

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, ASSOCIATE OF ARTS (AA)

Overview

The Environmental Studies Program is an interdisciplinary program designed to develop an understanding of living and non-living earth processes and how they affect and are affected by the human population. Courses in biology, earth sciences and history provide a foundation in the functioning of living systems including population growth, ecology, and toxicology; geologic processes including energy resources, geologic hazards, and pollution; and human attitudes towards nature including historical perspective and context for our current situation.

Through these courses students will gain a better understanding of how humans are intimately connected with the environment and how human activities impact and are impacted by the environment.

An understanding of environmental matters is essential in today's world. Careers in natural resources, land use planning, business, energy, waste management, pollution control, law and environmental administration all require knowledge of environmental issues and the functioning of ecosystems. Career opportunities may require more discipline-specific studies in biology, geology or political science.

Requirements

Associate Degree Graduation Requirements

Complete all of the following:

- All Department Requirements listed below with a "C" or better or "P" in each course (at least 20% of the department requirements must be completed through SBCC).
- One of the following three General Education options:
 - OPTION 1: A minimum of 18 units of SBCC General Education Requirements (<https://catalog.sbccc.edu/degrees-certificates-awards/#associatedegreeestext>) (Areas A-D) and Institutional Requirements (Area E) and Information Competency Requirement (Area F) OR
 - OPTION 2: IGETC (<https://catalog.sbccc.edu/transfer-curricula/#igetctext>) Pattern OR
 - OPTION 3: CSU GE Breadth (<https://catalog.sbccc.edu/transfer-curricula/#csugebtext>) Pattern
- A total of 60 degree-applicable units (SBCC courses numbered 100 and higher).
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better in all units attempted at SBCC.
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better in all college units attempted.
- A minimum of 12 units through SBCC.

Code	Title	Units
Department Requirements		
ENVS 110	Humans And The Biological Environment	3
ENVS 111	Environmental Field Studies	1
ENVS/ERTH 115	Environmental Geology	3
ENVS/ERTH 115L	Environmental Geology Laboratory	1

ENVS/ERTH 116	Energy and Natural Resources	3
HIST/ENVS 112	American Environmental History	3
ENVS 200	Projects In Sustainability	2
BIOL 100	Concepts Of Biology	4-5
or BIOL 101	Plant Biology	
or BIOL 102	Animal Biology	
or BIOL 103	Cell and Molecular Biology	
CHEM 155	General Chemistry I	5
ECON 101	Microeconomics	3-4
or ECON 101H	Microeconomics, Honors	
or ECON 102	Macroeconomics	
or ECON 102H	Macroeconomics, Honors	
ENG 110	Composition and Reading	4
or ENG 110H	Composition and Reading, Honors	
ENG 111	Critical Thinking and Composition Through Literature	3
or ENG 111H	Critical Thinking and Composition Through Literature, Honors	
MATH 117	Elementary Statistics	4
PHIL 101	Introduction to Ethics	3-4
or PHIL 101H	Introduction To Ethics, Honors	
or PHIL 205	Introduction to Logic	
or POLS 132	Political Thinking	
Complete one combination from the following:		3-5
ERTH 111 & 111L	Dynamic Earth - Physical Geology and Dynamic Earth - Physical Geology Laboratory	
ERTH 111H & ERTH 111L	Dynamic Earth - Physical Geology, Honors and Dynamic Earth - Physical Geology Laboratory	
ERTH 151 & 151L	Introductory Physical Oceanography and Introductory Physical Oceanography Laboratory	
ERTH 141 & 141L	Physical Geography and Physical Geography Laboratory ¹	
GEOG 101 & 101L	Physical Geography and Physical Geography Laboratory ¹	
ERTH/GEOG 152	Weather and Climate	
Complete two courses from the following:		6-8
ANTH 103	Introduction To Cultural Anthropology	
ANTH 109	Comparative World Cultures	
ERTH 142/ GEOG 105	Economic Geography	
GEOG 102	Human Geography	
GLST 101	Introduction to Global Studies	
GLST 102	Global Problems	
POLS 101	American Government And Politics	
POLS 121	International Politics	
or POLS 121H	International Politics, Honors	
POLS 131	Comparative Politics	
PSY 100	General Psychology	
or PSY 100H	General Psychology, Honors	
SOC 101	Introduction To Sociology	

or SOC 101H Introduction to Sociology, Honors	
Complete one course from Area 3A of IGETC ²	3-4
Total Units	54.00-62.00

¹ EARTH 141/141L are the same as GEOG 101/101L.

² Click here for a list of IGETC Area 3A course options. (<http://articulation.sbcc.edu/uforms/figetc/igetc.pdf>)

Learning Outcomes

1. Explain how human activities impact the environment and how the environment impacts human society over time.
2. Explain the interconnections among the lithosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere and atmosphere.
3. Apply critical thinking to establish connections and evaluate the extent to which human activities degrade, protect, or rehabilitate environmental health.

Recommended Sequence

Make an appointment with your SBCC academic counselor through Starfish to create a Student Education Plan that reflects a recommended course sequence for this program that is tailored to your individual needs.

How to schedule an Academic Counseling appointment (<https://www.sbcc.edu/counselingcenter/counselingappointments.php>).