HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
academic & career ADVISING CENTER

Career Guide: Environmental Planning & Policy

Environmental Planning and Policy focuses on how to best manage our use of natural resources today while sustaining the ecosystems they are drawn from for the future. This major offers study that centers on developing a harmonious relationship between people and the natural environment. Environmental policy-makers and planners find ways for people to live in harmony with the natural environment, satisfying our needs for space and resources while maintaining the quality of the environment.

Careers include everything from rural or urban land-use planning with a city or county government or a non-profit advocacy group, to environmental consulting and analysis with a state and federal land management agency or a private firm. You will only find one undergraduate-level natural resource-focused policy and planning program in the country, and it is right here at Humboldt State University.

Related Job Titles

The following list is not meant to be all inclusive; many other job alternatives and titles may exist. Some require further education. As an ESM major, careers could reach across other concentration areas; refer to those career guides.

- Biological Science Technician
- Coastal Program Analyst
- Conservation Corps Director
- Ecologist
- Environmental Analyst
- Environmental Mgmt. Consultant
- Environmental Health Sanitarian
- Environmental Lawyer
- Environmental Protection Spec.
- Environmental Scientist
- Environmental Services Advisor
- Hazardous Materials Specialist
- Natural Resource Specialist
- Nature Writer
- Project Planning:
  - ⇒ Planning Engineer
  - ⇒ City/County
  - ⇒ Environmental
  - ⇒ Recreation
  - ⇒ Tribal
  - ⇒ Transportation
  - ⇒ Water Quality
- Resource Management Spec.
- Rangeland Mgmt Specialist
- Soil Conservationist
- Soil Scientist
- Technical Writer
- Water Resource Analyst
- Watershed Technician
- Policy Advisor
- Public Works Advisor
- Water Resource Analyst
- Field Director

Possible Employers

Private:

Environmental Consulting Firms
Chemical Companies
Land Developers & Surveyors
Planning Consultants
Nature Centers
Consulting Engineers
Zoological Gardens
Energy Firms
Nature Centers
Outdoor Recreation & Ecopreneurs
Consulting Engineers
Resorts
EcoTourism
Planning Firms
Timber Industry
Public Utilities
Construction Firms
Sportsman's Clubs & Organizations
Conservation Organizations
Ecological Organizations
Real Estate Developers

Federal Agencies:

Army Corps of Engineers
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Land Management
Bureau of Reclamation
NASA
Consumer Protection Agency
Environmental Protection Agency
National Park Service
Agricultural Research Service
Smithsonian Institution
Natural Resource Cons. Service
U.S. Fish & Wildlife
U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Geological Survey
Nat'l Oceanic & Atmospheric Admin.

State, County & Local Agencies

Air Resources Board
Coastal Commission
Conservation Corps
Dept. of Conservation
Dept. of Energy
Public Works
Public Health & Sanitation
Land Use & Planning
Food & Agriculture
Water Districts
Dept. of Environmental Quality
Dept. Parks & Recreation
Dept. of Toxic Substances Control
Dept. of Transportation
Environmental Health
Environmental Services
Parks & Open Spaces
Agricultural Extension Service
Solid Waste Management
Parks & Recreation Department
Dept. of Water Resources
Health Dept.
Integrated Waste Management
Office of Emergency Services
Recycling
Resource Management
Office of Planning and Research
Fish & Wildlife
Ocean Protection Council
City, County and State websites

A 4-year College Degree is designed to give you the **Top Skills** employers are looking for, According to the **National Association of Colleges and Employers,** those skills and abilities are:

- Effective communication
- Working in a team structure
- Making decisions/solving problems
- Planning/organizing and prioritizing work
- Obtaining and processing information
- Analyzing quantitative data
- Proficiency with computers and software
- Creating and editing written reports
- Selling and influencing others

Marketable Skills In Your Major

Communication
- Written and oral presentation skills
- Conflict resolution
- Program management and implementation
- Communicating Scientific Concepts and concerns to diverse audiences

Lab Based Skills
- General laboratory skills
- Field based research and testing

Sustainability
- Understanding of sustainability practices
- Implementation of sustainable policies/methods
- Management of natural resources and ecosystems

Extensive Analytical and Investigative Skills
- Analyze human interactions and natural environment
- Conducting field studies
- Sampling and surveying
- Policy analysis

Planning/GIS/Remote Sensing
- Resource management
- Principles of urban and regional planning
- Mapping and GIS skills
- Geospatial analysis and environmental impact assessment

Academic and Career Advising Center Services

Drop-In hours: Monday – Friday, 10 am – 1 pm : Quick academic and career advice and drop-in resume/cover letter review. Drop-ins are handy for the following types of services:

• Job Search Basics • Basic DARS Review • Quick Resume Review • Declaring a Major/Major Change
• Adding a Minor • Navigating HSU Handshake • How to Use DARS Degree Planner • Cover Letter Review

Academic and Career Advisors (Please call 707-826-3341 or visit Gist Hall 114 to make an appointment)
Our helpful team of academic and career advisors can help you get the most out of your college experience with the following and much more during an individual appointment:

• Academic Planning • Full-time Job Search • DARS Questions
• 4- Year Plans • Major Change Advising • GE Information
• Internship Search • Federal Work Study • Mock Interview
• Volunteer Opportunities • Career Assessment • Adding a Second Major
• Graduate School Application • How to use DARS Degree Planner •Withdrawal or Transfer Advice
• Personal Statement

HSU Handshake (online job database and more!): Search for campus jobs, internships, summer jobs, community service, work-study, etc. Register for workshops and special events. Go to www.humboldt.edu/acac to register on HSU Handshake or call 707-826-3341 for assistance.

Events and Workshops (Contact us for more information!)
- Part-time Job Fair - *August*
- Graduate and Professional School Fair - *September*
- Internship Week - *February*
- Career & Volunteer Expo - *February*
- *Ready, Set, Register!* Semester Bulletin - *Fall/ Spring*
- Educator Fair - *March*
- How to Find Part-Time Jobs Workshop - *March*
- How to Find an Internship Workshop - *On-Going*
- Getting the Most out of Career Expo Workshop - *On-going*
- Research Graduate Schools Workshop - *February*
- Federal Resume & Application Open Labs - *Fall*
- How to Find Internships in Your Home Town Workshop - *Spring*

Looking for professional development opportunities for your on-campus club or organization?
• Request a Career Advisor to give a group presentation on subjects like resume development or job search.