

MINOR IN DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN NATURAL RESOURCES

To get more information about this minor or to officially declare it, please visit the department website (<https://warnercnr.colostate.edu/diversity-and-inclusion-in-natural-resources-minor/>).

This minor embraces human diversity and inclusion in natural resources fields, through exploration of how complex and important aspects of diversity serve to shape natural resources and our environment in our modern era. The minor serves students already passionate about natural resources through an exploration of counter-narratives not often thoroughly discussed in seminal works of natural resource history. It provides for a critical examination of historical and current relationships between human diversity, natural resources, and the environment. Students will develop an understanding of the importance of, and types of, diversity in human-environment interactions; how this diversity contributes to vulnerability and/or resilience to environmental change; and the barriers and opportunities for recognizing and protecting human diversity in the context of natural resource conservation and management. The curriculum provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to address diversity and inclusion issues within the natural resource disciplines represented in the Warner College. This includes proposing solutions to environmental injustices, facilitating intercultural environmental communication, integrating multicultural perspectives in assessment of natural resource issues and development of policy and management solutions, and cultivating a deeper understanding and respect for diverse ways of knowing and experiencing the environment.

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion, students will be able to:

1. Reflect on and extend personal knowledge regarding how individual, family, and cultural contexts have shaped past and present human-environment relationships.
2. Distinguish and describe multiple dimensions of diversity, including unique contributions of marginalized social and cultural groups in natural resources.
3. Critically analyze historic and contemporary perspectives of dynamic interactions and relationships between people and nature, centering experiences of historically marginalized communities.
4. Articulate historical and contemporary sources of discrimination and injustice in natural resource conservation and management.
5. Apply diverse conceptual and ethical frameworks for evaluating how environmental risks, costs, and benefits are distributed across populations.
6. Critically analyze how different forms of environmental governance and institutional arrangements can determine distribution of power and access to resources, and differentially impact cultural communities.
7. Identify and develop critical career resources and skills necessary for respectfully engaging diversity in the natural resources field.
8. Apply analytical tools to engage multicultural perspectives in assessment and management of natural resources.
9. Demonstrate competency to communicate across social and cultural differences.

Requirements Effective Fall 2026

Students must satisfactorily complete the total credits required for the minor. Minors require 12 or more upper-division (300- to 400-level) credits.

Additional coursework may be required due to prerequisites.

Code	Title	Credits
NR 140	Diversity and Inclusion in Natural Resources (GT-SS2)	3
Select Foundational Course		3
Please choose one of the following courses.		
ANTH 100	Introductory Cultural Anthropology (GT-SS3)	
ETST 100	Introduction to Ethnic Studies (GT-SS3)	
GR 100	Introduction to Geography (GT-SS2)	
SOC 100	Introduction to Sociology (GT-SS3)	
or SOC 105	Social Problems (GT-SS3)	
Select 15 credits from the courses below with a minimum of 3 credits from each elective competency area. The remaining 6 credits may be selected from any elective area. At least 12 credits applied towards the minor must be WCNR courses.		15
Human-environment relationships and interactions:		
ANTH 415	Indigenous Ecologies and the Modern World	
ESS 365	Global Climate Justice (Online Course only)	
ESS 401	Sustainability of Parks and Protected Places	
ETST 250/ HIST 250	African American History (GT-HI1)	
ETST 252/ HIST 252	Asian American History (GT-HI1)	
ETST 253	Chicanx History and Culture (GT-HI1)	
ETST 255/ HIST 255	Native American History (GT-HI1)	
ETST 270	Introduction to Critical Disability Studies	
OT 355	The Disability Experience in Society	
Natural resource, justice, ethics, and governance:		
ESS 400	Global Perspectives on Sustainability	
ETST 365	Global Environmental Justice Movements	
ETST 420	Disability, Race, Gender in the Environment	
GR 213	Climate Migrants (GT-SS2)	
NRRT 271	Nature, Health and Well-Being	
NRRT 279	Biodiversity and Conservation Social Science	
NRRT 400	Environmental Governance	
NRRT 402	Cultural and Political Ecology	
SOC 220	Environment, Food, and Social Justice (GT-SS3)	
SOC 322	Environmental Justice	
Skills and applications in Diversity & Inclusion:		
ESS 505	International Climate Negotiations	
ESS 506	Virtual International Climate Negotiations	

FW 310	Mapping Diverse Perspectives in Conservation
NR 321	Natural Resource Rights and Reconciliation
NRRT 320	International Issues-Recreation and Tourism
NRRT 368	Biodiversity Conservation Culture/Business
NRRT 404	Designing Nature-Based Programs for Impact
Program Total Credits:	
21	