BA Sustain & Environ Studies
Bachelor of Arts in Sustainability and Environmental Studies

Under Review | Fall 2025

Proposal Information

Workflow Status

In Progress

Refresh **Form Submission, Proposer** collapse

Submitted for Approval | Proposer

✔ Chris S Duvall | 8/17/2023 10:04 AM

Department Chair Approval, Geography & Environmental Studies

Approved | Department Chair

✔ Chris S Duvall | 8/17/2023 10:41 AM

Main campus pre-proposal approval

Approved

✔ Pamela Cheek | 9/29/2023 2:47 PM

Notice to HSC

Notification Sent

✉ Shelly McLaughlin

Notification, Proposer

Notification Sent | Proposer

✉ Chris S Duvall

Proposer, Proposer

Sent Back | Proposer

← Chris S Duvall

Sending this back so that I can edit for the final proposal.

10/24/2023 12:49 PM

Form Submission, Proposer

Submitted for Approval | Proposer

✔ Chris S Duvall

I could not submit separate forms for the degree concentrations because Kuali did not allow me to associate the concentrations with the degree. The concentrations are shown within the degree requirements. The electives lists are shown in the proposal.

10/30/2023 4:32 PM

Department Chair Approval, Geography & Environmental Studies

Approved | Department Chair

✔ Chris S Duvall

Let me know if anything is missing or unclear--I'm still on the learning curve with Kuali.

10/30/2023 4:41 PM

Main campus pre-proposal approval

Approved

✔ Pamela Cheek | 2/02/2024 1:10 PM

Notice to HSC

Notification Sent

✉ Shelly McLaughlin

Notification, Proposer

Notification Sent | Proposer

✉ Chris S Duvall

Proposer, Proposer
Approved | Proposer

✔ Chris S Duvall | 2/02/2024 1:26 PM

Registrar Technical Check Approval, Registrar Technical Check
Sent Back | Registrar Technical Check

➖ Michael Raine
🡐 Maggie Sumruld

Hi Chris, It appears that you have three new concentrations. These need to be created in the concentration tab before we and curriculum committees can review this proposal. Secondly, the concentrations need to be redone in the free form text area. Rather than specifying the number of courses, we need it to specify the number of credit hours so that it counts credit totals correctly. Please contact us if you have any questions or want to work on it with us.

8/02/2024 8:53 AM

Form Submission, Proposer
Submitted for Approval | Proposer

✔ Chris S Duvall

I am not sure how to link the concentration forms to this program form. Let's see how it goes--I may need to have it sent back...

8/30/2024 3:16 PM

Department Chair Approval, Geography & Environmental Studies
Sent Back | Department Chair

🡐 Ronda Brulotte

technical issue with forms

8/30/2024 3:39 PM

Form Submission, Proposer
Submitted for Approval | Proposer

✔ Chris S Duvall | 8/30/2024 3:50 PM

Department Chair Approval, Geography & Environmental Studies
Approved | Department Chair

✔ Ronda Brulotte | 8/30/2024 3:58 PM

Main campus pre-proposal approval
Skipped

🡒 Maggie Sumruld

Returning to technical check

9/03/2024 8:50 AM

Notice to HSC
Notification Sent

✉ Shelly McLaughlin

Notification, Proposer
Notification Sent | Proposer

✉ Chris S Duvall

Proposer, Proposer
Skipped | Proposer

➔ Maggie Sumruld

Returning to technical check

9/03/2024 8:51 AM

Registrar Technical Check Approval, Registrar Technical Check
Approved | Registrar Technical Check

- ━ Michael Raine
- ✔ Maggie Sumruld | 9/05/2024 11:03 AM

College/School Approval, College of Arts & Sciences: Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary
Approved | College or School approver

- ✔ Keith Hunley | 11/15/2024 7:38 AM

Library Approval, Main Campus Library
Approved | Library Approval

- ✔ Sever Bordeianu | 11/15/2024 8:52 AM

FSCC Member notification, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee
Notification Sent | Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Member

- ✉ Antoinette Abeyta
- ✉ Joe Anderson
- ✉ Randi Archuleta
- ✉ Laura Belmonte
- ✉ Justin Bendell
- ✉ Nicole Capehart
- ✉ Isabella Goss
- ✉ Sara Ice
- ✉ Megan Jacobs
- ✉ Joan Lucas
- ✉ Justine Ponce
- ✉ Mary Rice
- ✉ John Russell
- ✉ Jennifer Schneider
- ✉ Julia So
- ✉ SueNoell Stone
- ✉ Jonathan Wheeler

Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Approval
Sent Back

- ➔ Janet Vassilev

Sending back so that the form can be pushed forward so that Nicole will have access.

12/06/2024 12:00 PM

Registrar Technical Check Approval
Skipped

- ➔ Maggie Sumruld

Sending back to FSCC

12/06/2024 1:36 PM

College/School Approval
Skipped

- ➔ Maggie Sumruld

Sending back to FSCC

12/06/2024 1:36 PM

Library Approval
Skipped

➔ Maggie Sumruld

Sending back to FSCC

12/06/2024 1:37 PM

FSCC Member notification, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee
Notification Sent | Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Member

- ✉ Antoinette Abeyta
- ✉ Joe Anderson
- ✉ Randi Archuleta
- ✉ Laura Belmonte
- ✉ Justin Bendell
- ✉ Isabella Goss
- ✉ Sara Ice
- ✉ Megan Jacobs
- ✉ Joan Lucas
- ✉ Justine Ponce
- ✉ Mary Rice
- ✉ John Russell
- ✉ Jennifer Schneider
- ✉ Julia So
- ✉ SueNoell Stone
- ✉ Jonathan Wheeler

Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Approval, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee
Approved | Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Chair

- ━ Janet Vassilev
- ✔ Nicole Capehart

FSCC approved 02.14.25

2/18/2025 6:33 PM

Provost Approval, Main Campus Provost
Approved | Provost

- ✔ Pamela Cheek | 2/25/2025 5:54 PM

Faculty Senate Approval, Faculty Senate
Waiting for Approval | Faculty Senate Approval

Nancy Middlebrook
Theresa Sherman

HLC Submission, Accreditation
Approval | HLC Submission

Joseph Suilmann

Student Success, Teaching and Research (SSTAR) Approval, Student Success, Teaching and Research Committee
Approval | SSTAR approval

Pamela Kirchner
Hannah Long

Board of Regents Approval, Board of Regents
Approval | Board of Regents Approval

Emily Morelli

External Review - HED program approval, External Review
Approval | HED program approval

Michael Raine
Anna Gay

External Review - HED CIP code approval, External Review
Approval | HED CIP code approval

Michael Raine
Anna Gay

Reg. Final Approval/Processing, Registrar
Approval | Registrar final approval

Michael Raine
Maggie Sumruld

Notification, Proposer
Notification | Proposer

Chris S Duvall

Notification, Faculty Senate Graduate and Professional Committee
Notification | Chair

Robben Brown

IDI Notification
Notification

IDI

Office of Institutional Analytics Notification, Office of Institutional Analytics
Notification | Notification User

Office of Institutional Analytics

Admissions, Admissions Notifications
Notification | Admissions Staff

Deborah Vigil Kieltyka
Chris Beardemphl
Amanda Opeka

New Program Notification, Office of Assessment
Notification | Office of Assessment notification

Julie Sanchez
Elizabeth Kerl
Ean Henninger
Amanda DiMercurio

EMRT notification, EMRT users
Notification | EMRT user

Enrollment Mgt Reporting Team

Notification, LoboTrax Team
Notification | LoboTrax Staff

Sherri DeLeve
Paula Freitag

Hannah Epstein
Allie Martinez
Glenda Johnson

Proposal Information

Sponsoring faculty/staff member
Chris Duvall

Sponsoring faculty/staff email
duvall@unm.edu

College
College of Arts & Sciences: Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary

Department
Geography & Environmental Studies

Campus
Main Campus

Effective Term and Year

Proposed Effective Term and Year
Fall 2025

Justification

Program Justification
a. What is the program and why should we offer it? Include the program's major goals.

This proposal is for a Bachelor of Arts degree program in Sustainability and Environmental Studies housed within the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies (GES). UNM should offer this degree because it will meet undergraduate demand for interdisciplinary education about human aspects of socio-ecological issues.

This B.A. program will complement existing degrees by serving students seeking environment-focused professional pathways but whose interests do not align with other degree programs that train students in broadly environmental topics. In our work teaching and advising in GES and the Sustainability Studies Program (SSP), we have found that many UNM students seek education that centers on humanistic and social science understanding of environmental issues. Other broadly environmental degrees—described below—are offered in Art, Biology, Communication, Earth and Planetary Science, Environmental Planning and Design, Environmental Science, International Studies, and Geography. In contrast to these options, the proposed degree will reflect an interdisciplinary curriculum centered on humanities and social sciences perspectives and practice about socio-ecological change, problems, and opportunities.

The mission of the proposed program is to develop changemakers who can think critically about human activity within the web of life, advocate environmental justice and equity, and develop sustainable solutions to socio-ecological challenges. The learning goal of the proposed program is that students develop the knowledge, skills, and values that enable them to become leaders in thought and action in efforts to improve socio-ecological conditions.

b. How does the program fit within the unit's future plans?
This proposal is the culmination of long-term planning and strategy to meet student needs, and reflects the department's plans to expand its engagement in environmental education.

Over the past decade, three strategic actions led to this proposal.

First, in 2014, the Department of Geography changed its name to the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies (GES). The decision to change the department's name was made based on student input about two topics. First, the "Environmental Management" degree track that existed at that time appealed to many students, although they had difficulty finding our environmental curriculum due to lack of knowledge about the scope of Geography as a discipline. A core subfield of the discipline is human-environment geography, but U.S. college students generally have low familiarity with Geography as a field of study. Expanding the department's name beyond just "Geography" was intended to help students identify an attractive degree option earlier in their career. Additionally, many students who pursued the "Environmental Management" degree track did not want as many required courses in Geographic Information Science—the other main disciplinary subfield taught in our department—because these courses did not align with their interests in environment-focused professions. While the departmental name change did not directly address student demand for a more environment-focused degree, it initiated faculty plans to establish an undergraduate degree in Environmental Studies.

Second, in 2020, the department merged with the Sustainability Studies Program (SSP), which has offered an undergraduate minor in Sustainability Studies since 2006. This merger resulted from prior, long-term planning among the department, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the SSP's founding director, who retired in 2020. These stakeholders sought to maintain the

SSP's established success, while also expanding opportunities for curricular development that would reflect the resonant missions of SSP and GES.

In particular, GES and SSP identified the desirability of a four-year degree that would allow students to major in socio-ecological change, problems, and opportunities. The intent to offer a major degree was based on student feedback: A common answer to the question, "Why did you select the Sustainability Studies minor?" has been, "Because there is no Sustainability Studies major." The SSP does not have the instructional capacity to offer a four-year degree independently. The four-year degree was envisioned as drawing upon the experiences of both SSP and GES in delivering complementary curricula that address environmental concerns.

Third, the GES-SSP merger complemented and extended efforts that the department has made to expand its environment-focused faculty to support the development of an environment-focused degree program. Since 2013, we have conducted targeted faculty hires in areas such as human dimensions of climate change. We have also opportunistically pursued faculty members through other processes, including receiving spousal accommodations and transfers from other departments. Our opportunistic tactics have enabled a strategic expansion of our course catalog and research profile to include energy security, environmental justice, economic development, natural hazards, and information design. Such topics support our Geography degrees due to the holistic nature of the discipline. The multi-disciplinary character of our faculty also indicates that we have built a foundation to deliver an interdisciplinary degree program. Half of our current faculty have terminal degrees in Geography; the other half have terminal degrees in Anthropology, Education, Engineering, Geology, Law, Public Policy, Sociology, and Sustainability. We have purposefully and strategically assembled a faculty who can deliver undergraduate degrees in Geography as well as Environmental Studies.

Finally, concerning future plans, the proposed program reflects the department's ongoing strategy to shift our curriculum toward environmental topics. There are pedagogical and practical reasons for our strategy. Many of our majors do not find our environment-focused courses until they have reached junior standing, due partly to unfamiliarity with the discipline of Geography. This often means that students take introductory-level courses simultaneously with upper-level courses and have fewer opportunities to take less-frequently scheduled courses and less time to develop knowledge and skills in Geography. Pedagogically, students would be better served through the establishment of a degree named "Environmental Studies" because this would enable them to find a desirable degree option earlier at UNM. Student learning will benefit by increasing the likelihood of early discovery of desirable degree options.

However, we are not proposing to replace the B.A. in Geography with the B.A. in Sustainability and Environmental Studies because these are two different subjects, as described below. Our faculty is qualified and able to deliver both degree programs. We anticipate that the Environmental Studies degree program will draw students away from the B.A. in Geography but will serve more students than currently pursue the Geography B.A. degree. We are also not proposing to replace the Sustainability Studies minor, because this program allows students across campus to enhance their degrees, while the proposed program will provide a degree option to students whose major interests are not met elsewhere. Additionally, as described below, Sustainability Studies and Environmental Studies are not synonymous. We anticipate that the Sustainability and Environmental Studies degree program will draw students away from the Sustainability Studies minor , because many students would select an environment-focused degree rather than a different degree enhanced with an environment-focused minor. Again, students will benefit pedagogically if they can identify and pursue a degree that matches their interests and aspirations better than current options.

c. How does the program fit within the UNM mission and strategic plan?

This interdisciplinary program is focused on human aspects of social-ecological change, problems, and opportunities, and could be a driver for the UNM 2040 vision and mission. Arguably, sustainability is the critical challenge for communities and humanity as a whole in the twenty-first century. Sustainability is addressed through three pillars: social, economic and environmental. Each of these pillars has a justice dimension. As such, this program will support the UNM vision in becoming "… a global leader in realizing human potential, addressing critical community challenges and demonstrating the power of inclusive diversity".

This proposed program will be globally oriented but focused on the future of New Mexico, through education, community engagement, and supporting governance and research. A key aspect of the three pillars approach to sustainability is to create and support thriving communities that can innovate and flourish within ecological boundaries. As such, this program will support the UNM 2040 Mission to serve communities “by building an educated, healthy and economically vigorous New Mexico”. The Sustainability Studies minor is already a source of trained professionals meeting the needs of city and state governments, non-profits, and green businesses in New Mexico. This proposed degree program will expand UNM’s role in shaping New Mexico’s future .

Finally, this proposed program will support and drive the values of UNM 2040. The proposed degree will strengthen the Environment value to protect “…our planet to ensure the health, well-being, and success of future generations.” This proposed program is globally oriented and practically focused on New Mexico, supporting the Place value of dedication “…to the peoples and places of New Mexico even as we reach for global impact for the benefit of all humanity.” This program’s social and environmental justice dimensions support the UNM 2040 Inclusion value. A key dimension in sustainability is stewarding the generative power of the web of life, which provides resources for human life and activity. As such, this program directly supports the Integrity value, in which UNM initiatives are “good stewards of the resources that have been given to us.” Finally, this proposed program’s the curriculum and faculty expertise will support and drive the value of Excellence at UNM in education, service and research.

Program Category and Level

Program Category
Program

Program Level
Undergraduate

Degree, Minor, or Certificate Name
Bachelor of Arts in Sustainability and Environmental Studies

Degree Type
Bachelor of Arts

Degree/Certificate Level
Undergraduate

CIP Code
03.0103

CIP Title
Environmental Studies

Is this program also offered online?
No

New program courses

Composition of new program

Existing courses	Revised courses	New Courses	Total Credits
40-43			40-43

Pre-proposal (new degrees/certificates only)

Pre-proposal Executive Summary

- BA Environmental Studies and Sustainability.pdf
- Provost proposal_exec-sum_090224.pdf

Program Duplication

The proposed B.A. in Sustainability and Environmental Studies will complement existing degrees by serving students seeking environment-focused professional pathways whose interests center on humanities and social science perspectives. Complementary degree programs that train students in broadly environmental topics do not have similar theoretical or topical foci.

First, existing degree programs in SSP and GES do not satisfy student demands for environmental learning. SSP does not offer a major degree, and the Geography B.A. and B.S.

Correspondence

- Correspondence with other departments regarding program duplication.pdf

degrees correctly deliver formal academic training in the discipline of Geography, including, but not limited to, studies of human-environment interaction.

The proposed degree program will provide instruction in Environmental Studies and Sustainability Studies. These have emerged since the 1970s to encompass multi- and interdisciplinary research and learning about socio-ecological systems. These fields clearly contrast with other degree programs with “Environmental” names because they explicitly include humanities and social science perspectives at their core. For reference, the most relevant CIP codes and descriptions are:

- Environmental Studies, CIP code 03.0103: “A program that focuses on environment-related issues using scientific, social scientific, or humanistic approaches or a combination [including] basic principles of ecology and environmental science and related subjects such as policy, politics, law, economics, social aspects, planning, pollution control, natural resources, and the interactions of human beings and nature.” (Source)
- Sustainability Studies, CIP code 30.3301: “A program that focuses on the concept of sustainability from an interdisciplinary perspective [including] sustainable development, environmental policies, ethics, ecology, landscape architecture, city and regional planning, economics, natural resources, sociology, and anthropology.” (Source)
- Environmental Science, CIP code 03.0104: “A program that focuses on the application of biological, chemical, and physical principles to the study of the physical environment and the solution of environmental problems [including] biology, chemistry, physics, geosciences, climatology, statistics, and mathematical modeling.” (Source)
- Environmental Design/Architecture, CIP code 04.0401: “A program that prepares individuals to design public and private spaces, indoor and outdoor, for leisure, recreational, commercial, and living purposes, and for professional practice as environmental designers and architects.” (Source)

Although the Department of Homeland Security designates the first three as STEM fields, emphasis on physical and biological sciences differentiates Environmental Science from Environmental Studies and Sustainability Studies. Indeed, Environmental Science is a component element of Environmental Studies as defined in the CIP classification system. The narrow focus on sustainability distinguishes

Sustainability Studies, but this field shares a core of humanities and social science perspectives with Environmental Studies, which has a broader focus.

We propose using the Environmental Studies CIP code, while using the degree name Sustainability and Environmental Studies. The planned curriculum does not focus exclusively on the concept of sustainability. Established Sustainability Studies courses have important roles in the proposed degree program, and the inflection toward sustainability will distinguish the proposed program in comparison with other Environmental Studies programs regionally and nationally. The Sustainability Studies minor will remain available for students who seek this focus within other major degree programs (students selecting the proposed major degree will not be able to complete the Sustainability minor). The Environmental Studies CIP code is more accurate for the planned curriculum in comparison to the narrower CIP category of Sustainability Studies.

Second, UNM's other broadly environmental degrees are offered in Art, Biology, Communication, Earth and Planetary Science, Environmental Planning and Design, Environmental Science, International Studies, and Geography. These programs have goals that contrast with those of the proposed degree, as well as different CIP codes:

- Art (B.A., B.F.A., Art and Ecology concentration; CIP code 50.0701): "students develop environmental and cultural literacy with a conceptual foundation and a wide range of production skills, including sculpture, social practice, performance, and digital media" (Source)
- Biology (B.A., B.S., Conservation Biology concentration; CIP code 26.0101): "provides students with a strong background in biology as well as the complementary interdisciplinary skills critical to understanding and addressing contemporary conservation questions [… with] specialization in the importance of biological diversity from ecological, aesthetic, economic and political viewpoints; extinction as a past, present and future process, and the roles of genetics, levels of biological organization, reserves and laws in the protection and recovery of endangered organisms" (Source)
- Communication (B.A., Environmental Communication concentration; CIP code 23.1304): "The study of communication as it relates to human perceptions of, and actions toward, nature. Examines ways communication not only reflects but also helps

construct particular human relations with/in the environment; how cultural, social, political, and economic contexts and interests help shape environmental communication; and how students might envision and enact sustainable and restorative ways forward." (Source)

- Earth and Planetary Science (B.A., B.S.; CIP code 40.0601): "a multidisciplinary science that utilizes chemistry, physics, biology, meteorology, oceanography and other disciplines to achieve a comprehensive understanding of the evolution of our planet and the solar system and to enhance the stewardship of our planet's natural resources" (Source)
- Environmental Science (B.S.; CIP code 03.0104): "synthesizes quantitative studies of the interactions between the solid earth, oceans, atmosphere and biological processes taking place therein. The degree provides scientific training for environment-related occupations, including environmental sciences per se as well as peripheral fields such as Law and Medicine" (Source)
- Environmental Planning and Design (B.A.E.P.D. ; CIP code 04.0401): "teaches knowledge, tools and skills to advance social and environmental justice [… and] emphasizes creative way[s] to influence and respond to dynamic changes occurring in communities throughout the world" (Source)
- Geography (B.A., B.S.; CIP code 45.0701): "the study of spatial patterns of human activities and cultures, of natural environments and events, and of the methods used to identify and portray spatial patterns" (Source)
- International Studies (B.A., Environment and Sustainability concentration; CIP code 30.2001): "This thematic concentration calls on students to examine key aspects of the environment as a quintessential transregional/global issue." (Source)

The preceding quotes are from the UNM departments that offer the degrees indicated. The language describing the Bachelor's program in Environmental Planning and Design (B.A.E.P.D.) is most similar to the proposed program. However, the B.A.E.P.D. program and the proposed program differ significantly, and are complementary rather than competitive. First, the B.A.E.P.D. is a pre-professional program that provides undergraduate preparation for professional careers and graduate programs in planning, architecture, and allied fields. As such, the B.A.E.P.D. is directed toward knowledge requirements for specific, licensed professions rather than interdisciplinary understanding of socio-ecological systems. Second, the B.A.E.P.D. program is highly structured

to meet discipline- and profession-specific needs. Nearly all courses allowed in the major are offered in either Community and Regional Planning or Landscape Architecture; the proposed program is highly interdisciplinary. Finally, the B.A.E.P.D. program is not a STEM degree, based on the program's CIP code (04.0401), while the proposed program will be classified as STEM based on its CIP code, and on the interdisciplinarity of its requirements. The resonance of the descriptions for the B.A.E.P.D. program and the proposed program exemplify UNM's strength and engagement in issues related to social and environmental justice within global change. The two programs advance student learning in different ways and toward different purposes.

The proposed degree program complements other degree choices available to UNM students. The B.A. in Sustainability and Environmental Studies will allow students to pursue highly interdisciplinary education that focuses on human and social perspectives on socio-ecological systems, an area of student demand that is not currently met on campus.

Pre-proposal Approved?
Approved

File uploads

Proposal File Upload

- hed-undergrad-form_BASES proposal_100424.pdf
- Provost proposal_090224.r1.pdf

Associated Forms

Select any associated course forms that exist

Select any associated program forms that exist

Shared Credit and Dual Degree information

Interdepartmental Program
No

Catalog Information

Program Description

The Bachelor of Arts program in Sustainability and Environmental Studies offers students flexibility in preparing for diverse careers that focus on environmental issues and solutions. Students who pursue a Bachelor of Arts in Sustainability and Environmental Studies become experts in both Sustainability Studies and Environmental Studies.

The field of Sustainability Studies focuses on building and strengthening environmental, social, and economic health and vitality. Sustainability experts have the skills needed to evaluate how people use resources, and to develop creative approaches to sustainable development. Environmental Studies focuses more broadly on understanding social-ecological systems from many perspectives, including the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. Experts in Environmental Studies are able to analyze and explain why social-ecological problems arise, and to develop creative ways of expressing pro-environmental viewpoints.

Students who pursue a Bachelor of Arts in Sustainability and Environmental Studies develop holistic knowledge about social-ecological systems, and skills needed to develop solutions to pressing environmental issues.

Admissions Requirements

Admissions Requirements

A minimum of 26 credit hours; 23 credit hours must be in courses acceptable toward graduation.

A cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 on all work.

- Transfer students must have a 2.00 transfer GPA.
- Continuing UNM students must have a 2.00 institutional GPA.

Demonstrated academic achievement by satisfying the following:

- Completion of General Education Curriculum: Communication.
- Completion of General Education Curriculum: Mathematics and Statistics.
- Completion of General Education Curriculum: Second Language.

Completion of any two lower-division courses in SUST or GEOG with grades of "C" or better.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Degree Hours

All UNM undergraduate students are required to earn a minimum of 120 credits for degree completion. In addition to the program-specific requirements outlined below, all undergraduate students are required to complete a minimum of 86 credits to fulfill UNM's General Education Program requirements and other general undergraduate degree requirements. In some instances, courses included in an undergraduate degree program's requirement may also fulfill a General Education requirement. Please review the General Education Program in this Catalog for General Education information. Students within the College of Arts and Sciences must also complete: 1) a major and a minor; or 2) two majors; or 3) one of the special curricula of the College that requires no minor.

Minimum Major Hours

Students may complete the Bachelor of Arts in Sustainability and Environmental Studies as either a first major or as a second major. As a first major, the degree program consists of 40-43 credits divided into three major components:

- Core Courses (7 courses, 19 credits)

- Experiential/Methods Electives (3 courses, 9-11 credits)
- Degree Concentration Electives (5 courses, 15-16 credits)

The curriculum of the degree as a second major consists of 34-37 credits, with the elimination of one core course and one degree concentration elective.

Professional Credential/Licensure Program Information

License/Certification associated with program
No

Degree Information

Degree Hours
120

Minimum Major Hours
40-43

Professional Accrediting Bodies

Degree Requirements

Requirements

- Complete 1 of the following

  Major

  - Complete all of the following
    - Complete the following:
      - SUST1134 - Introduction to Sustainability Studies (3)
      - GEOG1150 - Introduction to Environmental Studies (3)
      - GEOG1160 - Home Planet: Land, Water, Life (3)
      - GEOG1160L - Home Planet Laboratory (1)
      - SUST415 - The Climate Crisis (3)
      - SUST434 - Sustainable Futures (3)
    - Earn at least 3 credits from the following:
      - SUST499 - Sustainability Independent Capstone Project as Research or Creative Expression (1 - 3)
    - Earn at least 3 credits from the following:
      - COMM1130 - Public Speaking (3)
      - GEOG2115 - Information Design in Science and Society (3)
      - COMM2140 - Small Group Communication (3)
      - CJ314 - Intercultural Communication (3)
      - CJ320 - Conflict Management and Mediation (3)
      - CJ327 - Persuasive Communication (3)
    - Earn at least 6 credits from the following:
      - ARTS1143 - Introduction to Art & Ecology (3)
      - ARTS442 - Site-Specific Art (3)
      - ARTS444 - Art and Ecology: Creating Change (3)
      - ARTS452 - RAVEL: Field Lab (3)
      - ARTS453 - RAVEL: Creative Production (3)
      - ARTS454 - RAVEL: Exhibit (3)
      - BIOL408L - Bosque Internship (3)
      - CRP265 - Sustainable Community Planning Methods (3)
      - CRP403 - Community-Based Practice (3)
      - FDMA1210 - Digital Video Production I (3)
      - GEOG1115 - Maps and GIScience (3)
      - GEOG1115L - Maps and GIScience Laboratory (1)
      - GEOG320 - Field Methods in Geography (3)
      - GEOG381L - Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (4)
      - GEOG389 - Qualitative Methods for Geographers (3)

        - GEOG421L - Cartography (4)
        - GEOG423 - Environmental Systems Modeling (3)
        - GEOG426 - Critical Cartography (3)
        - GEOG476 - Field Experience Abroad (3)
        - GEOG483L - Remote Sensing Fundamentals (4)
        - GEOG493 - Internship in Applied Geography (1 - 3)
        - NATV502 - Education, Power and Indigenous Communities (3)
        - SUST410 - Lobo Gardens: Community Change (3)
        - WGSS498 - Feminism in Action (3)
    - Earn at least 15 credits from the following types of courses:
      Selected Concentration. See concentrations for requirements which vary.
    - Earn at least 77 credits from the following types of courses:
      In addition to the program-specific requirements outlined here, all undergraduate students must earn 77 additional credits to meet the minimum degree total of 120 credits. Additional coursework should fulfill UNM's General Education Program requirements. In some instances, courses included in an undergraduate degree program's requirement may also fulfill a General Education requirement. Please review the General Education Program in this Catalog for General Education information. Students within the College of Arts and Sciences must also complete 1) a major and a minor; or 2) two majors; or 3) one of the special curricula of the College that requires no minor.

Second Major

- Complete all of the following
    - Complete the following:
        - SUST1134 - Introduction to Sustainability Studies (3)
        - GEOG1150 - Introduction to Environmental Studies (3)
        - GEOG1160 - Home Planet: Land, Water, Life (3)
        - GEOG1160L - Home Planet Laboratory (1)
        - SUST434 - Sustainable Futures (3)
    - Earn at least 3 credits from the following:
        - SUST499 - Sustainability Independent Capstone Project as Research or Creative Expression (1 - 3)
    - Earn at least 3 credits from the following:
        - COMM1130 - Public Speaking (3)
        - GEOG2115 - Information Design in Science and Society (3)
        - COMM2140 - Small Group Communication (3)
        - CJ314 - Intercultural Communication (3)
        - CJ320 - Conflict Management and Mediation (3)
        - CJ327 - Persuasive Communication (3)
    - Earn at least 6 credits from the following:
        - ARTS1143 - Introduction to Art & Ecology (3)
        - ARTS442 - Site-Specific Art (3)
        - ARTS444 - Art and Ecology: Creating Change (3)
        - ARTS452 - RAVEL: Field Lab (3)
        - ARTS453 - RAVEL: Creative Production (3)
        - ARTS454 - RAVEL: Exhibit (3)
        - BIOL408L - Bosque Internship (3)
        - CRP265 - Sustainable Community Planning Methods (3)
        - CRP403 - Community-Based Practice (3)
        - FDMA1210 - Digital Video Production I (3)
        - GEOG1115 - Maps and GIScience (3)
        - GEOG1115L - Maps and GIScience Laboratory (1)
        - GEOG320 - Field Methods in Geography (3)

- GEOG381L - Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (4)
- GEOG389 - Qualitative Methods for Geographers (3)
- GEOG421L - Cartography (4)
- GEOG423 - Environmental Systems Modeling (3)
- GEOG426 - Critical Cartography (3)
- GEOG476 - Field Experience Abroad (3)
- GEOG483L - Remote Sensing Fundamentals (4)
- GEOG493 - Internship in Applied Geography (1 - 3)
- NATV300 - Research Methods in Native American Contexts (3)
- SOCI488 - Sociology & Criminology Internship: Field Observation and Experience (3 - 6)
- SUST410 - Lobo Gardens: Community Change (3)
- WGSS498 - Feminism in Action (3)

- Earn at least 12 credits from the following types of courses:
  Selected Concentration. See concentrations for requirements which vary.
- In addition to the second major requirements outlined here, students must complete all requirements for their primary major.

Grand Total Credits: 37 - 120

Concentrations

Program Concentrations

Code	Title

Concentration Required
Yes

Emphases

Emphasis required
No

Emphasis Hours

Emphasis Rules

No Rules

Sample Degree Plan

Sample Degree Plan Upload

- Degree program_r13.pdf

Program Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

- Students can demonstrate holistic understanding of social-ecological systems at multiple scales.
- Students can evaluate claims about sustainability using approaches and perspectives from biophysical sciences, social sciences, humanities, and arts.
- Students can identify, evaluate, and propose solutions to socio-ecological problems.
- Students can identify appropriate research methods for studies of socio-ecological systems, and apply specific methods in the analysis of selected socio-ecological problems.
- Students can apply academic knowledge in hands-on projects, community engagement, and other forms of experiential learning.
- Students can use cross-cultural communication, new technologies, and appropriate rhetoric to work effectively within diverse communities.
- Students can identify and express how their own personal values influence how they understand and interact within socio-ecological systems.
- Students can use ethical reasoning and judgment to evaluate justice and equity in current socio-ecological systems and in proposed solutions to socio-ecological problems.
- Students can describe and compare multiple social and cultural perspectives on socio-ecological systems.
- Students can identify and evaluate the socio-ecological impacts of their personal behaviors, and compare these to the personal impacts of other people globally.
- Students can reflect critically about their roles and identities as citizens, consumers, and actors within socio-ecological systems.