



University of California, Santa Barbara  
Program Learning Outcomes

**B.S. or B.A. in Environmental Studies**

***Students graduating with a B.S. or B.A. in Environmental Studies should be able to:***

1. Describe the history and key concepts of environmental studies as a field integrating disciplines, operating at the intersection of fact and value, and tying scholarship to problem-solving.
2. Describe the structure and functioning of major physical and ecological components of the earth's systems, including ecosystems, biogeochemical cycles, and energy systems.  
*This is a particular emphasis of the BS degree.*
3. Identify the societal (social, political, economic, cultural and ethical) agents and structures that contribute to environmental change.  
*This is a particular emphasis of the BA degree.*
4. Propose and justify actions to address environmental issues.
5. Analyze efforts to solve environmental problems from multiple perspectives, including sustainability, equity and social justice.
6. Access and assess a complex literature based on specific environmental studies topics, and evaluate the usefulness and limitations of individual sources for specific topics.
7. Collect and interpret diverse sources of information using both quantitative and qualitative research tools, including ethnographic, interview, document-based and statistical techniques.
8. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills and the ability to work in groups.

***In addition, students graduating with a B.S. in Hydrological Sciences and Policy should be able to:***

9. Describe quantitatively physical, chemical, ecological, and biochemical hydrologic processes with links to water resources, water supply and water management.
10. Analyze and evaluate water policy strategies.