INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

Conservation and Resource Studies (CRS) is an interdisciplinary program designed for students interested in environmental issues and areas of interaction among natural resources, population, energy, technology, societal institutions, and cultural values. The CRS major helps students understand the structure and functions of the complex systems within our society and biosphere.

The major is offered by the Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management (ESPM). A minor in CRS is also available, as well as minors in Environmental Economics and Policy and Forestry and Natural Resources.

THE CRS CURRICULUM

Along with completing lower division requirements in the major, students will be guided in selecting eight upper division area of interest courses. Students draw on the course offerings of the entire campus and can incorporate courses in the social sciences, biological sciences, physical sciences, or humanities. Sample topics include environmental justice and education, sustainable development of world populations, conservation and culture, and ecological restoration and policy. Students can also utilize community resources in the development of individual programs of study.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Join a student organization like Better Beaches at Berkeley that allows you to engage with conservation firsthand.
- Get 1:1 mentoring from graduate students with Berkeley Connect in ESPM.
- Apply for a research position during the academic year through the SPUR program and get academic credit.

HOW TO USE THIS MAP

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

Visit ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps for the latest version of this major map.

“ The CRS major means leadership, curiosity, and passion to me. It allows me to explore my education and navigate it on my own terms, creating my own path along the way and opening up the world to my curious exploration. ”

– Alicia Hernandez-Miyares, Conservation and Resource Studies student
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCE STUDIES

Bachelor of Science

FIRST YEAR
- Meet with your college advisor to discuss your academic plans.
- Review major and college requirements.
- Talk to the college’s peer advisors about life in the major.
- Start thinking about which topics within and related to the major interest you.

SECOND YEAR
- Complete lower division prerequisites and declare the major if currently undeclared.
- Take ESPM 90 during the spring semester and develop your Area of Interest.
- Review college guidelines for study abroad.
- Complement your major with a certificate, course thread, or summer minor.

THIRD YEAR
- Focus on upper division requirements and electives.
- Take ESPM 100 during the fall semester.
- Ask your college advisor about the Rausser College Honors Program.
- If your schedule permits, enroll in unique courses like ESPM 150: Environmental Writing.

FOURTH YEAR
- Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate.
- Complete any remaining area of interest courses and remaining college and campus requirements.
- Take ESPM 194 during the spring semester.
- Attend the CRS Alternative Graduation in the spring.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?
CRS graduates pursue careers in environmental consulting, education, health, law, urban planning, and other areas of environmentalism in public agencies, nonprofit conservation organizations, and private companies.

Jobs and Employers
- Art Teacher, The Estria Foundation Biological Technician, US Fish and Wildlife
- Conservation Assoc., MD Geological Survey
- Environmental Inspector, City of San Jose
- Fellow, Americorps
- Field Assistant Intern, EPA
- Investment Banking Analyst, Mizuho Lab Asst., UC Office of the President
- Marketing Manager, Sempio Foods
- Lab Asst., UC Office of the President
- Intern, Calapalooza
- Investment Banking Analyst, Mizuho Lab Asst., UC Office of the President
- Marketing Manager, Sempio Foods
- Lab Asst., UC Office of the President
- Marketing Manager, Sempio Foods
- Lab Asst., UC Office of the President

Graduate Programs
- Ecology, PhD
- Energy and Resources, PhD
- Landscape Architecture, Masters
- Philosophy & Religious Studies, Masters
- Zoology, PhD

Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.

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