

Planning Your Sustainable Future

The College of Natural Resources at UC Berkeley is driven by a mission to serve humanity and conserve the earth and its resources. Through our teaching and research, we integrate biological, physical, and social science disciplines to address health, environmental, and societal problems. This means all of our majors deal in a significant way with the environment and human welfare. With our majors in interdisciplinary studies and the social sciences, you can expect to study the various ways we might speed up the pace of social change in our world. By applying what you learn as a CNR undergraduate to the possible career you see down the road, you can very well map out your own sustainable future. Read on to get a better sense of three CNR majors that can provide you with good direction. We will gladly help you explore where you want to go, but first ask yourself: how are you driven?

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CNR Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies

Environmental Economics & Policy (EEP) | <http://are.berkeley.edu>

Undergraduate Staff Advisor: Gail Vawter | 203 Giannini Hall | gail@are.berkeley.edu | Tel: (510) 642-3347

Key Skills Gained

- Gain a broad foundation in economics, law, policy, and domestic or international development studies.
- Acquire solid economics and statistical skills, as they are in great demand; also develop strong math, accounting, and computer skills.
- Enhance your ability to communicate well through excellent writing and speaking skills that you can cultivate in smaller classroom settings.
- Obtain research experience, e.g., write research papers to develop your analytical and critical thinking abilities.

Law / Policy / Business

- Stand apart from the typical pre-business or pre-law student by choosing an interdisciplinary social science major that will teach you how to analyze problems using multiple approaches.
- Bring your knowledge of environmental issues to bear on important business solutions or legal concerns, and contribute to the increasingly significant fields of sustainable business, environmental law, or public planning and administration.
- Pursue a career in socially responsible business or law, working in agricultural, environmental, financial, or other types of firms in management or analysis positions.

Public Service / Government

- Prepare for a career in federal or state departments, including the offices of state legislators, as a policy assistant, research assistant, or legislative analyst.
- Develop policies affecting pollution control, land use, or resource allocations, among other environmental matters.
- Administer charitable and other socially oriented programs through non-profit organizations, international organizations, political lobbies, or similar groups.

Environmental Sciences (ES) | <http://environmentalsciences.berkeley.edu>

Undergraduate Staff Advisor: Siska Philips | 245 Mulford Hall | siska@nature.berkeley.edu | Tel: (510) 643-9479

Key Skills Gained

- Develop a broad understanding of contemporary, interconnected environmental issues while learning to apply concepts creatively to solve real-world problems.
- Gain experience in designing and executing your own senior thesis research project, including data analysis and use of lab equipment, under the guidance of a faculty mentor.
- Concentrate on the social sciences within ES to hone your critical and analytical thinking and to demonstrate a solid understanding of your particular research area.

Law / Policy / Business

- Market your ability to design a research program, carry it out, and produce a research report as direct evidence of your strengths in design, analysis, information integration, and communication.
- Apply your multidisciplinary environmental sciences training to environmental law, or to public policy or environmental consulting where you can pursue jobs in management, analysis, inspection, or engineering.
- Help corporations plan or manage their environmental impact statements, real estate development, land use, air/water quality, or transportation needs.

Public Service / Government

- Work with government agencies to develop policies on managing natural resources or monitoring the environmental impact of hazardous materials or human activities.
- Become an urban planner or urban architect at the state or local level, building on your environmental background.
- Pursue an active career with local, state, or federal agencies or non-profit organizations in park administration or management, recreational planning, or ecotourism.

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CNR Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies

Conservation & Resource Studies (CRS) | <http://espm.berkeley.edu>

Undergraduate Staff Advisor: Maire Lanigan | 131 Mulford Hall | mlanigan@nature.berkeley.edu | Tel: (510) 642-4249

Key Skills Gained

- Demonstrate your intellectual maturity by creating your own individualized major in environmental studies that addresses the interactions among natural resources, population, energy, technology, societal institutions, and cultural values.
- Foster a strong academic focus that is reflective of the depth and breadth of study in your self-designed area of interest within the major.
- Develop a comprehensive knowledge base in environmental studies that can be applied to a wide range of social or environmental issues and concerns.

Law / Policy / Business

- Benefit from the CRS program's flexibility to draw not only from campus courses, but also community resources and organizations as a way of developing strong communication skills important to establishing a network for your future career.
- Apply your interdisciplinary background in environmental issues to the development and implementation of sustainable business solutions, or to key areas of environmental law or public planning and administration.
- Provide services in environmental planning and natural resources management to environmental consulting or law firms that assist clients with strategic planning, educational training in environmentalism, or environmental compliance at the local, state, or federal levels.
- Assist in the creation of environmental policies and proposed legislation affecting the environment.

Public Service / Government

- Partner with communities, local land trusts, or public land agencies to develop effective conservation solutions for land, water, and other resources.
- Work with public agencies or non-profit organizations to develop open space, conservation, and recreation plans.
- Pursue a career with government agencies or districts to address issues such as water supply and control, ecosystem planning and conservation, or environmental regulation.
- Provide environmental education services to the public by teaching courses that will advance public understanding of important environmental issues.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Beyond Green: CNR Students Teach and Learn Sustainability

This spring, CONSERVATION AND RESOURCE STUDIES senior Inna Volynskaya and other CNR students will teach the course "Education for Sustainable Living" as part of the California Student Sustainability Coalition's project of the same name. Now in its third year, the course will take a new focus this spring. As Inna explains, "This class is an innovative and exciting presentation of sustainability, since it connects traditional environmental concerns with social issues. How do our lifestyles affect our environment? And conversely, how does our environment affect our lifestyles?"

The class is offered at nine college campuses in California, five of which are in the University of California system. It is structured as a series of lectures by a variety of world-class speakers on local, national, and international sustainability issues. Lectures are open to the public and will broaden in scope as the semester progresses, beginning with personal consumption management and ending with global sustainability. Enrolled students design a service project based on the content of the lectures. Past projects have focused on energy use at the Haas School of Business, composting at UC dining halls, biodiesel research, and teaching environmental issues in elementary schools.

This year, students also have the option of completing their projects through an alternative spring break sponsored by Cal Corps Public Service Center, "Beyond Green: Sustainability in the Bay Area." Participating organizations this year include the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights as well as Circle of Life, a non-profit promoting interdependence and personal responsibility. During the lecture phase of the course, representatives from these groups will highlight areas of need within their organizations. Students will then design their spring break projects to help alleviate those needs.

"Education for Sustainable Living" is open to all students under Professor Leonard Duhl's Group Study 298 course in Public Health, CCN 76673. It will meet on Wednesday evenings from 5:00-7:00 pm in 106 Moffitt. For more information, please email UCBeslp@gmail.com.

ALUMNI CONNECTION

ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND POLICY alumnus Sergio Nuñez de Arco, class of 1995, is hard at work promoting the growth of sustainable farming in the Andes through the company he established, Andean Naturals, in Burlingame, California. "The EEP major prepared me to understand the economic link between the environment and the farmers, and the importance of sustainable use of resources in the development of an emerging economy," he says. "Above all, the major fueled my desire to find a way to support sustainable enterprises. I graduated feeling equipped to go out and make a difference."

Indeed, Sergio has made a difference – Andean Naturals is developing a fair-trade bridge between organic Andean farmers and U.S. markets. "We hope that by channeling a growing demand for organic products to the Andes we can promote the growth of sustainable farming in the region," notes Sergio. With operations in Bolivia and the United States, Sergio is confident that Andean Naturals will be able to shift the "risk premium" that other importers build into their pricing to where it is most needed - with the farmers.

Choosing to major in EEP gave Sergio a solid foundation in environmental studies, resource management, economics, and international development. As a student at CNR, Sergio received excellent academic guidance from Professor Alain de Janvry. "Professor de Janvry was outstanding at helping me to focus my interests and discover my passion for sustainable development," he recalls. Sergio subsequently focused his studies on adapted agricultural technologies, sustainable resource utilization, and cooperative agriculture in the Andean region.



Sergio Nuñez de Arco, CNR graduate in Environmental Economics and Policy and founder of Andean Naturals

Sergio hopes to expand Andean Naturals throughout the United States and into Europe. He anticipates this growth to be a long-term process as he helps Andean farmers introduce new organic and value-added products to these markets. He is happy to speak with current CNR undergraduates about his work, and can be reached by email at sergio_nunez@andeannaturals.com. CNR wishes Sergio continued success in his enterprises with Andean Naturals!

 ESC

ON THE CE FRONT

Cooperative Extension Specialist Dr. Christy Getz on Excellence in Research



Dr. Christy Getz, Cooperative Extension

Dr. Christy Getz is an outstanding contributor to the Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management as Assistant Cooperative Extension Specialist in the Society and Environment division. Working collaboratively to conduct research and ask questions that have both theoretical and practical relevance in her field, Dr. Getz has tremendous enthusiasm for her job. She believes that Cooperative Extension serves as "the critical link between the college and the public," serving public interests as well as solving many pressing issues.

Dr. Getz sees her own role in Cooperative Extension "as leveraging the myriad resources of CNR and the larger university to enhance the research and outreach capacity of county cooperative extension offices and community-based organizations in the state." Her areas of research include community and economic development in natural resource-dependent communities, social justice and labor in natural resource-dependent industries, and sustainable food systems and community food security.

Many CNR graduate students have been essential to the success of Dr. Getz's research – they have assisted with research as well as with the outreach components of the program. As an example, she describes how she worked with former ESPM graduate student Heidi Ballard on a project to "develop a participatory biodiversity inventory and monitoring system to improve sustainable forest management on public and private lands in California."

Currently, Dr. Getz is working on a project entitled "Assessing Food Security among Agricultural Workers in California's Central Valley," which seeks to boost food security for farm workers in Fresno County. She is also working on "Beyond the Organic Market: The 'Labor Question' and Implications for California Farm Workers," which hopes to recognize how the elements and socio-political contexts of organic agriculture impact the farm workers therein.

Many thanks to Dr. Christy Getz for her outstanding contributions to CNR!

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CONTACT US

CNR Forum is published for prospective and current students, faculty, staff, alumni, emeriti, retirees, and friends of the College of Natural Resources at the University of California, Berkeley. We welcome comments, news, and story suggestions. Please e-mail us at linm@nature.berkeley.edu or call (510) 643-4647.

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE

CNR Strides Toward Sustainability with the Center for Sustainable Resource Development

The CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (CSRSD) at CNR represents a tangible connection between social and environmental experts and UCB students.



ELP participants from Madagascar, Scotland and Cambodia map sources of rural conflict in a course exercise.

Researchers and stakeholders address complex areas of research, enabling students to attend lecture series and interact with leading experts in the field. The CSRSD prides itself in having developed a circle of leadership comprising the top environmental leaders in the world during the last five years, and also encourages the continued involvement of CNR students in efforts such as the Population, Poverty, and Environment Program.

Dr. Robin Marsh, Academic Coordinator for CSRSD, encourages students to participate in the Center's new initiative - the Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Project. Dr. Marsh is one of the researchers involved with the project, which uses "participatory research on integrated vegetable-agroforestry systems for small-scale farmers in Vietnam, Indonesia and the Philippines."

Dr. Marsh is also developing, managing, and promoting the growth of the international Beahrs Environmental Leadership Program with

CNR Professor David Zilberman. "The experience has been terrific because it is creative, varied, and utilizes my long experience in international agricultural development," she notes.

In Dr. Marsh's EEP 153 course, "Population, Environment, and Development," students explore "the linkages between population dynamics and environmental and economic outcomes, examining historical and current debates on the topic, and related case studies on migration, water, eco-agriculture, and biodiversity and conservation conflicts." Ultimately, studying these subjects enhances a student's education and provides them with opportunities to promote sustainable resource development.

Students can get involved with CSRSD by calling Dr. Marsh at (510) 643-4200 or stopping by 4 Giannini Hall to discuss their interests and learn more about current projects.



AG Collecting samples on a recent field trip to the Botanical Gardens.