Environmental Studies, B.A.

This interdisciplinary program provides students the tools for understanding the complex relationships between human communities and both “natural” and constructed environments. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how environmental challenges involve multiple perspectives and social contexts, recognize the role of power and privilege in shaping those challenges, and realize how different research methods lead to diverse ways of examining the environment.

Experience Your Learning

Humboldt’s Environmental Studies major offers many opportunities for hands-on experiences. With the various biomes close at hand—forests, rivers and the coastline—the possibilities are wide open. But in this major, we also understand “the environment” to include places—where we live, work, and play—that are closer to home.

In Collaborating on Climate (ENST 480), students work with the Journalism department to produce a 30-second public service announcement on climate change.

Students have the opportunity to teach classes through Humboldt's eco-demonstration home, the Campus Center for Appropriate Technology, such as green building or homesteading.

Students can get involved with the Dendroecology Lab, where scientists are researching how climate change is affecting tree growth.

The opportunities for service learning, internships, and networking around sustainability and climate justice are abundant.

Did you know?

• Environmental Studies is a growing major with over 50 new students this fall.
• Environmental Studies has its own club! Get involved and make a difference in the local community.
Academics & Options

Environmental Studies, B.A.

Students will explore ecological science and gain a broad and deep understanding of human systems. It’s easy to double major or pick up a minor in another area that you are passionate about, such as water rights policy, Indigenous natural resource management, or environmental ethics.

Emphases

Ecology and Conservation Science: Students can take courses in principles of biology, general botany, wildlife conservation, and zoology.

Appropriate Technology: Coursework can include sustainable agriculture, technology and the environment, and appropriate technology.

Community Organizing: Students can take courses in communication and social advocacy, community organizing, community activism and more.

Geospatial Analysis: Classes in remote sensing, geospatial imaging systems, geospatial programming and more are offered.

Media Production: Coursework can include digital media, photography, beginning reporting, media making tools and more.

Minors & Certificates

• Sustainability Minor
• Climate Justice & Resilience Leadership Certificate

Get Involved

Environmental Studies Student Club
The club focuses on the many lenses of interdisciplinary perspectives to facilitate discussion and awareness of environmental issues. Opportunities for community involvement and socializing, leadership positions, and organizing environmental events and film screenings are abundant.

Careers

From conservation services, to local food sustainability programs, working with autistic children, directing student finances at a California college, and building a self-sustaining home on wheels, our graduates are pursuing a wide variety of careers.

• Community Organizer/Activist
• Conservation Specialist
• Energy Policy Specialist
• Environmental Analyst
• Environmental Consultant
• Environmental Educator
• Environmental Lawyer/Lobbyist
• Journalist/Writer
• Non-Profit Administrator
• Public Policy Analyst

“Everyday I really am thinking about my impact on the environment and the people. The passion and energy [ENST faculty] put into my education was not wasted a bit. I absorbed every drop and will be passing it along. I don’t know what I will be doing in the distant future, but I will be doing it for the planet and the people before I will ever do it for mine or someone else’s selfishness.”

Trevor Mahaffey (’15)