

MINOR IN CONSERVATION AND SOCIETY

Through this minor, students will acquire critical knowledge and skills in applications of the social sciences to environmental conservation and natural resource management. Students will learn to analyze conservation problems and identify solutions through awareness of how social science concepts, theories/frameworks, methods, and tools are used in conservation. In addition to facilitating enhanced understanding of the social aspects of conservation issues, coursework will build capacity in systems thinking, leadership, conservation planning, communication and stakeholder engagement, conservation governance and policy processes, and collaborative approaches to conservation. This minor aims to prepare students, as future leaders in the conservation field, to conserve biodiversity through a nuanced understanding of the relationship between people and nature.

Requirements Effective Fall 2026

Additional coursework may be required due to prerequisites.

Students must satisfactorily complete the total credits required for the minor. Minors and interdisciplinary minors require 12 or more upper-division (300- to 400-level) credits.

A minimum grade of C (2.00) is required in each course used to satisfy the requirements of this minor.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses:		
NR 320	Natural Resources History and Policy	3
NR 400	Public Communication in Natural Resources	3
NRRT 279	Biodiversity and Conservation Social Science	3
NRRT 400	Environmental Governance	3
NRRT 401	Collaborative Solutions to Conservation	3
NRRT 412	Social Change for Conservation	3
Social Science/Humanities Electives (select one course from the following):		3
ANTH 316	Climate, Capital, Culture	
ANTH 330/ CLMT 330	Human Ecology	
ANTH 479/IE 479	International Development Theory and Practice	
GR 320	Cultural Geography	
GR 348	Biogeography	
GR 410	Climate Change: Science, Policy, Implications	
JTC 319	Science and Environmental Communication	
JTC 419	Food and Natural Resources Communication	
PHIL 345	Environmental Ethics	
POLS 361	U.S. Environmental Politics and Policy	
POLS 362	Global Environmental Politics	

POLS 367	Power, Equity and Inclusion in Env Justice
POLS 442	Environmental Politics in Developing World
SOC 320	Population-Natural Resources and Environment
SOC 322	Environmental Justice
SOC 460	Environmental and Natural Resource Sociology

Program Total Credits: 21