Department of EESC **CSCI**

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY EAST BAY

ASSESSMENT PLAN: B.A. Environmental Studies

Date Updated: FALL 2024

PROGRAM MISSION

CSUEB Environmental Studies. Program Description:

The Environmental Studies Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) program is characterized by its focus on equitable, just, and sustainable environmental solutions. Graduates who emerge from the program are well-rounded environmental professionals who can identify and synthesize the ecological, social, ethical, economic, technical, and behavioral dimensions of critical environmental problems. Using qualitative and quantitative problem solving concepts, approaches, and tools, our students are prepared to synthesize and communicate appropriate environmental solutions.

Majors are typically involved in campus and community sustainability projects such as greenhouse gas assessment, water resource and sustainability assessment, climate action and sustainability planning, and urban restoration projects. The program engages actively in collaborations across the campus, locally, and internationally. The Environmental Studies B.A. program benefits from its close association with the other Earth, Environmental and Sustainability Sciences programs, providing students access to a wide range of electives and to training in the spatial analytical tools that can greatly leverage their expertise for careers as sustainability directors and environmental resource managers. The program also benefits from integration with regional and state programs to promote environmental sustainability and social justice that make the San Francisco Bay Area a national hotspot for environmental careers.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLOs)

Students graduating with a B.A. in environmental studies will be able to:

PLO 1	Articulate key threats to the global environment, the scientific basis of the understanding of those threats, their underlying causes and implications for society
PLO 2	Articulate and apply key concepts to critical environmental problems including ecological limits, threshold effects, tragedy of the commons, and the interconnectedness of natural and human systems
PLO 3	Identify and apply a range of prominent tools and strategies to maintain and restore environmental quality and achieve sustainability
PLO 4	Describe and evaluate social justice and equity issues in the context of sustainable development
PLO 5	Identify, describe and assess the environmental and associated equity and justice implications of human actions including one's own
PLO 6	Apply quantitative and qualitative approaches to identify, analyze, and assess environmental problems.

Year 1: 2025-26	
1. Which PLO(s) to assess	PLO#2 Articulate and apply key concepts to critical environmental problems including ecological limits, threshold effects, tragedy of the commons, and the interconnectedness of natural and human systems and PLO #3: Identify and apply a range of prominent tools and strategies to maintain and restore environmental quality and achieve sustainability
2. Is it aligned to an ILO?	Yes
3. If yes, list ILO.	Communication, Collaboration and Sustainability
4. Course name and number	EEES 499 Capstone Seminar in Earth, Environmental and Sustainability Sciences
5. SLO from course	CLO#2. Synthesize and integrate information on aspects of physical sciences, law, policy, economics and social science, as applicable, in an assessment of the selected topic. CLO#3. Demonstrate the ability to gather, evaluate and articulate earth, environmental and sustainability sciences information through advanced written and oral communication.

6. Assessment activity	Data analysis and final project
7. Assessment Instrument	Faculty rating of student achievement (outstanding, proficient, still developing) using department rubric
8. How data will be reported	Quantitative and qualitative
9. Responsible person(s)	EESC Faculty Instructor (TBD)
10. Time (which semester(s))	Spring 2026
11. Ways of closing the loop	Reports first to the Chair and then to the entire faculty for comment & discussion. An end-of-year meeting will be devoted to evaluating assessment results and "closing the loop." Identified "areas for improvement" will be incorporated into modified/updated core courses for future majors.

Year 2: 2026-27	
1. Which PLO(s) to assess	PLO#1 Articulate key threats to the global environment, the scientific basis of the understanding of those threats, their underlying causes and implications for society and PLO#2 Articulate and apply key concepts to critical environmental problems including ecological limits, threshold effects, tragedy of the commons, and the interconnectedness of natural and human systems
2. Is it aligned to an ILO?	Yes
3. If yes, list ILO.	Thinking and Reasoning; Communication; Sustainability
4. Course name and number	EEES 499 Capstone Seminar in Earth, Environmental and Sustainability Sciences
5. SLO from course	CLO#2. Synthesize and integrate information on aspects of physical sciences, law, policy, economics and social science, as applicable, in an assessment of the selected topic. CLO#3. Demonstrate the ability to gather, evaluate and articulate earth, environmental and sustainability sciences information through advanced written and oral communication.

6. Assessment activity	Data analysis and final project
7. Assessment Instrument	Faculty rating of student achievement (outstanding, proficient, still developing) using department rubric
8. How data will be reported	Quantitative and qualitative
9. Responsible person(s)	EESC Faculty Instructor (TBD)
10. Time (which semester(s))	Spring 2027
11. Ways of closing the loop	Reports first to the Chair and then to the entire faculty for comment & discussion. An end-of-year meeting will be devoted to evaluating assessment results and "closing the loop." Identified "areas for improvement" will be incorporated into modified/updated core courses for future majors.

Year 3: 2027-28	
1. Which PLO(s) to assess	PLO#2 Articulate and apply key concepts to critical environmental problems including ecological limits, threshold effects, tragedy of the commons, and the interconnectedness of natural and human systems and PLO#4 Describe and evaluate social justice and equity issues in the context of sustainable development
2. Is it aligned to an ILO?	Yes
3. If yes, list ILO.	Communication, Diversity and Sustainability
4. Course name and number	EEES 499 Capstone Seminar in Earth, Environmental and Sustainability Sciences
5. SLO from course	CLO#2. Synthesize and integrate information on aspects of physical sciences, law, policy, economics and social science, as applicable, in an assessment of the selected topic. CLO#3. Demonstrate the ability to gather, evaluate and articulate earth, environmental and sustainability sciences information through advanced written and oral communication.

6. Assessment activity	Data analysis and final project
7. Assessment Instrument	Faculty rating of student achievement (outstanding, proficient, still developing) using department rubric
8. How data will be reported	Quantitative and qualitative
9. Responsible person(s)	EESC Faculty Instructor (TBD)
10. Time (which semester(s))	Spring 2028
11. Ways of closing the loop	Reports first to the Chair and then to the entire faculty for comment & discussion. An end-of-year meeting will be devoted to evaluating assessment results and "closing the loop." Identified "areas for improvement" will be incorporated into modified/updated core courses for future majors.

Year 4: 2028-29	
1. Which PLO(s) to assess	PLO#2 Articulate and apply key concepts to critical environmental problems including ecological limits, threshold effects, tragedy of the commons, and the interconnectedness of natural and human systems and PLO #5: Identify, describe and assess the environmental and associated equity and justice implications of human actions including one's own
2. Is it aligned to an ILO?	Yes
3. If yes, list ILO.	Communication, Diversity and Sustainability
4. Course name and number	EEES 499 Capstone Seminar in Earth, Environmental and Sustainability Sciences
5. SLO from course	CLO#2. Synthesize and integrate information on aspects of physical sciences, law, policy, economics and social science, as applicable, in an assessment of the selected topic. CLO#3. Demonstrate the ability to gather, evaluate and articulate earth, environmental and sustainability sciences information through advanced written and oral communication.

6. Assessment activity	Data analysis and final project
7. Assessment Instrument	Faculty rating of student achievement (outstanding, proficient, still developing) using department rubric
8. How data will be reported	Quantitative and qualitative
9. Responsible person(s)	EESC Faculty Instructor (TBD)
10. Time (which semester(s))	Spring 2029
11. Ways of closing the loop	Reports first to the Chair and then to the entire faculty for comment & discussion. An end-of-year meeting will be devoted to evaluating assessment results and "closing the loop." Identified "areas for improvement" will be incorporated into modified/updated core courses for future majors.

Year 5: 2029-30	
1. Which PLO(s) to assess	PLO#2 Articulate and apply key concepts to critical environmental problems including ecological limits, threshold effects, tragedy of the commons, and the interconnectedness of natural and human systems and PLO #6 Apply quantitative and qualitative approaches to identify, analyze, and assess environmental problems.
2. Is it aligned to an ILO?	Yes
3. If yes, list ILO.	Communication, Thinking and Reasoning; Collaboration; Sustainability
4. Course name and number	EEES 499 Capstone Seminar in Earth, Environmental and Sustainability Sciences
5. SLO from course	CLO#2. Synthesize and integrate information on aspects of physical sciences, law, policy, economics and social science, as applicable, in an assessment of the selected topic. CLO#3. Demonstrate the ability to gather, evaluate and articulate earth, environmental and sustainability sciences information through advanced written and oral communication.

6. Assessment activity	Data analysis and final project
7. Assessment Instrument	Faculty rating of student achievement (outstanding, proficient, still developing) using department rubric
8. How data will be reported	Quantitative and qualitative
9. Responsible person(s)	EESC Faculty Instructor (TBD)
10. Time (which semester(s))	Spring 2030
11. Ways of closing the loop	Reports first to the Chair and then to the entire faculty for comment & discussion. An end-of-year meeting will be devoted to evaluating assessment results and “closing the loop.” Identified “areas for improvement” will be incorporated into modified/updated core courses for future majors.