ESC – Environmental Studies Certificate

University Arts and Science

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2025
Program Outline Review Date: 2030-03-01

Program Area: Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Description:

This certificate provides an interdisciplinary approach to global environmental issues. Coursework deals with environmental issues from social, scientific, cultural, philosophical, political and economic perspective.

Program Information:

This certificate is a foundation year that can ladder into related diplomas, associate degrees or bachelor degrees. This program may appeal to students who plan to go into community development, non-profit societies, local government, public service sector, and related areas.

Credentials Granted:

Environmental Studies Certificate

Minimum Course Grade: A minimum grade of D

Program Average: A minimum program grade point average of 2.0/10 (C- average)

Delivery Methods: On-Campus (Face-to-Face), Online

Credits: 30

Admission Requirements:

- Complete all of the following
  - Earned a minimum grade of C+ (65%) in at least 1 of the following:
    - ENST 12 – English Studies 12
    - ENFP 12 – English First Peoples 12
    - ENGL090 – English – Provincial Level
  - Students must have the prerequisites for the individual courses in the program. Students can enroll
    in the program and take the upgrading courses they require concurrently.

Program Completion Requirements:

Environmental Studies Program
30 Total Credits

- Complete all of the following
  6 Credits in First Year English and Communications
  - Complete all of the following
    - Completed the following:
      - ENGL100 – English Composition (3)
    - Completed at least 1 of the following:
      - ENGL101 – Introduction to Poetry and Drama (3)
      - ENGL102 – Introduction to Prose Fiction (3)
      - COMC102 – Advanced Professional Communication (3)

  3 Credits in Computer Science or Mathematics
  - Completed at least 1 of the following:
    - CSCI105 – Introduction to Programming in the C and C++ Language (3)
    - COMP153 – Introduction to Data Processing (3)
    - COMP154 – Computer Applications in Business (3)
    - MATH101 – Finite Mathematics 1 (3)
    - MATH103 – Differential Calculus (3)
    - STAT106 – Statistics (3)

  12 Credits in Science and Arts other than English
  - Completed at least 4 of the following:
    - BIOL151 – Biology of the Environment (3)
    - CHEM100 – Introduction to Environmental Chemistry (3)
    - ECON101 – Microeconomics (3)
    - ENSC101 – Introduction to Environmental Science (3)
    - ENST200 – Introduction to Environmental Sustainability (3)
    - GEOG101 – Introduction to Physical Geography (3)
    - GEOL105 – An Introduction to Geology (3)
    - GEOL106 – Physical and Historical Geology (3)

9 Credits in Science and Arts

- Completed at least 3 of the following:
  - ANTH101 – Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (3)
  - COMC102 – Advanced Professional Communication (3)
  - COMC253 – Intercultural Communication (3)
  - ECON250 – Environmental Economics (3)
  - FNST101 – First Nations Studies (3)
  - GEOG210 – Geography of British Columbia (3)
  - GEOG211 – Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (3)
  - GEOG230 – Meteorology, Climatology and Hydrology (3)
  - GEOL220 – Environmental Geology and Natural Hazards (3)
  - HIST230 – Canada's Enviromental History (3)
  - INDG120 – Introduction to Indigenous Peoples' Worldviews (BC Focus) (3)
  - POLI100 – Introduction to Politics and Government (3)
  - SOCI102 – Introduction to Sociology 2: Social Institutions (3)

Grand Total Credits: 30

Program Completion Requirements Notes:

A grade of "D" grants credit, but may not be sufficient as a prerequisite for sequential courses.

Prior Learning and Recognition: Yes

Students are able to request formal recognition of their prior learning or experience outside the classroom. Challenge examination, portfolio-assisted assessment, work-based assessment or a combination of assessments that is appropriate to identify, assess, and recognize prior skills, competencies, and knowledge to achieve course credit. Tuition fees apply, refer to Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) or contact an education advisor for more information.

Program Transfer Credit:

For information about block transfer agreements between programs in British Columbia, Alberta, and elsewhere, please visit http://www.cotr.bc.ca/transfer.

To minimize transfer issues, check with an academic advisor at the institution that will receive

the transfer credits.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/ and include the following:

- Policy 2.1.4 Course Audit
- Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
- Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
- Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
- Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
- Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
- Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
- Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
- Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Program Changes:

Information contained in this program outline is correct at the time of publication. Courses and course content may be revised from time to time based on changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The timetable may also be revised.

Course Descriptions: Refer to Course Outlines – https://outlines.cotr.bc.ca/course/