

MAJOR IN ECOSYSTEM SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Requirements Effective Fall 2024

Freshman

		AUCC	Credits
CO 150	College Composition (GT-CO2)	1A	3
ESS 120	Intro to Ecosystem and Watershed Sciences		1
ESS 129	Information Management for Sustainability		1
ESS 130	Intro to Systems Theory for Sustainability		1
Select one course from the following:			3
ANTH 100	Introductory Cultural Anthropology (GT-SS3)	3C	
AREC 202	Agricultural and Resource Economics (GT-SS1)	3C	
AREC 240/ECON 240	Economics of Environmental Sustainability (GT-SS1)	3C	
ECON 202	Principles of Microeconomics (GT-SS1)	3C	
ECON 204	Principles of Macroeconomics (GT-SS1)	3C	
POLS 101	American Government and Politics (GT-SS1)	3C	
POLS 103	State and Local Government and Politics (GT-SS1)	3C	
SOC 100	Introduction to Sociology (GT-SS3)	3C	
SOC 105	Social Problems (GT-SS3)	3C	
Select one group from the following:			4
Group A:			
BZ 110	Principles of Animal Biology (GT-SC2)	3A	
BZ 111	Animal Biology Laboratory (GT-SC1)	3A	
Group B:			
LIFE 102	Attributes of Living Systems (GT-SC1)	3A	
Select one group from the following:			5
Group A:			
CHEM 107	Fundamentals of Chemistry (GT-SC2)	3A	
CHEM 108	Fundamentals of Chemistry Laboratory (GT-SC1)	3A	
Group B:			
CHEM 111	General Chemistry I (GT-SC2)	3A	
CHEM 112	General Chemistry Lab I (GT-SC1)	3A	
Select one course from the following:			3-4
AB 111	Feeding the World in a Changing Climate (GT-SC2)	3A	
ATS 150	Science of Global Climate Change (GT-SC2)	3A	
GES 101	Foundations of Environmental Sustainability		
NR 120A	Environmental Conservation (GT-SC2)	3A	
Select one course from the following:			4
MATH 155	Calculus for Biological Scientists I (GT-MA1)	1B	
MATH 160	Calculus for Physical Scientists I (GT-MA1)	1B	
Arts and Humanities (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities)			3

Total Credits

28-29

Sophomore

ESS 210/GR 210	Physical Geography		3
LIFE 320	Ecology		3
Select one course from the following:			4
BZ 120	Principles of Plant Biology (GT-SC1)	3A	
LIFE 103	Biology of Organisms-Animals and Plants (GT-SC1)	3A	
Select one course from the following:			5
PH 121	General Physics I (GT-SC1)	3A	
PH 141	Physics for Scientists and Engineers I (GT-SC1)	3A	
Select one course from the following:			3
STAT 301	Introduction to Applied Statistical Methods		
STAT 307	Introduction to Biostatistics		
Arts and Humanities (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#arts-humanities)			3B
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#diversity-equity-inclusion)			1C
Electives			4
Total Credits			28

Junior

ESS 311	Ecosystem Ecology		3
ESS 312	Sustainability Science		3
ESS 320	Internship and Career Preparation		1
ESS 330	Quantitative Reasoning for Ecosystem Science		3
NR 319	Introduction to Geospatial Science		4
WR 204/GR 204	Sustainable Watersheds (GT-SC2)	3A	3
Select one course from the following:			3
CO 301B	Writing in the Disciplines: Sciences (GT-CO3)	2	
CO 301C	Writing in the Disciplines: Social Sciences (GT-CO3)	2	
JTC 300	Strategic Writing and Communication (GT-CO3)	2	
LB 300	Specialized Professional Writing	2	
Historical Perspectives (http://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/all-university-core-curriculum/aucc/#historical-perspectives)			3D
Electives			8
Total Credits			31

Summer

Professional Development and Engagement Requirement (see list below)			5
The timeline to complete this requirement may vary – plan in consultation with advisor.			
Total Credits			5

Senior

ESS 440	Practicing Sustainability	4C	4
NR 400	Public Communication in Natural Resources		3
Select one course from the following:			3
ESS 400	Global Perspectives on Sustainability	4A,4B	
ESS 411	Earth Systems Ecology	4A,4B	
ESS Electives (see list below)			15
Electives ¹			2-3
Total Credits			27-28
Program Total Credits:			120

Professional Development and Engagement Requirement

The timeline to complete the Professional Development and Engagement may vary. Suggested completion of summer coursework (NR 220 and some department-approved study abroad programs) may occur between sophomore and junior years or between junior and senior years. ESS 487 has a prerequisite of ESS 320, so should be completed after junior year. ESS 220/ESS 221/ESS 298 may be completed during the academic year, ideally during junior or senior year, thus moving elective credits to freshman and sophomore years.

Code	Title	Credits
Select one group from the following:		
Group A:		5
NR 220	Natural Resource Ecology and Measurements	
Group B: Students must obtain department pre-approval before enrolling in the appropriate course.		5
ESS 487	Internship	
or ESS 495	Independent Study in Ecosystem Science	
Group C:		5
ESS 220	Research Skills for Ecosystem Science I	
ESS 221	Research Methods for Ecosystem Science II	
ESS 298	Research	
Group D:		5
Department-approved Study Abroad		

Ecosystem Science and Sustainability Electives

Select a minimum of 15 credits not taken elsewhere in the program from the list below. A minimum of 3 credits must be from each of the three categories (Ecosystem Science, Sustainability, and Tools/analysis). The additional 6 credits can be from any category or from the longer uncategorized list. Additional coursework may be required due to prerequisites.

Code	Title	Credits
Ecosystem Science selections: select a minimum of 3 credits from the following courses:		
ESS 353	Global Change Impacts, Adaptation, Mitigation ²	3
ESS 405/SOCR 405	Global Agriculture and Environmental Change	3
ESS 411	Earth Systems Ecology	3
ESS 432/MIP 432	Microbial Ecology	3
ESS 433/MIP 433	Microbial Ecology Laboratory	1
ESS 474	Limnology	3
ESS 524	Foundations for Carbon/Greenhouse Gas Mgmt	3
ESS 543/ATS 543	Global Climate Change	2
Sustainability selections: select a minimum of 3 credits from the following courses:		
ESS 353	Global Change Impacts, Adaptation, Mitigation ²	3

ESS 365	Global Climate Justice	3
ESS 400	Global Perspectives on Sustainability	3
ESS 401	Sustainability of Parks and Protected Places	3
ESS 501	Principles of Ecosystem Sustainability	3
ESS 505	International Climate Negotiations	2
ESS 506	Virtual International Climate Negotiations	1
ESS 542	Greenhouse Gas Policies	2
ESS 582A	Study Abroad--Europe and British Isles: UN Climate Change Conference (COP)	1
ESS 582B	Study Abroad--Americas: UN Climate Change Conference (COP)	1
ESS 582C	Study Abroad--Asia/Oceania: UN Climate Change Conference (COP)	1
ESS 582D	Study Abroad--Africa: UN Climate Change Conference (COP)	1
WR 512	Water Law for Non-Lawyers	3
Tools and analysis selections: select a minimum of 3 credits from the following courses:		
ESS 523A	Environmental Data Science Applications: Introduction	5
ESS 523B/SOCR 523B	Environmental Data Science Applications: Food and Agriculture	2
ESS 523C/WR 523C	Environmental Data Science Applications: Water Resources	2
ESS 555/ANEQ 555	Life Cycle Assessment for Sustainability	3
NR 323/GR 323	Remote Sensing and Image Interpretation	3
NR 426	Programming for GIS I	2
NR 427	Programming for GIS II	2
NR 453	Geospatial Field Methods in Natural Resources	2
NR 450	Geospatial Project Design and Analysis	4
WR 416	Land Use Hydrology	3
WR 418	Land Use and Water Quality	3
WR 474	Snow Hydrology	3
Select 0-6 credits from the following courses:		
ANTH 329	Cultural Change	3
ANTH 330	Human Ecology	3
ANTH 414/ETST 414	Development in Indian Country	3
ANTH 415	Indigenous Ecologies and the Modern World	3
ANTH 417	Indigenous Environmental Stewardship	3
ANTH 453	Impacts on Ancient Environments	3
ANTH 479/IE 479	International Development Theory and Practice	3
AREC 340/ECON 340	Introduction-Economics of Natural Resources	3
AREC 341	Environmental Economics	3
AREC 440	Advanced Environmental and Resource Economics	3
AREC 444/ECON 444	Economics of Energy Resources	3
ATS 350	Introduction to Weather and Climate	2
ATS 351	Introduction to Weather and Climate Lab	1

ATS 556	Climate Intervention to Cool a Warming Planet	2	NR 425	Natural Resource Policy and Sustainability	3
BSPM 302	Applied and General Entomology	2	NRRT 231	Principles-Parks/Protected Area Management	3
BSPM 308	Ecology and Management of Weeds	3	NRRT 262	Principles of Environmental Communication	3
BSPM 361	Elements of Plant Pathology	3	NRRT 270	Principles of Natural Resource Tourism	3
BSPM 365	Integrated Tree Health Management	4	NRRT 320	International Issues-Recreation and Tourism	3
BZ 440	Plant Physiology	3	NRRT 330	Social Aspects of Natural Resource Management	3
BZ 441	Plant Physiology Laboratory	2	NRRT 362	Environmental Conflict Management	3
BZ 450	Plant Ecology	4	NRRT 401	Collaborative Conservation	3
BZ 471	Stream Biology and Ecology	3	PHIL 320	Ethics of Sustainability	3
BZ 472	Stream Biology and Ecology Laboratory	1	PHIL 330/AGRI 330	Agricultural and Food System Ethics	3
CHEM 338	Environmental Chemistry	3	PHIL 345	Environmental Ethics	3
ECON 304	Intermediate Macroeconomics	3	POLS 361	U.S. Environmental Politics and Policy	3
ECON 306	Intermediate Microeconomics	3	POLS 362	Global Environmental Politics	3
ECON 317	Population Economics	3	POLS 364	Air, Climate, and Energy Policy Analysis	3
ERHS 448	Environmental Contaminants	3	POLS 442	Environmental Politics in Developing World	3
ETST 352/SOWK 352	Indigenous Women, Children, and Tribes	3	POLS 462	Globalization, Sustainability, and Justice	3
ETST 365	Global Environmental Justice Movements	3	POLS 463	Urban Policy and Management	3
ETST 420	Disability, Race, Gender in the Environment	3	RS 300	Rangeland Conservation and Stewardship	3
ETST 444/SOC 444	Federal Indian Law and Policy	3	RS 313/F 313	Dendrology and Herbaceous Plant ID	3
F 311	Forest Ecology	3	RS 331	Wildland Plants and Plant Communities	3
F 322	Economics of the Forest Environment	3	RS 432	Rangeland Measurements and Monitoring	2
F 324	Fire Effects and Adaptations	3	RS 452	Rangeland Herbivore Ecology and Management	3
F 466/HORT 466	Urban and Community Forestry	3	RS 470	Rangeland Economics and Analysis	2
FW 204	Introduction to Fishery Biology	3	RS 471	Rangeland Planning and Grazing Management	2
FW 260	Principles of Wildlife Management	3	RS 478	Ecological Restoration	3
FW 300	Biology and Diversity of Fishes	2	SOC 320	Population-Natural Resources and Environment	3
FW 301	Ichthyology Laboratory	1	SOC 322	Environmental Justice	3
FW 375	Field Wildlife Studies	3	SOC 323	Soc. of Environmental Cooperation & Conflict	3
FW 400	Conservation of Fish in Aquatic Ecosystems	3	SOC 324	Food Justice	3
FW 477	Wildlife Habitat Use and Management	3	SOC 362	Social Change	3
GES 440/ATS 440	Sea Level Rise and a Sustainable Future	3	SOC 364	Food, Agriculture and Global Society	3
GES 470	Applications of Environmental Sustainability	3	SOC 460	Environmental and Natural Resource Sociology	3
GR 303	Mountain Geography	3	SOC 461	Water and Social Justice	3
GR 320	Cultural Geography	3	SOCR 322	Principles of Microclimatology	3
GR 330	Urban Geography	3	SOCR 375	Soil Biogeochemistry	3
GR 348	Biogeography	3	SOCR 400	Soils and Global Change-Impacts and Solutions	3
GR 410	Climate Change: Science, Policy, Implications	3	SOCR 441	Soil Ecology	3
GR 430	Land Change Science and Remote Sensing	3	SOCR 442	Forest and Range Soils	3
GR 431	Land Change Science Lab	1	SOCR 455	Microbiomes of Soil Systems	3
GR 448	Forest Biogeography and Climate Change	3	SOCR 456	Soil Microbiology Laboratory	1
HIST 355	American Environmental History	3	SOCR 500	Environmental Measurement Laboratory	1
HIST 476	History of America's National Parks	3	WR 417	Watershed Measurements	3
NR 300	Biological Diversity	3			
NR 320	Natural Resources History and Policy	3			
NR 321	Natural Resource Rights and Reconciliation	3			
NR 330	Human Dimensions in Natural Resources	3			
NR 370	Coastal Environmental Ecology	3			
NR 422	GIS Applications in Natural Resource Management	4			

WR 419	Water Quality Analyses	3
WR 511	Water Resource Development	3

¹ Select enough elective credits to bring the program total to a minimum of 120 credits, of which at least 42 must be upper-division (300- to 400-level).

² Can be either Ecosystem Science or Sustainability selection.