

## MAJOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES BACHELOR OF ARTS 2009–10

*"Today we are faced with a challenge that calls for a shift in our thinking, so that humanity stops threatening its life-support system. We are called to assist the Earth to heal her wounds and in the process heal our own—indeed, to embrace the whole creation in all its diversity, beauty and wonder. This will happen if we see the need to revive our sense of belonging to a larger family of life, within which we have shared our evolutionary process."*  
—Wangari Maathai, Native of Kenya and 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Winner

### Background

Environmental studies is an inherently transdisciplinary field arising from the interaction of Western-based natural and social sciences, and from other sources of wisdom and tradition. The Environmental Studies program is designed to empower students to develop the knowledge base and skill set needed to address complex environmental issues.

### Program Description

The Environmental Studies curriculum integrates the complex and interconnected relationships of the natural environment, human culture and personal experiences. These relationships are studied through six related strands of the curriculum: field science, sacred ecology, sustainability, permaculture, environmental history and justice, and learning community.

### Curriculum

The major in Environmental Studies is composed of 36 credits of required courses. Environmental Studies majors have the flexibility to choose a specific field science course and focus course within the 36 credit hours. For students declaring a major in Environmental Studies, entry into the major is contingent upon completion of ENV 100, Physical Geography, and ENV 245, Pilgrimage and Sacred Landscape.

### ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES REQUIREMENTS\*

ENV 207	History of the Environmental Movement (3)
ENV 215	Sustainability (3)
ENV 220	Ecology and Systems Science (3)
ENV 250	Nature, the Sacred and Contemplation (3)
ENV 260	Introduction to Permaculture (3)
ENV 302	Environmental Pollution and Solutions (3)
ENV 318	Deep Ecology (3)
ENV 355	Environmental Justice (3)
ENV 357	Creating a Learning Community (noncredit)
ENV 420	Environmental Service Learning: Ecological Restoration (3)
ENV 480	Senior Project Course (3)
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>30</b>

### Choose one field science course:

ENV 311	Plant Ecology (3)
ENV 321	Geology (3)
ENV 351	Wildlife Ecology (3)

### Choose one focus course:

ENV 226	Global Corporatism (3)
ENV 236	Green Building (3)
ENV 238	Survival Skills (3)
ENV 253	Environmental Economics (3)
ENV 342	Permaculture Design (3)
ENV 363	Indigenous Environmental Issues (3)
ENV 370	Ecopsychology (3)

### TOTAL CREDITS 36

*\*This fact sheet describes the 2008–09 curriculum for the Environmental Studies major. Naropa University faculty and staff are committed to regular review and revision of the curriculum, to reflect new findings and understandings in the field, feedback from alumni and the professional community, and faculty expertise. Please inquire with the Office of Admissions and/or the Department of Environmental Studies for any curricular changes that are being considered for future academic years.*

### Creating a Learning Community

The Environmental Studies Department requires Environmental Studies majors to complete four semesters of ENV 357, Creating a Learning Community (typically during the junior and senior years). This is a noncredit course whose purpose is to provide students the time and space to build community within the department by engaging in meaningful environmental issues and projects. This course is also encouraged for Environmental Studies minors and Interdisciplinary Studies majors with Environmental Studies concentrations.

### Senior Project

The Environmental Studies Department requires Environmental Studies majors to complete an individual senior project in the final semester of the program. The project can take the form of either a traditional senior thesis or a community-based project. This requirement is fulfilled by completing ENV 480, Senior Project.

### Internship and Independent Study Opportunities

The Environmental Studies Department has fostered partnerships with community organizations where students can arrange internships and co-create meaningful independent study opportunities that supplement the Environmental Studies curriculum.

## Minors in Environmental Studies

Students from other departments interested in an Environmental Studies minor may select one of the following 12-credit minors. Courses must be taken in the appropriate sequence where prerequisites exist.

### Ecology and Systems Science

ENV 100 Physical Geography (3)  
ENV 220 Ecology and Systems Science (3)  
ENV 302 Environmental Pollution and Solutions (3)  
One field science course (3)

**TOTAL CREDITS 12**

### Environmental History and Justice

ENV 207 History of the Environmental Movement (3)  
ENV 355 Environmental Justice (3)  
ENV 363 Indigenous Environmental Issues (3)  
ENV 420 Environmental Service Learning: Ecological Restoration (3)

**TOTAL CREDITS 12**

### Environmental Sustainability

ENV 215 Sustainability (3)  
ENV 226 Global Corporatism (3)  
ENV 236 Green Building (3)  
ENV 253 Environmental Economics (3)

**TOTAL CREDITS 12**

### Horticulture

ENV 100 Physical Geography (3)  
ENV 220 Ecology and Systems Science (3)  
ENV 260 Introduction to Permaculture (3)  
ENV 342 Permaculture Design (3)

**TOTAL CREDITS 12**

### Sacred Ecology

ENV 245 Geography: Pilgrimage and Sacred Landscape (3)  
ENV 250 Nature, the Sacred, and Contemplation (3)  
ENV 318 Deep Ecology (3)  
ENV 370 Ecopsychology (3) or  
ENV 238 Survival Skills (3) or  
PSYT 320 Psychology of Wilderness Experience (3)

**TOTAL CREDITS 12**

### Alumni

Career paths of graduates of the Environmental Studies program include holistic health practitioner, organic farmer, preschool teacher, operations manager of a gardening company, landscaper, not for profit organization director, artist, environmental educator, art teacher, interior designer, writer/editor, storm water coordinator for local government, wilderness guide.

## Environmental Studies Department

### Ranked Faculty

#### Suzanne Benally

**BA, University of Colorado; MA, University of Colorado.**

Suzanne Benally has extensive experience in higher education policy, assessment and diversity. Formerly she directed an Institute on Ethnic Diversity at the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education. Ms. Benally has also worked with the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, as an interim executive director and director of education to address the concerns and needs of American Indian education K–12 and post-secondary. Her special interests and research have focused on the relationship between land and place as expressed through written and oral literature. In addition to her many activities, she has a consulting practice that has included work with foundations including the Ford Foundation, Packard Foundation and James Irvine

Foundation. She is a member of the board of trustees of the Western States Arts Federation. Ms. Benally is Navajo and Santa Clara Tewa.

#### Jeanine M. Canty

**BA, Colgate University; MA, Prescott College; PhD, California Institute of Integral Studies.**

Education, awareness and transformation are revered processes for Jeanine. Her work addresses the ecological crisis through critical thinking, unraveling of worldviews, connecting with all of life and changing our practices to be aligned with ecologically healthy modes of being. Her areas of passion include ecopsychology, consciousness, transformative learning, environmental and social justice, and cultural studies. She is interested in the process individuals go through to reach heightened awareness of environmental and social justice. Jeanine is involved with multiple social justice and consciousness-based organizations. Much of her understanding has come through her experience as an African American woman living in privileged communities.

#### Sherry Ellms (sabbatical fall '08)

**BA, University of California, Los Angeles; MA, Naropa University.**

Sherry Ellms teaches a variety of contemplative practices and facilitates earth-based experiences and their application to leadership, earth stewardship and personal sustainability. She leads wilderness solos and other nature-based programs that facilitate a deep connection with the power and insight of the natural world. For the past twenty-five years, she has been conducting retreats and teaching meditation in secular settings such as Outward Bound, as well as in spiritual settings throughout the country. She teaches an online course, Meditation for Social Change Leaders in the MA Transpersonal Psychology: Ecopsychology program. Sherry is a longtime meditation practitioner and student of the university's founder, Chögyam Trungpa. In addition to her contemplative scholarship, she served as Naropa University's dean of students for twelve years. She has studied with Joanna Macy and trained at the School of Lost Borders and is committed to investigating the interdependence of landscape and the psyche and facilitating activities that transform human consciousness.

#### Anne Zonne Parker, Chair

**BS, University of California, Berkeley; MA, Indiana University; MA, University of Oregon; PhD, University of Oregon.**

Anne Parker is the chair of the Environmental Studies Department at Naropa University. She has lived, traveled and studied extensively throughout the Himalayas and Central Australia. Before coming to Naropa, she taught geography and international studies at the University of Oregon, was the program director at Interface in Boston and directed the national Buddhist organization, the Dzogchen Foundation. She has received Fulbright and NSF grants for her work on traditional agriculture in Bhutan, Nepal and India. Anne led wilderness expeditions for many years with the Sierra Club and Marble Mountain Expeditions, and she leads pilgrimages in Tibet, Bhutan and the Himalayan region. Anne has studied and practiced for more than thirty years in the Tibetan Buddhist tradition. In addition, she has devoted the last six years to extensive study in European earth-based traditions of wicca, druidry and the art of geomancy. She currently consults and teaches in the European tradition of the Master Builders in the Boulder area and via her website [www.latitudewithattitude.com](http://www.latitudewithattitude.com). Her new book, *Stories from the Origin*, a series of stories from her life in Australian aboriginal communities, is available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com). She teaches innovative classes in physical and cultural geography in Naropa University's BA in Environmental Studies. In the MA in Environmental Leadership she teaches leadership skills, the new science, applied leadership and a wilderness solo course. She is passionate about serving life and renewing our connection and deep reverence for the Earth.

## Adjunct Faculty

Paul Aldretti, Bryan Bowen, Jane Bunin, Gene Dilworth, Doug Dupler, Marco Lam, Sheila Murphy, Alec Tsoucatos

## DECLARING A MAJOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Most students enter Naropa University as freshman students and declare a major after completing 30 credits. In addition to adhering to university requirements and deadlines, Environmental Studies requires

- a meeting with an ENV faculty member;
- successful completion of ENV 100, Physical Geography, and ENV 245, Geography: Pilgrimage and Sacred Landscape.

## ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Prospective students are strongly encouraged to visit Naropa University. There are events scheduled every fall and spring for prospective students. See [www.naropa.edu/admissions/ugrad\\_events.cfm](http://www.naropa.edu/admissions/ugrad_events.cfm) for more information. The visitation coordinator will be happy to arrange for you to meet with an admissions counselor or a member of our faculty, visit a class or take a campus tour. Arapahoe Campus tours are offered Monday through Friday at 2 p.m. in the main lobby of the Administration Building. The visitation coordinator can be contacted at 303-546-3548 or 1-800-772-6951 (within North America) or by email at [admissions@naropa.edu](mailto:admissions@naropa.edu). You can also use the online Visitation Request form or you may view our campus from the online tour.

There are three ways of applying to Naropa University:

1. Apply online at [www.naropa.edu/apply](http://www.naropa.edu/apply) or [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org).
2. Download the Naropa undergraduate application form at [www.naropa.edu/ugradapply](http://www.naropa.edu/ugradapply).
3. Request that an application be sent to you in the mail.

Please note that if you are applying as a transfer student directly into a major, that academic department might require a supplemental application. See [www.naropa.edu/ugradapply](http://www.naropa.edu/ugradapply) for details.

## Suggested Deadlines

- January 15 for fall semester admission
- October 15 for spring semester admission

Applications received after these dates will be reviewed on a space-available basis. Please contact the Office of Admissions at 303-546-3572 or 800-772-6951 (within North America) for more information.

If you have fewer than 30 semester credits, you must apply to Naropa University as an undeclared student. See [www.naropa.edu/ugradapply](http://www.naropa.edu/ugradapply) for specific admission requirements. If you have 30 or more semester credits, you may apply directly to the major.

To apply for admission to the Environmental Studies program, the following is required:

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Parts A and B of application form.
2. \$50 nonrefundable fee in the form of a check or money order, payable to "Naropa University." Applicant's name must be clearly indicated on the check.
3. Part C – Three Essays (all must be typed and double-spaced).
4. Official high school transcript for first-time freshman and freshman transfer applicants (0 to 30 credits).
5. Official copy of a GED (if no high school diploma), which must be accompanied by a high school transcript (see #4).
6. Official college transcripts for every university attended (must be sent in a sealed envelope from the registrar).
7. Test Scores: Original score reports for the ACT and/or SAT tests are optional. Naropa University's ACT code is 4853; SAT code is 0908.
8. Letters of Recommendation: One from a teacher and one from another teacher or someone who knows the applicant well other than a family member. These must be on the forms provided.
9. A phone or in-person interview.
10. Supplemental prerequisite form (for transfer students with 30 or more credits who are applying directly to the department). Documentation of the following two prerequisite courses is required:
  - Earth Science or a related course (in lieu of ENV 100, Physical Geography)
  - Cultural Geography, Human Ecology or a related course (in lieu of ENV 245, Pilgrimage and Sacred Landscape)

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**Supplemental Prerequisite Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out this form as part of your application for the BA Environmental Studies program and return to the Office of Admissions with your application.

Two prerequisite courses (6 credits) are needed for entry into the BA Environmental Studies program. Indicate how you have met or plan to meet these requirements. Under School Name and Completion Date, indicate where and when you completed or will complete each course prior to fall enrollment. Please send transcripts showing proof of completion and submit syllabi of course if titles differ. Applications will not be reviewed until the information requested below is completed and submitted.

Course Title	School Name	Grade	Completion Date
Physical Geography/Geography			
Cultural Geography/Environmental Studies			