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Social Science— Environment & Community, M.A.

The Master of Arts in Social Science program focuses on the diverse relationships between environment and community using interdisciplinary perspectives.

We find just and sustainable solutions to complex social and environmental challenges, grounded in the knowledge that racial justice, settler colonialism, and environmental problems are deeply intertwined.

We seek to foreground intersectional and decolonizing understandings of power/privilege and identity in environment and community interrelationships.

Experience Your Learning

During the first year students will participate in a field research course to visit and learn from local communities and organizations. Students will also participate in interdisciplinary seminars with topics like: Klamath River Issues; Environmental Justice; Political Ecology; Decolonizing Methodologies; Racial Ecologies; Grant Writing for Social & Environmental Justice and more.

In their final year students complete a year long research project or graduate exam. Students work with faculty to create and implement their research projects based on interdisciplinary research interests. Some recent projects include:

An Intersectional Perspective on Diversity in Environmental Regulatory Agencies: A Case Study of Women of Color and Their Liminal Position of Identity in South Florida

Voices Erased from the Environmental Discourse: Understanding Campesin@s Realities and Identities Through Narratives and Forms of Resistances

Bringing Climate Change Home to Meet Your Community: Stakeholder Perceptions of Offshore Wind Energy in Humboldt County, California

X Did you know?

- **Environment & Community graduate students have a broad array of interdisciplinary interests, connected by a common commitment to work towards sustainable and just environment and community relationships.**
- **Graduates have a strong foundation in social science theory and research, and the skills for a career or higher degree in a number of fields and work for nonprofit, government, and educational organizations.**
- **We offer a Dual Degree Pathway. You can earn both a bachelor's and a master's degree in five years.**



Academics & Options

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Student research in the E&C program is unique and interdisciplinary. You have an opportunity to work with faculty from across the University to develop your research interests and projects. Capstone topics for graduate students in this program include the following general themes:

- Sustainable Food Systems
- Sustainable Communities
- Community-Natural Resource Management Interactions
- Environmental and Social Justice
- Environmental Education
- Native American/Indigenous Natural Resource Management



Careers

Many graduates work for nongovernmental organizations, while others work for government agencies, in education, and in the private sector. Some pursue law or Ph.D. degrees. All our graduates have a strong foundation in social science theory and research, and the skills for a career or higher degree in a number of fields.

- Conservation Agent
- Paralegal
- Senior Planner
- Water Conservation Specialist
- Development Director
- Education Director
- School Programs Coordinator
- Senior Organizer
- Union Representative
- Enrollment Coordinator



I am continuously referring back to strategies I learned for critical analysis of mainstream narratives around natural resources extraction, Indigenous history, intersectional work, and community-based wellbeing. Environment and Community also helped me connect with like-minded people in my cohort and other cohorts from around the nation who I remain close with. We continue to support each other in our careers, families, and overall emotional/spiritual/physical wellness."

Chisa Oros-Harry ('16, Social Science, Environment & Community), Administrator and Letter of Appointment Lecturer in Ethnic Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno