



## Environmental Criminal Justice Completion Degree

The B.S. in Environmental Criminal Justice prepares students for careers in natural resource agencies and law enforcement. The degree provides students with general knowledge of the methods and theories of criminology and criminal justice, with a specialized understanding of environmental policies, criminal court procedures, and social policy. The Environmental Professional Core prepares students to apply criminal justice skills to environmental careers.

### Graduates of the B.S. in Environmental Criminal Justice will be able to:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in core environmental criminal justice areas (conservation and natural resource law enforcement).
2. Demonstrate proficiency in written, oral, and interpersonal communication to diverse stakeholders in law enforcement.
3. Evaluate ethical issues related to criminology and the criminal justice system as it pertains to the environment.
4. Identify issues of human rights and diversity as it pertains to environmental justice, environmental policy, criminology, and the criminal justice system.
5. Evaluate the consequences of environmental policy and practice in the administration of justice.

### General Education Foundation Requirements

*\*Note: Disciplinary program courses can be used to fulfill any General Education Foundation requirement; Any given course can only fulfill one of the General Education Foundation courses.*

A Life Science course (Courses with a code of BIOL)  
A Physical Science course (Courses with a code of ERSC, EVPC 200; ENVS)  
A Quantitative Skills course (MATH)  
A Humanities course (HUMN)  
A Language course  
A Social Science course (ENVS or SOCI or PSYH)  
An Arts course (ARTS)  
2 Communications courses – (courses with a code of COMM)  
A transdisciplinary professional capstone course

### Environmental Professional Core

#### EVPC 201 Environmental Issues: Deforestation, Biodiversity Loss, and Overpopulation

This course is part of a two course sequence that provides students with an understanding of the interconnectedness of the looming environmental issues that the world faces. This class will provide students with a basic scientific understanding of deforestation, biodiversity, and overpopulation and address what societies can do that they aren't currently doing. Upon completion, students will be able to critically assess these issues and provide models for making more sustainable choices.

#### EVPC 202 Environmental Issues: Energy, Water Scarcity, and Waste

This course is part of a two course sequence that provides students with an understanding of the interconnectedness of looming environmental issues that the world faces. This class will provide students with a basic scientific understanding of energy, water scarcity, and waste, and overpopulation and address what societies can do that they aren't currently doing. Upon completion, students will be able to critically assess these issues and provide models for making more sustainable choices.

#### EVPC 301 Environmental Justice

This course examines issues of environmental quality and social justice. The course begins by examining the philosophical foundations and history of the environmental justice movement and foundational concepts such as justice, race, gender, and class. Students will explore these concepts through a series of case studies of urban and rural environmental (in)justice in the United States and move on to environmental justice's role on globalization.

### **EVPC 305 Building a Better World: Ethical Decision-Making**

Ethical decision making is essential for leadership, and since most decisions leaders make have an ethical dimension, the ability to discern the ethical implications requires a set of skills that are informed by ethical philosophy. This course provides students with strategies, tools, and techniques to make ethical decisions by considering the ethical issue and the people involved, develop a strategy, and implement the most ethical action possible. Through the use of case studies, students will develop their ethical awareness, learn to distinguish difficult decisions from real ethical dilemmas, and practice deliberating effectively about a variety of ethical issues drawn from social and professional contexts.

### **EVPC 401 Transformational Leadership**

In this course, students explore strategies needed to become effective instruments of change. Students will examine themselves as leaders, learn how to create meaningful relationships as a leader, and understand the role of leadership within complex systems. By using case studies from a variety of organizational contexts such as business, government, non-profit, community, and education, students explore concepts of organization behavior and culture, consensus building, and project management to lead effective change towards environmental sustainability. This course is designed to empower and prepare students to become leaders in any profession.

## **Environmental Criminal Justice Core**

### **ENCJ 201 Criminal Justice in the Age of Globalization**

This course introduces students to the United States criminal justice system in the age of globalization. Students will develop a general understanding of the criminal justice system's response to crime and how the processes of globalization is changing it. It is an introductory overview of local, state, and federal law enforcement, judicial and corrections agencies, and the criminal justice system processes. Special attention will be paid to the role criminal justice agents play in environmental issues and problems. The course prepares students to take more advanced courses that address the specific components of environmental criminal justice.

### **ENCJ 203 Diversity and Law Enforcement**

This course examines the dynamics of class, race, and gender as they intersect with the social realities of crime and justice in the United States. The impact of immigration and criminality will be introduced. The course explores the role that contemporary issues of diversity affect offenders, victims, society, and the criminal justice system. Topics will include domestic and international human rights, social justice, and environmental justice issues.

### **ENCJ 301 Crime Scene and Forensic Techniques**

In this course, students will learn the techniques used in the criminal investigations, introducing students to theories and fundamental knowledge of the investigative process, including special and basic forensic techniques. The course will include some of the following topics: crime scene and incident processing, information gathering techniques, the collection and preservation of evidence, how to write appropriate reports, and other related techniques and topics. Students will then apply what they learn to case studies that involve environmental laws and policies.

### **ENCJ 303 Homeland Security and Emergency Management**

In this course, students will learn critical concepts to emergency and disaster management, risk prevention and management, counterterrorism, and consequence management and mitigation. This class will also explore the history and evolution of the Department of Homeland Security. Topics will include crisis action planning, including the impact of global warming; relationships among local, state, and federal agencies during management operations; concepts of emergency management, including mitigation, hazard analysis, and terrorism; and homeland security functions, methodologies, and techniques.

### **ENCJ 305 Natural Resource Law and Policy**

This survey course addresses not only the creation and management of our natural and wildlife resources on federal public lands, with a focus on the National Parks, National Forests, and the National Resource Lands (Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regulated lands), but also including the National Wildlife Refuge System and the National Wilderness Preservation System. Students will learn how interest groups, citizens, and the courts influence the management of natural resources on these lands. After taking the class, students should be familiar with the major public land legislation such as the National Forest and National Park "Organic Acts" and the Wilderness Act; as well as laws that affect our public lands, but apply more broadly, including the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. Through class work and their papers, students will also be familiar with different perspectives on some of the most important current issues facing our public lands.

### **ENCJ 401 Environmental Compliance and Regulation**

Organizations that produce, import, process, handle, or release chemical substances are required by

Federal law to comply with many regulatory programs that are implemented by the EPA. This course introduces students to the Federal laws and regulations that apply to environmental compliance and regulation. Upon completion of this course, students develop an understanding of the regulatory process, how specific materials and activities are regulated, and develop skills necessary for applying EPA's standards to operations.

### **ENCJ 403 Administrative Structure and Criminal Justice**

In this course, students learn about the organization, management, and administration of local, state, federal criminal justice agencies with an emphasis on how the structure and functions of these agencies affect the administration of justice.

### **ENCJ 405 Environmental Criminology**

This course explores environmental criminology and law by examining the strengths and weaknesses of federal and state laws that apply to water, air, land, and biodiversity. Specifically, the course explores specific issues that pertain to the nature and responses to environmental law, including crimes against nature, transgressions against humans, environments, and nonhuman animals. Students will also learn broad conceptual knowledge about law enforcement and regulation relevant for a criminological approach to environmental issues.

### **BIOL 205 Conservation Biology**

Plants, as the most prominent primary producers in terrestrial systems due to photosynthesis, are the base source of energy in the most ecosystems. This course will introduce students to the factors that influence the growth, distribution and abundance of plants, the influence of plants on energy and nutrient flow, and key features of plant biology. Students will experience the diversity of plants and how major taxa differ in form and function. Case studies will illustrate the role of plants in ecosystem function, human culture, and animal ecology.

### **COMM 303 Communicating to Stakeholders**

This course teaches students how to communicate real-world issues and problems for a just end. Students will learn how different modes of communication such as storytelling can be used as an effective way to communicate an organization's mission and builds empathy for its cause. Students will learn how to craft values-based communications to persuade stakeholders to support for social justice issues such as sustainability, environmental law, and wildlife conservation. Students will learn concepts and skills to build public support for their organization's mission, strategic initiatives, and fund-raising activities. This course will develop skills in written, visual, and oral communication.

### **ENVS 101 Sustainable Solutions to Globalization**

This course is designed to enhance literacy skills needed to understand major environmental issues facing the world in the 21st century. This and other core courses at Unity are designed to address prominent issues during your education at Unity Online. These are issues that will affect your chosen career, your future lifestyle, and the lives of your family and future generations. What are the most pressing environmental issues of our time? What do we need to know to address them? The course tackles these questions from variety of disciplines to provide the bigger picture and put our environmental challenges in a global context.

### **ENVS 201 The Warming Planet: Understanding Climate Change**

Climate change is one of the most urgent and complicated issues we face today. This course explores the science of climate change by teaching students how the climate system works, what factors cause climate to change, how climate has changed in the past, how scientists use models, observations, technology, and theory to make predictions about future climate; and the possible consequences of climate change for our planet. Finally, students will explore the connection between human activity and the current warming trend and consider some of the potential social, economic, political, and environmental consequences of climate change.

### **ENVS 303 Social Science for Environmental Professionals**

Every environmental professional needs to understand how to interpret and use research data because they use data to procure stakeholder buy-in and inform the public about important environmental issues. In this course, students will learn an overview of social science research methodology and how to apply those concepts and tools to current environmental issues. Upon completion, students will gain skills in research, data analysis, data implementation, and communication.

### **PSYC 301 Environmental Psychology**

This course explores critical issues in environmental psychology. Starting with foundational theories on place attachment and place identity, students will learn about the interrelationships between ourselves and the environment. Students will develop the ability to analyze environment-and-behavior issues, think more critically about the world around you, and understand the ways that we wield influence on the

environment. Some topics the course will address include the history of environmental psychology, theories of environment and human behavior, environmental stress, natural environments, built environments, and changes in behavior as a result of global environmental shifts and sustainability.

#### **EVPC 490 Transdisciplinary Criminal Justice Capstone**

The Capstone course is the culminating course for students in Unity College bachelor's degrees. In this course, students will develop a project that deals with a real issue and produce a final artifact reporting the project's findings. During this process, students will demonstrate and apply learning from their degree program and their ability to communicate to a broad audience. The course will also cover other important topics that support a student's career development and goals. All projects will be workforce-related products that students can use for their current or pitch to a future employer.

**College Wide Requirements:** *A minimum of 120 earned credit hours, 24 credits at the 200 level, 30 credits at the 300 level or above, a minimum of 30 credits earned at Unity, and an overall cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above GPA of 2.0 or above.*