Society and Environment (SE)

Overview of Major: Social and environmental problems are deeply intertwined. This major introduces students to the main approaches and theory for environmental social sciences, including how social science tools can be applied to environmental problems, and how social science theories contribute to understanding environmental problems. At the upper division level there are three major areas of concentration. Students are exposed to all three areas and choose to focus in one: U.S. Environmental Policy and Management, Global Environmental Politics, or Justice & Sustainability.

Minimum Admission Requirements: Must be completed by the end of spring term preceding fall enrollment.

IGETC

IGETC satisfies all lower division requirements for the Society & Environment major. No additional coursework is required. However, it is highly recommended that even students with IGETC certification complete articulated courses in microeconomics, statistics or calculus, and the ESPM Environmental and Social Science Cores (if available) in order to be competitive.

(For students transferring from another UC campus, UC Reciprocity will also satisfy all lower division requirements for the Society & Environment major)

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<th>IGTC</th>
<th>Breadth Courses:</th>
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<tr>
<td>One year of Reading &amp; Composition</td>
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<td>Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences Breadth Course</td>
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<td>International Studies Breadth Course</td>
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<td>Physical Sciences Breadth Course</td>
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| Humanities Breadth Course  
(chosen from Arts & Literature, Philosophy & Values, or Historical Studies Breadth Courses) |
| Biological Sciences Breadth Course |
| One semester of Calculus or Statistics |
| Introductory Economics (macro & micro econ) |
| ESPM Environmental Science Core* |
| ESPM Social Science Core* |

* The ESPM Core Courses can be taken at UC Berkeley for those students whose campuses do not offer an articulated course.

Other course required (offered only at some community colleges): American Cultures Requirement

Admissions Review Process:

- Holistic review: Based on combination of academic and non-academic achievements.
- Includes personal essay, coursework, test scores, interest in the major and field. A thoughtful essay demonstrating a clear interest in the major helps build a stronger application.
- For more about admissions review: [http://admissions.berkeley.edu/selectsstudents](http://admissions.berkeley.edu/selectsstudents)

Application Timeline:

- UC Systemwide Application (November)
- UC Berkeley Work in Progress Update (January)
- Advisor Review (February)
- Decision notification (Late April)

Helpful Things to Know:

- IGETC satisfies Reading & Composition, ESPM Social Science Core, and two general breadth courses. IGETC does not satisfy the ESPM Environmental Science Core, Environmental Economics, or minimum requirements listed above.
- The major has 3 areas of concentration that students can choose from. The concentration has no bearing on admission, as long as minimum admissions requirements are met.
- Research experience is strongly encouraged, though not required. Admitted students begin developing their research projects in their second semester.

Competitive Applicants Will Have:

- Have completed, or are in process of completing, either IGETC or transferrable coursework for all lower division requirements for the Society & Environment major.
- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Have taken a transferrable calculus or stats course and a transferrable economics course - at the very least, a micro-economics course, if not micro- and macro-economics.
- Have taken transferable ESPM Environmental and Social Science Core courses though these requirements may be taken at Berkeley if no course is articulated at the community college.
- Shown a sincere interest in the Society & Environment major, social sciences, environmental policies and management, environmental politics and justice, and/or sustainability.

How to contact an advisor:

Major Advisor: Christine Tobolski, ctobolski@berkeley.edu (Appointments are preferred for prospective students)

Society and Environment Website: [http://nature.berkeley.edu/advising/majors/society-and-environment](http://nature.berkeley.edu/advising/majors/society-and-environment)