

Society & Environment Transfer Admission Guidelines

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: Transfer students must complete all lower division major requirements by the end of the spring term preceding fall enrollment at Berkeley. Exceptions are highly unlikely.

Please note: IGETC certification does not fully prepare a student for the Society and Environment curriculum, therefore, IGETC will no longer satisfy the minimum requirements to transfer into the major.

Applicants Must Complete:
One articulated microeconomics course (please reference articulation agreement for the Society & Environment major)
One calculus or statistics course (please reference articulation agreement for the Society & Environment major)
One ESPM Environmental Science Core*
One ESPM Social Science Core*
One UC-transferable course in the biological science breadth area or IGETC (3-4 units)
One UC-transferable course in the physical sciences breadth area or IGETC (3-4 units)
One UC-transferable course in the international studies breadth area or IGETC (3-4 units)
One UC-transferable course in the social & behavioral sciences breadth area or IGETC (3-4 units)
One UC-transferable course in either the Arts & Literature or Historical Studies or Philosophy & Values breadth area or IGETC (3-4 units)
Two UC-transferable course for each half of the R&C requirement or IGETC

* The ESPM Environmental Science Core and the ESPM Social Science Core requirements must be taken at Berkeley if no course is articulated at students' home institution. If an articulated course for the two ESPM core courses are offered at your home institution, it is highly recommended that the student take the comparable course at their California Community College in order to be a competitive applicant.

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>

Application Timeline:

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| ● UC System-wide Application (November) | ● Advisor Review (February) |
| ● UC Berkeley Work in Progress Update (January) | ● Decision notification (Late April) |

Helpful Things to Know:

- IGETC certification can be used to satisfy the following breadth requirements in lieu of course-to-course articulation: Biological Sciences, Physical Sciences, International Studies, Social & Behavioral Sciences, and Arts & Lit/Historical Studies/Philosophy & Values, both halves of Reading & Composition.
- The major has three areas of concentration that students can choose from. It is not necessary to identify a primary Area of Concentration prior to applying. The concentration has no bearing on admission.
- Research experience is strongly encouraged, though not required. Admitted students begin developing their research projects in their second semester.

Competitive Applicants Will Have:

- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Completed, or are in process of completing, either IGETC or transferrable coursework for all lower-division requirements for the Society & Environment major.
- Taken a transferrable calculus or statistics course and a transferrable economics course - at the very least, a micro-economics course, if not micro- and macro-economics.
- 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.
- Completed the Admissions Supplemental Form thoroughly, helping identify which courses satisfy individual admissions requirements. Applicants completing IGETC should identify specific courses for individual admissions requirements when possible and may list IGETC for the requirements for which they have not taken relevant coursework.

How to Contact an Advisor:

- Major Advisor: Katie Owensby, soc.env.ugrad@berkeley.edu (appointments are preferred for prospective students)
- Society and Environment website: <http://nature.berkeley.edu/advising/majors/society-and-environment>