INTRODUCTION

The master’s program in Environmental Studies is a broadly based interdisciplinary program that focuses on human interaction with the environment. The program is geared for students entering or seeking to advance in the rapidly expanding environmental field. Because the scale and scope of environmental issues varies from local and practical to international and theoretical, the program seeks to integrate knowledge and approaches from a range of related disciplines in the sciences, engineering, social sciences and humanities. Topics include sustainability, environmental policy, management, health, pollution, law, philosophy, economics, planning, regulation and education. Given the range of their academic backgrounds, students are encouraged to craft a study plan that meets their own particular career or vocational goals. Students demonstrate their expertise in one of the environmental concentrations by preparing a thesis or project. Students select one of two tracks:

The Environment and Society track addresses the concepts and methods of the social, behavioral and health sciences as applied to environmental policy and planning. Topical concerns include urban and regional planning, environmental health, environmental impact, regulation, law, ethics, economics and environmental education. Students in this track come from many backgrounds, including the natural, health or social and behavioral sciences, or the humanities.

The Environmental Sciences and Technology track deals with applying scientific and engineering principles to environmental issues. Topical concerns include environmental ecology, water and air resources, water management, toxicology and environmental geology. Students in this track typically have a strong background in biology, chemistry, earth science, engineering, geography, geology or mathematics.

LEARNING GOALS AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The following learning goals and outcomes have been established for students pursuing a Master of Science degree in Environmental Studies:

Communication and Leadership Skills

• Write with clarity of thought, expression, style and usage
• Design and present oral presentations that summarize and interpret information in an effective manner
• Demonstrate effective team leadership in a diverse environment

Interpret, Analyze, and Synthesize

• Analyze sustainability through social, economic, and ecological lenses
• Evaluate challenges and develop effective solutions to complex problems
Information and Research Skills and Knowledge
- Apply quantitative and qualitative methods as appropriate to environmental research
- Utilize information resources and technology to organize and evaluate environmental research

Ethics
- Evaluate situations in terms of ethical standards and practices
- Exemplify professional conduct characterized by ethical standards

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (36 UNITS)
Application Deadlines
The program only admits students in the fall semester of each year. The deadline for completing online applications is March 1 of the year in which a student seeks to begin the program (csumentor.edu). Mailed applications must be postmarked by the same deadline. However, deadlines may change based upon enrollment projections. Check the university graduate studies website for current information: fullerton.edu/graduate.

Admission to Graduate Standing – Conditionally Classified
Students must meet the CSU requirements for admission to a master’s degree program. Please consult the Graduate Admissions section in this catalog for complete information. In addition, the program requires a grade-point average of 3.0 in the last 60 units of coursework attempted and two letters of recommendation, at least one of which must come from a college or university.

Because the program accepts students as a cohort, the size of the cohort will limit the number of applicants accepted. Applicants’ interests must match those of the faculty advisers. Students must indicate potential advisers in their letters of intent (review faculty adviser interests at: hss.fullerton.edu/evnstud/) and should contact potential advisers prior to submitting applications. Prerequisites for admission differ, depending on the selected track.

The Environment and Society track: one undergraduate course in ecology; one course in quantitative methods.

Environmental Sciences and Technology track: nine upper-division units in the natural and/or physical sciences, mathematics and/or engineering. Students without these prerequisites may be admitted provisionally, but must take these courses during their first year. In addition, students must be assigned an adviser upon entry. Additional requisites may be established at the discretion of the adviser.

Graduate Standing – Classified
After completing no more than nine semester units of adviser-approved coursework and developing an approved study plan, the student must apply for classified standing.

STUDY PLAN
Core Courses (9 units)
ENST 500 Environmental Issues and Approaches (3)
ENST 510 Environmental Evaluation and Protection (3)
ENST 520 Environmental Research and Analysis (3)

Electives (9-15 units), choose from:
ENST 595T Selected Topics in Environmental Problems (3)
ENST 596 Internship in Environmental Studies (3)
ENST 599 Independent Graduate Research (1-3)

Cross-Disciplinary Electives (9-15 units)
Courses outside Environmental Studies are chosen with prior approval of the faculty adviser and graduate program adviser. The graduate program adviser will maintain a list of acceptable electives. No more than 12 units can be taken from the undergraduate major department.

Planning Requirement
A three-unit planning course must be included, either from environmental studies electives or cross-disciplinary electives.

Thesis or Project (3 units)
All Environmental Studies students are required to register in ENST 597 or 598. Students may only register for this course once. If they do not complete their project or thesis within this semester, they will be assigned a grade of RP for the course until a letter grade can be assigned. Since students are required to maintain continuous enrollment, they must register in GRAD 700, either through University Extended Education (UEE) or CSUF. Students may only enroll in GRAD 700 through UEE for one semester if they are working on a project, and for two semesters if they are working on a thesis.

For further information, consult the graduate program associate coordinator.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES COURSES
Courses are designated as ENST in the class schedule

500 Environmental Issues and Approaches (3)
Prerequisite: graduate standing in Environmental Studies. Interdisciplinary approaches to environmental problems and research methods. Students prepare seminars and papers on research design for potential thesis topics. Meets graduate writing requirement.

510 Environmental Evaluation and Protection (3)
Prerequisite: graduate standing in Environmental Studies. Environmental parameters (water, air, solid wastes, noise, radiation, etc.). Techniques in monitoring and measurement; effect on human health; environmental quality standards and controls. Demonstrations and field trips.
520 Environmental Research and Analysis (3)
Prerequisite: graduate standing in Environmental Studies. Research methods used in environmental studies. Research tools used in such areas as environmental field studies, environmental experiments, social environmental impacts, environmental attitudes and behavior, and environmental trend analysis.

530 Environmental Statistics (3)
Prerequisites: ENST 500, 510. Corequisite: ENST 520. Statistics used in the environmental, biological and physical science fields. Emphasizes methodological approaches used to analyze the types of data commonly generated and used in environmental research.

540 Professional Practice in Environmental Studies (3)
Prerequisite: graduate standing in Environmental Studies; ENST 500, 510, 520. Current norms and tools in presenting scientific and social scientific information to a variety of audiences. Emphasizes communicating across disciplinary perspectives.

595T Selected Topics in Environmental Problems (3)
Prerequisite: graduate standing in Environmental Studies. Various environmental topics, contemporary or historic, that focus on problems (e.g., law, endangered habitats, planning, global environmental issues, etc.) Topic chosen and outline will be circulated prior to registration. One or more sections offered online. May be repeated four times (with different topics) for credit.

596 Internship in Environmental Studies (3)
Prerequisite: graduate standing in Environmental Studies. Field experience with a governmental or private agency.

597 Project (3)
Prerequisites: classified status in Environmental Studies program and consent of project adviser and program coordinator. Planning, preparing and completing an acceptable, interdisciplinary project. Credit on submission of project and presentation of research findings in a poster session organized by the Environmental Studies Program.

598 Thesis (3)
Prerequisites: classified status in Environmental Studies program and consent of instructor and program coordinator. Planning, preparing and completing an acceptable, interdisciplinary thesis. Credit on submission of thesis.

599 Independent Graduate Research (1-3)
Prerequisites: graduate standing in Environmental Studies and consent of instructor and program coordinator.