

Earth and the Environment

The Earth and Environment pathway is a study of the geographical, physical and climatic features of the earth and the role of human interaction and habitation have on all three. Courses in this pathway use scientific inquiry to examine the dynamics of the earth and its environment. Students will investigate this pathway using historical, cultural, political, anthropological, and sociological lenses to support their scientific exploration of how humans have changed and influenced the environment.



Majors and Concentrations

- Anthropology
- Applied Geology
- Biochemistry
- Biology (BA/BS)
- Environmental Engineering
- Environmental Science
- Geography
 - Geographic Information Science
 - Physical Geography
 - Political Economy Approaches to Sustainability
 - Urban and Regional Processes and Planning
- Individualized Degree Program
- Meteorology
 - Applied Meteorology
 - Professional Meteorology
- Political Science
- Sustainable Systems Engineering

Exercise: Identifying Interest Areas

Using the list of majors and concentrations above try to identify 3 to 5 majors you'd like to explore:

- Circle the majors in this pathway that (at first glance) sound the most appealing to you.
- Cross out the majors that you have no interest in at all.
- Are there any majors or concentrations that you haven't circled or crossed out? Are there any majors that you'd like to learn more about in order to make a decision? Put a star next to those and let your Exploratory Advisor know about these majors.



Integrating General Studies and Exploratory Courses

Earth and the Environment Major Exploration Guide

Taking a mix of General Studies courses and exploratory courses (also referred to as “gateway courses” is a great way to explore your options for a major (and even a minor!). The University Catalog’s [Academic Program outlines](#) show the required courses for each major, including recommended or required courses that also fulfill General Studies requirements.

A complete list of General Studies options is available on the [General Studies website](#) and detailed [course descriptions](#) are available in the online University Catalog. Working with an Exploratory Advisor can help you with developing a strategy for using these requirements to explore your options in a way that is meaningful to you while keeping you on track to graduate within a reasonable time frame.



Recommended Courses

General Studies Courses

- o ANT 1010 Biological Anthropology
- o BIO 1080 General Biology I
- o BIO 1090 General Biology I Lab
- o BIO 1081 General Biology II*
- o BIO 1091 General Biology II Lab*
- o ENV 1200 Introduction to Environmental Science
- o GEG 1000 World Regional Geography
- o GEG 1100 Introduction to Physical Geography
- o GEG 1300 Introduction to Human Geography
- o GEG 1700 Principles of Sustainability
- o GEG 1910 Global Water Concerns
- o GEG 2700 Geographies of Environmental Justice
- o GEL 1010 Physical Geology
- o GEL 1020 Geology of Colorado
- o MTH 1210 Introduction to Statistics*
- o MTR 1400 Weather and Climate
- o MTR 1600 Global Climate Change
- o PSC 1010 American National Government
- o PSC 2230 Introduction to International Relations
- o SWK 1050 How to Change the World
- o SWK 3070 Environmental Justice in Social Work*

Gateway Courses- *these are not General Studies courses, but they are great exploratory options for programs in this pathway*

- o ANT 2640 Archaeology
- o ANT 3110 Race and Human Variation
- o BIO 3200 Invertebrate Zoology*
- o BIO 3360 Animal Physiology*
- o ECO 3450 Environmental Economics*
- o ENV 1540 Geologic and Environmental Hazards-Denver and the Vicinity*
- o GEG 3410 Biogeography*
- o GEL 1030 Historical Geology*
- o GEL 1550 Geology of the Great Sand Dunes National Monument*
- o GIS 1220 Introduction to Geospatial Sciences
- o GIS 2250 Geographic Information Systems*
- o GWS 490B Gender and Environments
- o HIS 3625 American Environmental History*
- o MTR 3200 Climate Change and Ecosystems*
- o PHY 3082 Energy and the Environment*
- o PSC 3230 Environmental Politics*
- o SWK 3070 Environmental Justice in Social Work*
- o SOC 3770 Society and the Environment

* Has a required prerequisite class. Check with your Exploratory Advisor for guidance on these courses.