

A photograph of a dense forest with tall, slender trees and a thick canopy of green leaves. A person is walking away from the camera on a mossy, uneven path. A large, thick tree branch arches over the path from the left. The ground is covered in moss and fallen leaves.

People.
Planet.
Possibilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
SANTA CRUZ

OUR MISSION

The environment—the natural and physical world that sustains life—is where many of our most pressing issues intersect. Population growth, consumption, rising inequality, and other political, economic, and demographic factors all have a profound impact on the environment. At UC Santa Cruz, we combine environmental science with social scientists’ insights into human behavior—whether political, cultural, or institutional—to find new and sustainable solutions to some of the biggest problems facing the world today.

OUR WORK

Environmental studies incorporates multiple disciplines, including ecology, economics, political science, sociology, and other disciplines. Our work is solutions-based, and encompasses both dynamic, immersive learning opportunities for students and research that addresses key issues affecting the environment. Specific areas of strength include:

- Agroecology and sustainable food systems
- Conservation and restoration
- Global change (including climate change)
- Political ecology
- Social geography
- Natural history
- Experiential learning
- Geographic Information System/spatial analysis tools



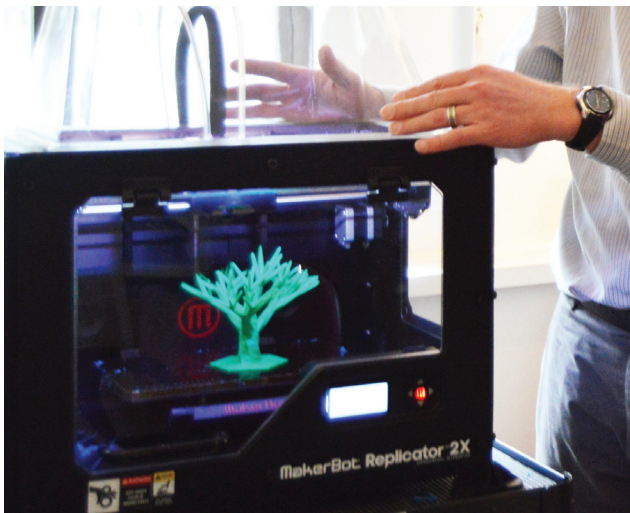
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES BY THE NUMBERS

3,523	students enrolled in environmental studies classes
660	proposed and/or declared environmental studies majors
35%	of majors are first-generation college students
45	Ph.D. candidates
21	full-time faculty
593	students enrolled in field study courses
667	internships offered yearly
\$2.7mil	in grant funding received annually

OUR GOALS

To continue providing unparalleled learning opportunities while pioneering solutions-based research into the most crucial environmental issues of our time, we are focused on these specific goals:

- **Facilitate interdisciplinary research**
Through an endowment to provide staffing and seed grant support to faculty who initiate new, cross-disciplinary collaborations focusing on transformative environmental problem solving.
- **Recruit and retain outstanding faculty**
By establishing endowed chairs in sustainable food systems, conservation science, and climate change ecology and policy.
- **Enhance graduate training**
Through interdisciplinary graduate and post-doctoral fellowships to recruit and retain the brightest minds.
- **Ensure hands-on learning opportunities**
By continuing to build our experiential learning endowment.
- **Expand scholarship opportunities**
To train a diverse group of future environmental leaders.



"We live in an amazing moment in human history. We have the knowledge to understand what's happening to our planet and just enough time to do something about it."

—M. Sanjayan, Ph.D. '97



YOU CAN HELP

We depend on private donations to fund the vital work happening in the Environmental Studies Department. If you share our passion for the planet, please help us provide outstanding learning opportunities for students and develop research outcomes that truly make a difference.

Thank you for your support!

Contact the Social Sciences Development office
at 831-459-3857 or by email at socsci@ucsc.edu,
or visit envs.ucsc.edu



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THE ORIGINAL
AUTHORITY
ON QUESTIONING
AUTHORITY