INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

Conservation and Resource Studies (CRS) is an interdisciplinary program designed for students interested in environmental issues and areas of interaction among natural resources, population, energy, technology, societal institutions, and cultural values. The CRS major helps students understand the structure and functions of the complex systems within our society and biosphere.

The major is offered by the Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management (ESPM). A minor in CRS is also available, as well as minors in Environmental Economics and Policy and Forestry and Natural Resources.

THE CRS CURRICULUM

Along with completing lower division requirements in the major, students will be guided in selecting eight upper division area of interest courses. Students draw on the course offerings of the entire campus and can incorporate courses in the social sciences, biological sciences, physical sciences, or humanities. Sample topics include environmental justice and education, sustainable development of world populations, conservation and culture, and ecological restoration and policy. Students can also utilize community resources in the development of individual programs of study.

HOW TO USE THIS MAP

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

ADVISING

The Undergraduate Advisors for all Rausser College majors are located in the Office of Instruction and Student Affairs in 260 Mulford Hall.

Visit nature.berkeley.edu/advising/meet-rausser-advisors for detailed office hours and appointment booking links. You may email general advising questions to crs.ugrad@berkeley.edu.

CONNECT WITH US

Cal Day
Come to UC Berkeley’s annual Open House in April for information sessions, campus tours, special talks, and more.

Golden Bear Orientation
Join your peers in the campus-wide UC Berkeley orientation program for all new students.

Events
Attend department events with students, faculty, and staff. Visit nature.berkeley.edu for news and updates.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Join a student organization like Better Beaches at Berkeley that allows you to engage with conservation firsthand.
- Get 1:1 mentoring from graduate students with Berkeley Connect in ESPM.
- Apply for a research position during the academic year through the SPUR program and get academic credit.

"The CRS major means leadership, curiosity, and passion to me. It allows me to explore my education and navigate it on my own terms, creating my own path along the way and opening up the world to my curious exploration." – Alicia Hernandez-Miyares, Conservation and Resource Studies student

CONSERVATION AND RESOURCE STUDIES
Bachelor of Science
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Bachelor of Science

FIRST YEAR
- Meet with your college advisor to discuss your academic plan.
- Review major and college requirements.
- Take the college’s peer advisors about life in the major.
- Start thinking about which topics within and related to the major interest you.

SECOND YEAR
- Complete lower division prerequisites and declare the major if currently undeclared.
- Take ESPM 90 during the spring semester and develop your Area of Interest.
- Review college guidelines for study abroad.
- Complete your major with a certificate, course thread, or summer minor.

THIRD YEAR
- Focus on upper division requirements and electives.
- Take ESPM 100 during the fall semester.
- Ask your college advisor about the Rausser College Honors Program.
- If your schedule permits, enroll in unique courses like ESPM 150: Environmental Writing.

FOURTH YEAR
- Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate.
- Complete any remaining area of interest courses and remaining college and campus requirements.
- Take ESPM 194U during the spring semester.
- Attend the CRS Alternative Graduation in the spring.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?
- CRS graduates pursue careers in environmental consulting, education, health, law, urban planning, and other areas of environmentalism in public agencies, nonprofit conservation organizations, and private companies.

Jobs and Employers
- Art Teacher, The Estria Foundation Biological Technician, US Fish and Wildlife
- Conservation Assoc., MD Geological Survey
- Environmental Inspector, City of San Jose
- Fellow, Americorps
- Field Assistant Intern, EPA
- Investment Banking Analyst, Mizuho Lab Asst., UC Office of the President
- Marketing Manager, Sempio Foods
- Research Assistant, UC Berkeley
- Resource Specialist, USDA

Graduate Programs
- Ecology, PhD
- Energy and Resources, PhD
- Landscape Architecture, Masters
- Philosophy & Religious Studies, Masters
- Zoology, PhD

Examples gathered from the Career Destinations Survey of recent Berkeley graduates

College Alumni Association
- Rausser College Peer Advisor / Student Ambassador
- Consider becoming a Leader

Student Resource Center
- Meet current students and alumni at the Rausser College Homecoming Picnic
- Attend the Career Connections Series

Explore Study, Internship, and Research Abroad
- Review college guidelines for study abroad.
- Develop your Area of Interest.
- Take ESPM 90 during the spring semester.
- Take ESPM 100 during the fall semester.
- Ask your college advisor about the Rausser College Honors Program.
- If your schedule permits, enroll in unique courses like ESPM 150: Environmental Writing.

Connect Community
- Take advantage of the college’s Student Resource Center.
- Join a student group like the Conservation and Resource Studies Student Organization.
- Get involved with a student organization like Better Beaches at Berkeley that allows you to engage with conservation firsthand.
- Help other students as a Rausser College Peer Advisor / Student Ambassador.
- Seek mentorship from your professors, faculty, and graduate student instructors.
- Connect with CRS alumni through the Rausser College Alumni Association.
- Join a professional association such as the Society for Conservation Biology
- Connect with alumni groups and Cooperative Extension Specialists, and build your network as you prepare to graduate.

Discover Passion
- Discover new interests in a Freshman Seminar or student-run DeCal course like ESPM 98: Restoration of Strawberry Creek.
- Enroll in a Sophomore Seminar, Big Ideas Course or Discovery Course.
- Assist faculty and grad students in their research through URAP or SMART.
- Apply for a research position during the school year through the SPUR program and get academic credit.
- Apply for a Rausser College Travel Grant to fund travel for academic conferences or research.
- Find research and funding opportunities in the OIRS database, SPUR, or URAP.
- Check out research by your peers at a college poster session.
- Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.
- Attend to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.
- Update your resume and LinkedIn profile.
- Conduct informational interviews.
- Attend Job Search Essentials workshops.
- Meet employers at Employer Info Sessions and On-Campus Recruiting.
- Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.

Engage Locally and Globally
- Attend the Calapalooza student activities fair and get involved with a student organization.
- Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center.
- Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad.
- Enroll in a Sophomore Seminar, Big Ideas Course or Discovery Course.
- Assist faculty and grad students in their research through URAP or SMART.
- Apply for a research position during the school year through the SPUR program and get academic credit.
- Apply for a Rausser College Travel Grant to fund travel for academic conferences or research.
- Find research and funding opportunities in the OIRS database, SPUR, or URAP.
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Reflect and Plan Your Future
- Visit the Career Center and Career Counseling Library.
- Check out the Career Center Yearly Planner.
- Sign up for Handshake and CareerMail.
- Check out the Conservation and Resource Studies Career Snaphot.
- Take advantage of career and pre-health advising for Rausser College students.
- Explore career fields through the Career Connections Series or a winter externship.
- Learn about graduate and professional school.
- think about doing an Internship and attend an Internship Fair.
- Conduct informational interviews.
- Discuss graduate school options with advisors and professors.
- Update your resume and LinkedIn profile.
- Attend career and graduate school fairs like the Environmental and Sustainability Career Fair.
- Attend Job Search Essentials workshops.
- Meet employers at Employer Info Sessions and On-Campus Recruiting.
- Apply to jobs, graduate school, and other opportunities.

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