Conservation and Resource Studies Major Snapshot
Department of Environmental Science, Policy & Management

The Conservation and Resource Studies (CRS) major is a self-designed interdisciplinary program for students interested in environmental issues and areas of interaction among natural resources, population, energy, technology, societal institutions, and cultural values. Students draw on the course offerings of the entire campus and appropriate community resources in the development of individual programs of study.

The major’s orientation is toward flexibility and an individualized educational approach to understanding the structure and dynamic functions of complex environmental systems within our society and biosphere. It encourages interaction among students, faculty, and community. The major's offerings are designed to help each student formulate an area of interest, but are not in any way meant to limit the range of options available. Sample topics include environmental justice and education; sustainable development of world populations; energy and environmental policy; conservation and culture; global environmental politics; and ecological restoration and policy.

ESPM Student Affairs is located in 260 Mulford Hall. The Academic Advisor for CRS is available to answer your questions about the major. Students are encouraged to drop in weekdays between 9:00 – 12:00 and 1:00 to 4:00.

Research Opportunities ♦ College Honors Program ♦ Environmental & Other Careers

Students with a GPA of 3.6 or higher may enroll in the Rausser College of Natural Resources Honors Program (H196) once they have reached upper division standing. To fulfill the program requirements, students design, conduct, and report on an individual research project working with a faculty sponsor. For more information, visit https://nature.berkeley.edu/advising/honors-program

In addition to the Berkeley campus Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program (URAP), Rausser College students can also apply for the Rausser College Sponsored Projects for Undergraduate Research (SPUR). Visit https://nature.berkeley.edu/research/undergraduate-research for details.

Graduates are well-prepared for careers in fields such as environmental consulting, education, health, or law; community, urban, or regional planning; and other related areas of environmentalism in public agencies, non-profit conservation organizations, and private companies. Graduates are well-qualified for a variety of graduate programs, including law school.

Getting a Degree

To earn a Bachelor of Science from U.C. Berkeley in Conservation and Resource Studies, students must fulfill unit and GPA requirements, university and campus requirements, college requirements, and major requirements. Please see the major advisor for more details about the major requirements.

Unit and GPA Requirements

In order to graduate, students must complete a total of 120 units, 36 of which must be upper division units. Students must have at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA, and a 2.0 GPA in the courses required for the major.

University and Campus Requirements

☐ Entry Level Writing
☐ American History & Institutions
☐ American Cultures

College Requirements

☐ Two courses in Reading & Composition (8 units): R1A and R1B
☐ 15 upper division units must be completed in the Rausser College of Natural Resources (EEP, ERG, ESPM, NST, PMB)
Conservation and Resource Studies Major Requirements

120 units

**Lower Division Requirements:** (note: all courses must be taken for a letter grade)

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<td>☐</td>
<td>ESPM Environmental Sci Core: ESPM 2, ESPM 6, ESPM C10 (L&amp;S C30V), ESPM 15, or ESPM C46</td>
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<td>☐</td>
<td>ESPM Social Science Core: ESPM 5, ESPM C11 (L&amp;S C30U), ESPM C12, ESPM C22AC, ESPM 50AC or ESPM 60</td>
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<td>☐</td>
<td>One course in General Biology with lab from the following list: Biology 1A: Molecular &amp; Cellular Biology, Biology 1B: Plants/Ecology/Evolution, or Biology 11: Introduction to the Science of Living Organisms. NOTE: Biology 1B is recommended.</td>
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<td>One course (3-4 units) in Social &amp; Behavioral Sciences or International Studies chosen from the “Seven Breadth” listing: <a href="https://ls.berkeley.edu/seven-course-breadth-requirement">https://ls.berkeley.edu/seven-course-breadth-requirement</a></td>
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<td>One course (3-4 units) in Physical Sciences chosen from the “Seven Breadth” listing: <a href="https://ls.berkeley.edu/seven-course-breadth-requirement">https://ls.berkeley.edu/seven-course-breadth-requirement</a></td>
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<td>One course (3-4 units) in Arts &amp; Literature, Historical Studies, or Philosophy &amp; Values chosen from the “Seven Breadth” listing: <a href="https://ls.berkeley.edu/seven-course-breadth-requirement">https://ls.berkeley.edu/seven-course-breadth-requirement</a></td>
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<td>One Calculus or Statistics course: Math 16A, 16B, 1A or 1B; Statistics: 2, C8, 20, 25, 131A; Poli Sci 3</td>
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<td>☐</td>
<td>ESPM 90: Introduction to the CRS Major. Students design Area of Interest statement and declare the major in this class. This course should be taken spring of sophomore year or fall of junior year.</td>
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<td>Two Preparatory Courses to the Area of Interest (6-8 units), chosen in consultation with advisor</td>
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**Upper Division Requirements:**

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<td>15 upper division units must be taken in the Rausser College of Natural Resources (EEP, ERG, ESPM, NST, PMB)</td>
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<td>ESPM 100 (Fall only) Environmental Problem Solving (4)</td>
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<td>ESPM 194A: Senior Seminar in Conservation &amp; Resource Studies (2). Recommended in the final semester at Berkeley. This requirement may be replaced by ESPM 195 (Senior Thesis) or ESPM H196 (College Honors Research). See major advisor for more details.</td>
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<td>Eight student-designed Area of Interest Classes (for a minimum of 24 units). These classes are selected and approved in ESPM 90 as a part of the Area of Interest Statement. Sample topics include, but are not limited to, Marine Resource Management; Sustainable Agriculture in the Developing World; Environmental Justice &amp; Education; Wildlife Conservation &amp; Management; Energy &amp; Environmental Policy; Population &amp; Conservation Policy; Urban Environmental Law; Public Health &amp; Environmental Pollution; Sustainable Landscape Design; Community Organization for Resource Conservation; Bioethics &amp; Technology; Tropical Conservation &amp; Medical Epidemiology; Urban Environmental Education; Environmental Business.</td>
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**Area of Interest Requirements:**

(1) A minimum of 8 faculty-approved upper division courses are required (at least 24 semester units total).
(2) No AOI course may be taken prior to reaching junior status (60 semester units).
(3) At least 6 of the 8 courses must be taken on the Berkeley campus (Forestry Camp courses = UCB courses).
(4) A maximum of two courses may be taken through the Education Abroad Program.
(5) A maximum of two AOI courses (6-8 units) may be structured field studies (e.g. Moorea or Summer Forestry Camp)
(6) Each course must be upper division and taken for a letter grade. Each must be 2 units or above.
(7) A minimum of 24 units in AOI coursework must be completed.
(8) ESPM 197, 198 and 199 courses will not be accepted as one of your 8 AOI courses.