

# BA IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

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## SACRAMENTO STATE

### In Workflow

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### Approval Path

1. Mon, 26 Aug 2024 19:24:26 GMT  
Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater): Rollback to Initiator
2. Tue, 27 Aug 2024 18:42:45 GMT  
Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater): Rollback to Initiator
3. Tue, 27 Aug 2024 18:50:08 GMT  
Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater): Approved for ENVS Committee Chair
4. Tue, 27 Aug 2024 18:50:29 GMT  
Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater): Approved for ENVS Chair
5. Tue, 01 Oct 2024 23:03:57 GMT  
Emily Wickelgren (wickelgr): Rollback to ENVS Chair for SSIS College Committee Chair
6. Fri, 11 Oct 2024 22:59:19 GMT  
Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater): Approved for ENVS Chair
7. Mon, 14 Oct 2024 17:30:13 GMT  
Emily Wickelgren (wickelgr): Approved for SSIS College Committee Chair
8. Mon, 14 Oct 2024 19:58:30 GMT  
Marya Endriga (mendriga): Approved for SSIS Dean

### History

1. May 3, 2018 by clmig-jwehrheim
2. Aug 8, 2018 by 212408496
3. Oct 2, 2018 by 212408496
4. Apr 28, 2020 by 220267334
5. Apr 23, 2021 by Katie Hawke (katiedickson)
6. Feb 21, 2022 by Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater)
7. Aug 5, 2022 by 302822325
8. Aug 10, 2022 by 302822325
9. Mar 5, 2024 by Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater)

Date Submitted: Tue, 27 Aug 2024 18:48:51 GMT

**Viewing: BA in Environmental Studies****Last approved: Tue, 05 Mar 2024 23:45:46 GMT****Last edit: Fri, 11 Oct 2024 22:59:11 GMT**

Changes proposed by: Wayne Linklater (223005380)

**Academic Group: (College)**

Social Sciences &amp; Interdisciplinary Studies

**Academic Organization: (Department)**

Environmental Studies

**Catalog Year Effective:**

2025-2026 Catalog

**Individual(s) primarily responsible for drafting the proposed degree major program:**

Name (First Last)	Email	Phone 999-999-9999
Wayne Linklater	wayne.linklater@csus.edu	916-278-6671

**Type of Program Proposal:**

Major

**Program Change Type:**

Substantive

**Delivery Format:**

Fully Face to Face

**Title of the Program:**

BA in Environmental Studies

**Designation: (degree terminology)**

Bachelor of Arts

**Briefly describe the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification:**

Context: Three years ago, the faculty of the Dept. of Environmental Studies identified the need for our BA to become distinct from our BS degree. It needed to better serve a different student learning need, demand, and career track. Subsequently, the faculty began a backwards design process. As a consequence, new program learning objectives were developed during 2022-23 as a guide to curriculum revisions. The purpose of this Form B is to implement the new PLOs, curriculum content and structure.

**What is new and why?**

1. Program learning outcomes. The program learning outcomes have been modified to more fully align with an arts, humanities, and social science focus.
2. A new "Research Methods" section. Training in qualitative methods consistent with an Arts degree is necessary. We have moved ENV5 courses with a methods focus (e.g., ENV5 120 and 121) from the "required upper division" section, to this new "research methods" section and added other courses providing learning in qualitative methods. We have entered into a collaborative arrangement with other Departments (Anthropology, Economics, Geography, and Political Science) to provide that training (consultations attached).
3. Policy electives. Because the BA is designed to more comprehensively include learning on human behavior (including policy and law), we have expanded the list of policy electives to include ENV5 155 (Environmental Management and Decision-making) which includes learning in behavior and decision-making. Previously the BA did not have a policy section but the BS did. To make the difference in the policy requirements of the BA cf. BS clearer to students when have made sure that both have a section of policy courses and that their differences are easy to ascertain.
3. Natural science curriculum. To enable items 2 and 3, and a focus on qualitative methods, behavior, policy and law, we have removed BIO 160 from among the required classes in the BA (it is retained as a required course in the BS). Less natural science curriculum is consistent with the different emphasis of an Arts (cf. Science) degree. BA students still learn ecology in the lower division introductory class, ENV5 10 (Introduction to Environmental Science).
4. Rationalizing electives. Previously, the BA required two ENV5 electives and two electives from other Departments (i.e., Interdisciplinary electives). The inclusion of other departments qualitative methods courses (see 2 above) now satisfies some of that requirement. Moreover, with the appointment of three new faculty over the last 3 years, the Dept. is now able to support a larger number and diversity of ENV5 electives, thus reducing our dependence on other programs for curriculum. We will still allow students to substitute two courses in other Departments for our electives (where that aligns with their career goals) but the program will default to requiring four ENV5 electives.
5. Fewer units. Previously, the BA was among the largest majors in the university by unit load. We have taken this opportunity to reduce the unit load, from 65-66 to 62-64.

6. We have modified the Program Description to emphasize career pathways consistent with our experience with graduates in recent years.

7. Other minor things:

- we changed the order of alternatives where two courses could meet a requirement (e.g., CHEM 6A or CHEM 1A, instead of the other way around). CHEM 6A is ore accessible to BA students.

- we have retained HIST 165 and SOC 138 in the section of Environmental Studies Electives (moving them from the old Inter-disciplinary elective" section) because both classes are cross listed with our program and have ENVS codes i.e., ENVS 165 and ENVS 138. The faculty regard their sub-disciplinary topics as germane to an Arts degree and wanted them retained as electives.

Note that the lower-division requirements remain the same as those in our BS to preserve the ability of students to modify their program, switching between the BA and BS, should they discover their preference later in their degree.

Overall, therefore, the new BA has been restructured to make it distinct from our BS, and to serve a different student need, by moving units from natural, quantitative science to qualitative social science and retaining more units within our Department.

## University Learning Goals

### Undergraduate Learning Goals:

Competence in the disciplines

Knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world

Intellectual and practical skills

Personal and social responsibility

Integrative learning

## Program Learning Outcomes

### Program Learning Outcomes

#### Learning Outcome

Identify and evaluate qualitative and quantitative methods for solving environmental problems (Baccalaureate Learning Goals [BLG] 1, 2, 3)

Communicate clearly and persuasively about environmental policy development, implementation, and evaluation (BLG 1, 3)

Clarify the diverse relationships between people, ways of knowing, and our environment (BLG 2, 4).

Critique environmental problems and solutions by applying social science theory and methods (BLG 1, 2, 3).

Creatively examine the intersection of environmental issues with the humanities (BLG 1, 2, 4, 5).

## Learning Outcomes Display

Course Code	PLO 1	PLO 2	PLO 3	PLO 4	PLO 5
BIO 1					
BIO 2					
BIO 10					
BIO 15L					
CHEM 6A					
CHEM 1A					
ECON 1B					
ENVS 10					
ENVS 10H					
GEOG 1					
GEOL 10					
ENVS 111					
ENVS 112					

ENVS 187					
ENVS 190					
ENVS 195					
ENVS 120					
ENVS 121					
ANTH 192B					
ANTH 195B					
ECON 110					
GEOG 109					
GEOG 182					
POLS 100					
ENVS 122					
ENVS 128					
ENVS 155					
ENVS 171					
ENVS 110					
ENVS 130					
ENVS 135					
ENVS 137					
ENVS 138					
ENVS 140					
ENVS 144					
ENVS 147					
ENVS 149					
ENVS 151					
ENVS 158					
ENVS 163					
ENVS 165					
ENVS 170					
ENVS 199					

Will this program be required as part of a teaching credential program, a single subject, or multiple subject waiver program (e.g., Liberal Studies, Biology) or other school personnel preparation program (e.g., School of Nursing)?

No

**Please attach a Comprehensive Program Assessment Plan (required)**

Program-Assessment-Plan-Template - BA Environmental Studies.docx

**Please attach a Curriculum Map Matrix (required)**

CurriculumMapMatrixTemplate ENVS BA.docx

**Please attach a five-year budget projection (required)**

5-year-budget-template-BA ENVS.xls

**Do these changes impact the Smart Planner roadmap?**

Yes

**Please attach the Smart Planner roadmap:**

2018\_ENVS\_Environmental Studies BA (revised 6-3-24).docx

**Briefly describe the change:**

1. The new curriculum has a new area which requires training in qualitative methods, called Research Methods.
2. We have expanded the list of policy electives to include ENVS 155 (Environmental Management and Decision-making) which includes learning in decision-making.
3. To enable items 1 and 2, and a focus on qualitative methods, behavior, policy and law, we have removed BIO 160 from among the required classes in the BA.
4. The new program will default to requiring four ENVS electives instead of just two.

Note that the lower-division requirements remain the same as those in our BS to preserve the ability of students to modify their program, switching between the BA and BS, should they discover their preference later in their degree.

**Catalog Description:****Units required for Major: 62-64****Total units required for BA: 120**

## Program Description

Students will gain an interdisciplinary understanding of environmental challenges and their solutions. Environmental topics are taught in their political, social and scientific context, with an emphasis on environmental behavior, policy and law. Alongside learning the disciplinary knowledge and practice, the degree emphasizes skills in research, evaluation, communication, cooperation, and service.

Graduates are typically employed as social scientists, planners, policy-makers or advocates in government, community-based organizations or industry working in food and agriculture, fish and wildlife, pollution and toxic substances, forestry and fire, air and water resources, recycling and recovery, and environmental consulting, advocacy, enforcement, and regulation.

**Admission Requirements: Course prerequisites and other criteria for admission of students to the degree major program, and for their continuation in it.**


## Minimum Grade Requirement

A minimum grade of "C-" is required in all courses required for the Environmental Studies B.A. and B.S. majors.

As defined by policy <http://www.csus.edu/umannual/acadaff/fsm00010.htm>, a change in units constitutes a substantive change to the program. If your changes constitute a substantive change, please refer back to the "Program Change Type" field above to ensure that "Substantive" is selected.

**Program Requirements: (If new courses are being created as part of a new program, it will be useful to propose courses first.)**

## Program Requirements

Code	Title	Units
<b>Required Lower Division Courses (23-24 Units)</b>		
BIO 1	Biodiversity, Evolution and Ecology <sup>1</sup>	5
BIO 2	Cells, Molecules and Genes	4 - 5
or BIO 10 & BIO 15L	Basic Biological Concepts Laboratory Investigations in Biology	
CHEM 6A	Introduction to General Chemistry <sup>1</sup>	5
or CHEM 1A	General Chemistry I	
ECON 1B	Introduction to Microeconomic Analysis <sup>1</sup>	3
ENVS 10	Introduction to Environmental Science <sup>1</sup>	3
or ENVS 10H	Honors Environmental Science	
GEOG 1	Physical Geography: The Distribution of Natural Phenomena <sup>1</sup>	3
or GEOL 10	Physical Geology	
<b>Required Upper Division Courses (13 Units)</b>		
ENVS 111	Environmental Ethics <sup>1</sup>	3
ENVS 112	International Environmental Problems  <sup>1</sup>	3
ENVS 187	Environmental Studies Seminar	1

ENVS 190	Senior Thesis	3
ENVS 195	Environmental Studies Internship	3
<b>Research Methods (8-9 Units)</b>		
ENVS 120	Quantitative Methods for Environmental Science	3
and two or three of the following:		5 - 6
ENVS 121	Field Methods in Environmental Science	
ANTH 192B	Laboratory in Ethnographic Techniques <sup>2</sup>	
ANTH 195B	Fieldwork in Ethnology <sup>2</sup>	
ECON 110	Cost Benefit Analysis	
GEOG 109	Geographic Information Systems	
GEOG 182	Qualitative Methods in Geography	
POLS 100	Introduction to Research Methods in Political Science	
<b>Policy and Management Electives (6 Units)</b>		
Select two of the following		6
ENVS 122	Environmental Impact Analysis: CEQA and NEPA	
ENVS 128	Environment and the Law	
ENVS 155	Environmental Management and Decision-Making	
ENVS 171	Environmental Politics and Policy	
<b>Environmental Studies Electives (12 Units)<sup>3</sup></b>		
Select four of the following courses:		12
ENVS 110	Contemporary Environmental Issues	
ENVS 130	Environmental Toxicology	
ENVS 135	California Water and Society	
ENVS 137	Conservation and Society	
ENVS/SOC 138	Introduction to Environmental Sociology	
ENVS 140	Energy, Society, and the Environment	
ENVS 144	Sustainability Science & Policy	
ENVS 147	Urban Agriculture and Aquaponics	
ENVS 149	Agroecology	
ENVS 151	Restoration Ecology	
ENVS 158	Wetlands Ecology	
ENVS 163	Ethnoecology <sup>1</sup>	
ENVS/HIST 165	American Environmental History <sup>1</sup>	
ENVS 170	Environmental Justice (New course: Environmental Justice - Form A submitted concurrently)	
ENVS 199	Special Problems ( Requires faculty advisor)	
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>62-64</b>

<sup>1</sup> Course also satisfies General Education (GE)/Graduation Requirement.

<sup>2</sup> We recommend taking ANTH 192B and ANTH 195B as a pair of courses for 3 units to satisfy a Research Methods elective.

<sup>3</sup> A student may substitute up to 6 units of ENVS electives from other programs if the substitute course aligns with their career aspirations. Most commonly those courses are taught by Biology, Geography, Geology, History or RPTA but any courses aligned with the student's interests will be considered. Contact your major advisor for approval of a substitute course.

## General Education Requirements<sup>1</sup>

Code	Title	Units
<b>Area A: Basic Subjects (9 Units)</b>		
A1	Oral Communication	3
A2	Written Communication	3
A3	Critical Thinking <sup>2</sup>	3
<b>Area B: Physical Universe and Its Life Forms (6 Units)</b>		
B1	Physical Science <sup>3</sup>	0
B2	Life Forms <sup>3</sup>	0
B3	Lab (Note: Lab experience to be taken with one of the following: B1, B2 or B5) <sup>3</sup>	0
B4	Math Concepts <sup>4</sup>	3
B5	Additional Course (Any B to reach 12 units) - Take upper-division course to complete Area & upper division requirements.	3
<b>Area C: Arts and Humanities (9 Units)</b>		
C1	Arts	3

C2 - Humanities	3
C1 - Area C Course	3
C2 - Area C Course <sup>3</sup>	0
<b>Area D: The Individual and Society (6 Units)</b>	
Area D Course	3
Area D Course <sup>3</sup>	0
Area D Course - Take upper-division course to complete Area & upper division requirements.	3
<b>Area E: Understanding Personal Development (3 Units)</b>	
Area E Course	3
<b>Area F: Ethnic Studies (3 Units)</b>	
Area F Course	3
<b>Total Units</b>	<b>36</b>

<sup>1</sup> To help you complete your degree in a timely manner and not take more units than absolutely necessary, there are ways to use single courses to meet more than one requirement (overlap). For further information, please visit the General Education page (<http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/academic-affairs/general-education/>).

**Note:** There is no way to list all possible overlaps so please consult with a professional advisor. The Academic Advising Center can be visited online (<http://www.csus.edu/acad/>), by phone (916) 278-1000, or email ([advising@csus.edu](mailto:advising@csus.edu)).

<sup>2</sup> ENVS 11 (Environmental Issues and Critical Thinking recommended for Environmental Study majors to meet the GE A3 requirement

<sup>3</sup> Course that satisfies this GE also required by the Environmental Studies major.

<sup>4</sup> STAT 1 recommended for Environmental Studies majors because it is also a prerequisite for a required course in the major: ENVS 120 - Quantitative Methods.

## Graduation Requirements <sup>1</sup>

Code	Title	Units
<b>Graduation Requirements (required by CSU) (6 Units)</b>		
American Institutions: U.S. History		3
American Institutions: U.S. Constitution & CA Government		3
Writing Intensive (WI) <sup>2</sup>		0
<b>Graduation Requirements (required by Sacramento State) (12 Units)</b>		
English Composition II		3
Race and Ethnicity in American Society (RE)		3
Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement <sup>3</sup>		6

<sup>1</sup> To help you complete your degree in a timely manner and not take more units than absolutely necessary, there are ways to use single courses to meet more than one requirement (overlap). For further information, please visit the General Education page (<http://catalog.csus.edu/colleges/academic-affairs/general-education/>).

**Note:** There is no way to list all possible overlaps so please consult with a professional advisor. The Academic Advising Center can be visited online (<http://www.csus.edu/acad/>), by phone (916) 278-1000, or email ([advising@csus.edu](mailto:advising@csus.edu)).

<sup>2</sup> ENVS 112 - International Environmental Problems - is required by the Major and also satisfies this Graduation Requirement.

<sup>3</sup> If not satisfied before entering Sacramento State, it may be satisfied in General Education Area C2 (Humanities). "C- or better required." The alternative methods for satisfying the Foreign Language Proficiency Requirement are described here: <https://www.csus.edu/college/arts-letters/world-languages-literatures/foreign-language-requirement.html> (<https://www.csus.edu/college/arts-letters/world-languages-literatures/foreign-language-requirement.html>)

## Fiscal Impact to Change an Existing Program

**Indicate programmatic or fiscal impact which this change will have on other academic units' programs, and describe the consultation that has occurred with affected units:**

1. The new Research Methods area includes electives from the Departments of Anthropology, Economics, Geography and Political Science. Consultation attached. All Departments approved of the change.

2. The old BA curriculum had an inter-disciplinary electives area from which students nominated 6 units from a list of courses from the Departments of Biology, Geography, Economics, RPTA, and Political Science. The Department of Environmental Studies has grown from four to seven faculty over the last 5 years and now has the capacity to support a larger curriculum of its own electives. Note, however, that (1) students will still be able to substitute 6 units of electives from other departments where they align with their career aspirations, and (2) affected Departments still participate in our degree through the Research Methods Area electives.

**Attach a copy of correspondence with these units:**

CONSULTATION - additional of research methods.docx

CONSULTATION - BA change to inter-disciplinary electives.docx

**Provide a fiscal analysis of the proposed changes:**

We anticipate no fiscal impact on our program of these changes, other than the hope that our BA will generate greater interest among students, supporting higher enrollment. Already achieved faculty growth from 4 to 7 tenure/tenure-track faculty is sufficient to support the change.

**How will the above changes be accommodated within the department/College existing fiscal resources?**

No accommodation is required. We are only changing the structure of an existing curriculum to better match student learning needs.

**Will the proposed changes require additional resources?**

No

**What additional space, equipment, operating expenses, library, computer, or media resources, clerical/technical support, or other resources will be needed?**

None

**Estimate the cost and indicate how these resource needs will be accommodated:**

N/A

**Reviewer Comments:**

Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater) (Mon, 26 Aug 2024 19:24:26 GMT): Rollback: .

Wayne Linklater (wayne.linklater) (Tue, 27 Aug 2024 18:42:45 GMT): Rollback: .

Emily Wickelgren (wickelgr) (Tue, 01 Oct 2024 23:03:57 GMT): Rollback: See email on 10/1/24

Key: 234