Environmental Resources Engineering, B.S.

Find your future at Cal Poly Humboldt. In the Environmental Resources Engineering program, we are taking the next step in the evolution of the discipline. We are expanding the definition of environmental engineering so our graduates can create solutions to complex environmental problems that sustain, restore, and protect our natural resources. Our students look for big picture solutions to energy, water, and ecosystem restoration problems.

Experience Your Learning

While studying in one of the most environmentally interesting areas of California, students will learn to apply an interdisciplinary approach to understanding and resolving resource planning and management problems in their social, economic, ethical, and historical contexts.

The Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary is one of the first in the nation to use constructed wetlands for urban wastewater treatment. Active projects include the design of natural treatment systems to treat wastewater and stormwater.

The Schatz Energy Research Center promotes the use of clean and renewable energy in our society. The Center has a broad portfolio of domestic and international projects related to renewable energy and energy efficiency. Active research projects include work related to solar energy, hydrogen, and fuel cells, biomass energy, clean transportation, local renewable energy utilization, and energy access for low-income people in developing countries.

Faculty and students in the Environmental Resources Engineering program are examining the ability of aquatic organisms to move upstream through culverts and other common stream barriers. This research includes the design of fish passage structures using mathematical modeling, physical modeling with a hydraulic flume, and field monitoring of prototype structures.

Did you know?

- Nearly a third of our graduates go on to complete advanced degrees. Graduates have attended: Stanford University, UC Davis, UCLA, UC Berkeley, Cornell University, University of Washington, Utah State University, and others. ERE graduates have earned Ph.D. degrees and are now university professors.
- Ours is one of the oldest and largest ABET-accredited undergraduate Environmental Engineering programs in the United States.
- Job prospects for graduates are excellent. Starting salaries are typically around $73,000 per year.
- We have one of the highest percentages of women engineering faculty in the country, and more than a third of our engineering students are women.
Academics & Options

Environmental Resources Engineering, B.S.

The North Coast provides a unique learning lab for engineering students — connecting their education to practical experiences that can’t be found elsewhere.

Our program provides a sense of care, support, and belonging, and better prepares students to approach engineering and natural resources management through a lens of social justice. We strive for environmental and societal improvement, demonstrated in our personal passions and the professions that we pursue.

Minors
- Appropriate Technology Minor

Careers

Students will graduate from Humboldt prepared for work in industry, private practice, or government, or for continued studies in graduate school.

- Air Pollution Engineer
- Consulting Engineer
- Design Engineer
- Ecological Engineer
- Energy Management Engineer
- Environmental Engineer
- Fisheries Engineer
- Geo-Environmental Engineer
- Hydrologist

This program prepared me tremendously in terms of field work, data analysis, and professional development. As much as I would love to go into detail about the sample collecting at the Arcata Marsh or the intensive debugging of a program, I would rather go into detail about the way this program made a more resilient and resourceful professional. Every class and professor provided me with a new tool and approach to a situation. Today, this helps me carry out my job more efficiently since the existing historic infrastructure can pose many challenges that require creative approaches.”

Noe Martinez Diaz (’16 Environmental Resources Engineering), Public Works Engineer for the City of Brighton Colorado