| ECON 1B | | | | | |
| ENVS 10 | | | | | |
| GEOG 1 | | | | | |
| GEOL 10 | | | | | |
| BIO 160 | | | | | |
| ENVS 111 | | | | | |
| ENVS 112 | | | | | |
| ENVS 120 | | | | | |
| ENVS 121 | | | | | |
| ENVS 187 | | | | | |
| ENVS 190 | | | | | |
| ENVS 195 | | | | | |
| ENVS 122 | | | | | |
| ENVS 128 | | | | | |
| ENVS 171 | | | | | |
| ENVS 110 | | | | | |
| ENVS 130 | | | | | |
| ENVS 135 | | | | | |
| ENVS 137 | | | | | |
| ENVS 138 | | | | | |
| ENVS 140 | | | | | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **ENVS 144** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 147** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 149** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 150** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 151** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 155** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 158** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 163** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 165** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 170** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 180** | | | | | |
| **ENVS 199** | | | | | |
| **GEOG 107** | | | | | |
| **GEOG 109** | | | | | |
| **GEOG 110** | | | | | |

**Catalog Description (catalog copy):**

**Units required for Major: 63-64**
**Total units required for BS: 120**

# Program Description

Students will gain an interdisciplinary understanding of environmental challenges and their solutions. Environmental issues are taught as scientific problems within a political and social context. Alongside learning the disciplinary knowledge and practice, the degree emphasizes skills in communication, cooperation and service.

Graduates are typically employed as natural scientists, technicians, planners, or policy-makers, 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, communication, 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 1A | General Chemistry I [1] | 5 |
| or CHEM 6A | Introduction to General Chemistry | |
| ECON 1B | Introduction to Microeconomic Analysis [1] | 3 |
| ENVS 10 | Introduction to Environmental Science | 3 |
| GEOG 1 | Atmosphere, Landscapes & Life: Intro to Physical Geography [1] | 3 |
| or GEOL 10 | Physical Geology | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Required Upper Division Courses (21 Units)** | | |
| BIO 160 | General Ecology | 3 |
| ENVS 111 | Environmental Ethics [1] | 3 |
| ENVS 112 | International Environmental Problems [1] | 3 |
| ENVS 120 | Quantitative Methods for Environmental Science | 3 |
| ENVS 121 | Field Methods in Environmental Science | 2 |
| ENVS 187 | Environmental Studies Seminar | 1 |
| ENVS 190 | Senior Thesis | 3 |
| ENVS 195 | Environmental Studies Internship | 3 |
| **Policy Electives (3 Units)** | | |
| Select one of the following courses: | | 3 |
| ENVS 122 | Environmental Impact Analysis: CEQA and NEPA | |
| ENVS/POLS 128 | Environment and the Law | |
| ENVS/POLS 171 | Environmental Politics and Policy | |
| **Environmental Science Electives (15 Units)** [2] | | |
| Select five of the following courses: | | 15 |
| 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 155 | Environmental Management and Decision-Making | |
| ENVS 158 | Wetlands Ecology | |
| ENVS 163 | Ethnoecology [1] | |
| ENVS/HIST 165 | American Environmental History [1] | |
| ENVS 170 | Environmental Justice | |
| ENVS 180 | Climate Resilience | |
| ENVS 199 | Special Problems | |
| GEOG 107 | Remote Sensing | |
| GEOG 109 | Geographic Information Systems | |
| GEOG 110 | Spatial Analysis in GIS | |
| **Total Units** | | **62-63** |

1 Course also satisfies General Education (GE)/Graduation Requirement.

2 A student may substitute up to 6 units of ENVS electives with courses 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. [5] | 3 |
| **Area C: Arts and Humanities (9 Units)** | |
| C1 - Arts | 3 |
| C2 - Humanities | 3 |
| C1/C2 - Area C Course [3] | 0 |
| C1/C2 - Area C Course - Take upper-division course to complete Area & upper division requirements. | 3 |
| **Area D: The Individual and Society (9 Units)** | |
| Area D Course | 3 |
| Area D Course [6] | 3 |
| 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** | |
| Area F Course (3 units) | |
| **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 - is recommended for Environmental Study majors to meet the GE A3 requirement.
3. Course required by the Environmental Studies Major; also satisfies this GE requirement.
4. STAT 1 is recommended for Environmental Studies majors because it is also a prerequisite for a required course in the major: ENVS 120 - Quantitative Methods.
5. The elective, ENVS 163 also satisfies this GE requirement.
6. Elective ENVS 165 also satisfies this GE requirement.

## 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, we are just adding a missing elective option

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

None

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

**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

**Reviewer Comments:**
**Catheryn Koss (koss) (Mon, 21 Sep 2026 15:50:35 GMT):** Rollback: submitter's request

Key: 235