



**SAN FRANCISCO
STATE UNIVERSITY**

Environmental Studies Program
School of Public Affairs and Civic Engagement
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Welcome! As Program Coordinator, I'm delighted to welcome you to the Environmental Studies Program, and to introduce briefly the opportunities that we offer.

SFSU's Environmental Studies Program is fully interdisciplinary: whether you pursue a B.A. or a B.S. degree, you'll take courses in the natural sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities. B.A. students may choose one of three emphases: 1) Environmental Sustainability and Social Justice; 2) The Urban Environment, or 3) Humanities and the Environment. The B.S. degree in Environmental Studies focuses on Natural Resource Management and Conservation. Students select a degree/emphasis option depending on their academic interests and career goals, with input from a faculty advisor. All degree options share many common core courses, allowing you to change emphasis or degree path. Whatever your academic path through ENVS, an internship, which is required for graduation, will provide you with real-world experience and valuable skills.

Please check out information for new majors at <http://envs.sfsu.edu/newmajor>, specifically the Advising Grids, which list all requirements and electives for each concentration. And look over the Advice for New Majors information below, which provides specific advice about which courses to take your first semester in the program. These courses provide a strong introduction to many of the other topics you will be studying. The website, at <http://envs.sfsu.edu/>, can answer many of your questions about degrees, specific courses, faculty, whom to see for advising, and much more.

Students wanting to change the world helped to launch this program over a decade ago. ENVS majors are active in addressing a variety of environmental issues on and off campus, developing leadership skills as they go. In 2015, ENVS major Miguel Guerrero received the campus' Student Leader of the Year award. ENVS graduates take diverse paths, ranging from graduate study and law school to excellent jobs in government agencies, business, and non-profit organizations. They rate our program very highly, valuing not only the interdisciplinary academic foundation they build but the relationships they develop with their classmates and with faculty. According to the confidential SF State exit survey, Environmental Studies students rate their major higher than the overall average for SF State on almost all questions. Eighty four percent of graduating ENVS majors strongly agreed or agreed that "Faculty members were genuinely interested in my academic success" and 81 percent strongly agreed or agreed that "Faculty members were available when needed."

Although ENVS is officially impacted, we currently have room for new majors and students are able to get the courses they need; in fact, our majors graduate faster than the average for the campus as a whole. Getting advising in a timely fashion is key: once you get settled in the Fall, we encourage you to come see an advisor before registering for your Spring 2016 classes. Advisor office hours, advising assignments, and contact information for advisors is available on our website at <http://envs.sfsu.edu/advising>.

Sincerely,

Glenn Fieldman
Program Coordinator

Course Advice for First Semester Environmental Studies Students:

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

ENVS 224: Research Methods for Environmental Studies. Required for all ENVS majors. Teaches basic quantitative, field and research methods for environmental issues such as GPS (Global Positioning Systems), GIS (Geographic Information Systems), stream bioassessment, social science surveys.

For NRMC (B.S.) students: Register for Biology 230 as soon as you can; take Biology 240 your second semester in the program. These courses are prerequisites for a number of other biology courses. For B.A. students, only Biology 313 is required; it's a good idea to take this course fairly early in the program.

Beyond these two courses, the main recommendation is to begin taking major electives. 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 (B.S. students only); B.A. students take the single course Biology 313.

Physical Environment				
GEOG 101	Our Physical Environment	3	FS	
GEOG 270	Environmental Geology	3	S	
Sustainability and Social Justice				
ENVS/ECON 306	Economics and the Environment	3	F	
ENVS 570	Campus Sustainability	3	S	
PHIL 470	Environmental Ethics	3	F	
USP 514	Sustainable Development in Cities	4	FS	
USP 515/ GEOG 667	Environmental Justice: Race, Poverty, and the Environment	4	S	
Global/International				
ENVS/IR 331	Global Environmental Crisis	4	S	
ENVS 470	Climate Politics & Policy	3	F	
IR/GEOG 428	Int'l Political Economy of Food & Hunger	4	F	
Ecology				
BIOL 313 or	Principles of Ecology (For BA degree)	3	FS	
BIO 230+240	Intro to Biology I and II (for NRMC degree)	10		
Research Methods				
ENVS 224	Research Methods for ENVS	4	F	