

MINOR IN CLIMATE CHANGE STUDIES

Students who complete this minor will gain an understanding of the implications of climate change on both biophysical and social systems, developing an awareness of climate change science, mitigation, and adaptation strategies relevant to their major discipline.

Students will complete courses that inform:

1. What is climate change, why is it now a serious problem, and what can we do about it?
2. What are the key responses and feedbacks of earth systems to climate change?
3. What are the key issues for understanding how groups of people respond to and are affected by climate change?

Alongside the required courses, students will have the flexibility to choose additional courses from 1 to 3 prefixes that align with their interests, enhancing their depth of understanding climate change.

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion, students will be able to:

1. Identify why and how the climate is changing, and how scientists study these physical changes.
2. Analyze biophysical responses and feedbacks to climate change, including nature's role in mitigating climate change, and the impacts to/adaptation of ecosystems.
3. Recognize and evaluate responses and feedbacks to climate change in social systems (e.g., policy and economic responses, justice and equity implications, and changes to social structures and systems).
4. Analyze and evaluate knowledge for a specific dimension of climate change (e.g., forecasting, policy making, economic impacts, or env. Justice impact, natural resource planning).
5. Generate applications of information for a decision-making context in a specific dimension of climate change (e.g., forecasting, policy making, economic impacts, or env. justice, natural resource planning).

Requirements Effective Fall 2025

Note: A course that appears in more than one place can only count towards the minor requirements once.

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.

Code	Title	Credits
Required Course:		
ATS 150	Science of Global Climate Change (GT-SC2)	3
Select one course from the following:		2-3
CLMT 275/ GEOL 275	Climate Change and Earth System Interactions	
GEOL 313	Earth Systems	

Select one course from the following:		3
ANTH 330/ CLMT 330	Human Ecology	
ESS 365	Global Climate Justice	
ETST 365	Global Environmental Justice Movements	
Select one course from the following:		3
ATS 440/GES 440	Sea Level Rise and a Sustainable Future	
BUS 440	Corporate Sustainability Strategy	
GES 441	Analysis of Sustainable Energy Solutions	
Gaining Depth in Climate Perspectives:		
Select 9-10 credits outside your major subject code from the following:		9-10
AB 430	Applications in Agricultural Biology II	
AB 451	Integrated Pest Management	
ACT 318	Fundamentals of Sustainability Reporting	
ANEQ 448	Sustainable Animal Agriculture	
ANTH 330/ CLMT 330	Human Ecology	
ANTH 370	Primates	
AREC 340/ ECON 340	Introduction-Economics of Natural Resources	
AREC 341	Environmental Economics	
ATS 350	Introduction to Weather and Climate	
ATS 440/GES 440	Sea Level Rise and a Sustainable Future	
BUS 225	Transforming Business for Sustainable Impact (GT-AH3)	
BUS 440	Corporate Sustainability Strategy	
BZ 342	Exploring Range Shifts in a Changing World	
CHEM 338	Environmental Chemistry	
CIVE 421	Global Water Challenges	
CIVE 442	Air Quality Engineering	
E 339	Literature of the Earth	
ECON 240/ AREC 240	Economics of Environmental Sustainability (GT-SS1)	
ESS 353	Global Change Impacts, Adaptation, Mitigation	
ESS 365	Global Climate Justice	
ESS 405/ SOCR 405	Global Agriculture and Environmental Change	
ETST 258/WS 258	Race, Sex, Climate Change	
ETST 362/WS 362	Indigenous Consciousness and Gender	
ETST 365	Global Environmental Justice Movements	
ETST 420	Disability, Race, Gender in the Environment	
ETST 441	Indigenous Knowledges	
F 324	Fire Effects and Adaptations	
GEOL 366	Low-Temperature Geochemistry	
GEOL 415	Critical Zone Science	
GEOL 440	Geodetic and Near-Surface Geophysical Methods	
GES 362	Systems Thinking and Sustainability	
GES 440/ATS 440	Sea Level Rise and a Sustainable Future	
GES 441	Analysis of Sustainable Energy Solutions	
GR 217	Human-Environment Geographies (GT-SS2)	
GR 345	Geography of Hazards	

GR 348	Biogeography
HIST 355	American Environmental History
HIST 373	Environmental History of Colorado
HIST 470	World Environmental History, 1500-Present
HORT 476	Environmental Plant Stress Physiology
JTC 319	Science and Environmental Communication
LAND 220/ LIFE 220	Fundamentals of Ecology (GT-SC2)
MGT 360	Social and Sustainable Venturing
MKT 420	Marketing and Societal Well-Being
NR 420	Integrated Ecosystem Management
NR 444	Fire Economics and Policy
NRRT 262	Principles of Environmental Communication
PHIL 320	Ethics of Sustainability
PHIL 345	Environmental Ethics
POLS 362	Global Environmental Politics
POLS 364	Air, Climate, and Energy Policy Analysis
SOCR 370	Climate-Smart Irrigation Principles
SOCR 400	Soils and Global Change-Impacts and Solutions

Program Total Credits: 21