Social Science

Bachelor of Arts degree
see History - History Education [Social Science]

Master of Arts degree
in Social Science — with an
concentration in Environment & Community

Graduate Program Coordinator
Mark Baker, Ph.D.
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Program Faculty
Mark Baker, Politics
Peeke Byrd, Sociology
Leena Dallashah, History
Matthew Derrick, Geography
Yvonne Everett, Env. Science & Mgmt.
Kevin Fingerman, Env. Science & Mgmt.
Gregg Gold, Psychology
Steven Hackett, Economics
Nicola Hobbel, English
Arne Jacobson, Env. Res Engineering
Matt Johnson, Wildlife
Erin Kelly, Forestry & Wildland Resources
John Meyer, Politics
Nicholas Perdue, Geography
Sarah Ray, Environmental Studies
Laurie Richmond, Env. Science & Mgmt.
Cutcha Risling Baldy, Native American Studies
Maxwell Schnuer, Communication
Marlon Sherman, Native American Studies
Tony Silvaggio, Sociology
Jessica Urban, Critical Race, Gender & Studies [CRGS]
Noah Zerbe, Politics

The Program
Students completing this program will have demonstrated:

- skills to analyze the environmental consequences of economic and political structures and decisions
- tools to address issues of race, class, and gender in environmental-community relationships
- an understanding of community, place, and sense of place
- knowledge of and experience in diverse approaches to social science research and action
- insight from case studies that offer a problem-solving approach to learning
- preparation for careers in teaching, government, community, and environmental organizations
- an ethic of service and civic engagement.

Environment & Community: This is a two-year, interdisciplinary graduate program focused on understanding and advancing sustainability and community resilience within the context of social and environmental change at multiple scales. The program is committed to conceptually rigorous, applied research on sustainability and equity in a manner that transcends a nature-society dichotomy. Students explore these topics through graduate seminars in three curriculum areas: economic and political dimensions; socio-cultural dimensions; race, class, gender and place; and environmental dimensions. Capstone topics for graduate students in this program include the following general themes: sustainable food systems, community-natural resource management interactions, environmental and social justice, environmental education, Native American/indigenous natural resource management, and sustainable urban communities. Our graduates pursue successful careers in the nonprofit sector, education, private sector, and public sector.

ADMISSION/PATHWAYS
Postbaccalaureate Candidate Pathway

- Completed BA or BS degree
- GPA not less than 3.0 in the last 60 units of college coursework
- Three letters of recommendation
- Candidate essay describing goals and interests
- Ten-page writing sample
- Graduate coordinator approval after faculty committee review of application file

Dual Degree Pathway (3+2 BA and MA Degree)

The E&C program has developed, in conjunction with select undergraduate majors, dual degree (3+2) pathways that enable exceptional students to simultaneously earn a bachelor's and a master's degree in five years. Although the pathway does not change undergraduate major nor graduate degree requirements, students in the program seamlessly progress from undergraduate to graduate status. Students are eligible to apply for the pathway upon completion of 60 units. A faculty committee evaluates student applications. Participation is based on prior academic performance and other measures of academic excellence. Contact the E&C coordinator for majors that participate.

Course Requirements [36 units]

- One three-unit proseminar, EC 610 Environment & Community Research, to be taken during the first semester in the program.
- One three-unit research methods elective, chosen from an approved list, to be completed no later than the third semester.
- One-unit graduate colloquium, EC 615, for three semesters.
- One additional course at the graduate or upper-division undergraduate level from a list of elective options approved by the graduate coordinator.
- Six units of master's thesis or master's project, EC 690.
- Three units of field research or independent study, EC 695.
- 15 units of graduate seminars developed specifically for this program. Students take at least one seminar from each of the following three curriculum areas. Seminars are developed by the advisory committee comprised of program faculty.

Curriculum Areas:

Economic & Political Dimensions [EC 620] (some topics below), Dispute Resolution (SOC 535), or Energy, Environment, and Society (ENGR 532)
- Politics of Sustainability
- Globalism, Capitalism, and Environment
- Political Ecology
- Environmental (In)security

Socio-Cultural Dimensions: Race, Class, Gender and Place [EC 630] (some topics below)

- Community and Place
- Karman River Issues
- Socioeconomics of Natural Resources in the Mattole

Environmental Dimensions [EC 640] (some topics below)

- Ecosystems and Society
- Conservation Ecology and Society