

# UNIVERSITY STUDIES - BS, ENVIRONMENTAL BUSINESS CONCENTRATION

A University Studies Degree differs from a traditional "major" in that it consists of a concentration of 21-24 hours and two minors of 15-18 hours each. The University Studies Degree format was created to provide students the flexibility to combine areas of study that are of special interest. Under the guidelines of the University Studies degree requirements, the student's diploma will list "University Studies" in the place where the major is currently listed. The student's area of concentration (Environmental Business) and the two minors (Rangeland Ecology & Management AND Business) will be indicated on the student's transcript.

This new degree option features a blending of environmental science coursework and business coursework in a truly unique combination unlike any other degree at Texas A&M University. The Environmental Business concentration draws heavily from the established Bioenvironmental Sciences degree already offered at Texas A&M, but this concentration is significantly different in that it lacks the larger number of life science courses that serve as a necessary foundation in any environmental science degree. The focus on environmental coursework (through the BESC and ECCB courses) coupled with core business coursework allows this University Studies concentration to provide a very well-rounded and marketable degree in a variety of arenas.

This interdisciplinary degree plan provides a highly-marketable focus from an already fast-rising, multi-faceted discipline. The coursework retains the "customizable" nature of the university studies degree within the concentration itself, allowing students a truly one-of-a-kind opportunity for their bachelor's degree. The Environmental Business concentration provides a solid foundation of Bioenvironmental Sciences coursework that, when paired with the Rangeland Ecology & Management minor and the Business minor, provides students with a versatile, sound degree that is uniquely positioned in the job market and combines a general overview of both environmental issues/policies and business administration principals/content.

## Program Requirements

### First Year

Fall		Semester Credit Hours
BESC 201	Introduction to Bioenvironmental Sciences	3
RENr 205	Fundamentals of Ecology	3
RENr 215	Fundamentals of Ecology--Laboratory	1
BIOL 101 or BIOL 111	Botany or Introductory Biology I	4
Social and behavioral sciences ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#social-behavioral-sciences</a> )		3
Semester Credit Hours		14

### Spring

CHEM 119	Fundamentals of Chemistry I	4
Select one of the following:		3

BESC 204	Molds and Mushrooms: The Impact of Fungi on Society and the Environment	
BESC 314	Pathogens, the Environment and Society	
BESC 320	Water and the Bioenvironmental Sciences	
BESC 357	Biotechnology for Biofuels and Bioproducts	
BESC 489	Special Topics in...	
PLPA 301	Plant Pathology	
PLPA 303	Plant Pathology Laboratory	
Communication ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#communication">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#communication</a> ) <sup>1</sup>		3
Government/Political science ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science</a> ) <sup>1</sup>		3
Language, philosophy and culture ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#language-philosophy-culture</a> ) <sup>1</sup>		3
Semester Credit Hours		16

### Second Year

#### Fall

BESC 367	U.S. Environmental Regulations	3
Business minor ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/business/business-administration-minor/#programrequirements">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/business/business-administration-minor/#programrequirements</a> )		3
Government/Political science ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#government-political-science</a> ) <sup>1</sup>		3
Rangeland ecology and management minor ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/rangeland-wildlife-and-fisheries-management/rangeland-ecology-management-minor/">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/rangeland-wildlife-and-fisheries-management/rangeland-ecology-management-minor/</a> )		3
Free elective <sup>1</sup>		3
Semester Credit Hours		15

#### Spring

Select one from the following:		3
BESC 204	Molds and Mushrooms: The Impact of Fungi on Society and the Environment	
BESC 314	Pathogens, the Environment and Society	
BESC 320	Water and the Bioenvironmental Sciences	
BESC 357	Biotechnology for Biofuels and Bioproducts	
BESC 489	Special Topics in...	
PLPA 301	Plant Pathology	
PLPA 303	Plant Pathology Laboratory	
American history ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history</a> ) <sup>1</sup>		3
Business minor ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/business/business-administration-minor/#programrequirements">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/business/business-administration-minor/#programrequirements</a> )		3
Creative arts ( <a href="http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts">http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts</a> ) <sup>1</sup>		3

Rangeland ecology and management minor (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/rangeland-wildlife-and-fisheries-management/rangeland-ecology-management-minor/>)<sup>3</sup> 3

Semester Credit Hours 15

**Third Year**

**Fall**

American history (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history>)<sup>1</sup> 3

Business minor (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/business/business-administration-minor/#programrequirements#text/>) 3

Mathematics (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics>)<sup>1</sup> 3

Rangeland ecology and management minor (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/rangeland-wildlife-and-fisheries-management/rangeland-ecology-management-minor/>) 3

Free elective<sup>1</sup> 4

Semester Credit Hours 16

**Spring**

Business minor (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/business/business-administration-minor/#programrequirements#text/>) 3

Mathematics (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics>)<sup>1</sup> 3

Rangeland ecology and management minor (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/rangeland-wildlife-and-fisheries-management/rangeland-ecology-management-minor/>) 3

Free elective<sup>1</sup> 3

Free elective<sup>1</sup> 4

Semester Credit Hours 16

**Fourth Year**

**Fall**

Select one of the following: 3

BESC 204 Molds and Mushrooms: The Impact of Fungi on Society and the Environment

BESC 314 Pathogens, the Environment and Society

BESC 320 Water and the Bioenvironmental Sciences

BESC 357 Biotechnology for Biofuels and Bioproducts

BESC 489 Special Topics in...

PLPA 301 Plant Pathology

PLPA 303 Plant Pathology Laboratory

Business minor (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/business/business-administration-minor/#programrequirements#text/>) 3

Communication (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#communication>)<sup>1</sup> 3

Rangeland ecology and management minor (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/agriculture-life-sciences/ecology-and-conservation-biology/rangeland-ecology-management-minor/>) 3

Free elective<sup>1</sup> 3

Semester Credit Hours 15

**Spring**

BESC 481 Seminar 1

BESC 484 Field Experience 3

Business minor (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/business/business-administration-minor/>) 3

Free elective<sup>1</sup> 3

Free elective<sup>1</sup> 3

Semester Credit Hours 13

Total Semester Credit Hours 120

<sup>1</sup> The Graduation requirements include a requirement for 3 hours of International and Cultural Diversity (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/international-cultural-diversity-requirements/>) and 3 hours of Cultural Discourse (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/cultural-discourse-requirements/>). A course satisfying a Core category, a college/department requirement, or a free elective can be used to satisfy this requirement. Select in consultation with an academic advisor.

**Business Minor**

The minor in business consists of six specific courses chosen to develop a foundational knowledge in the basic aspects of business, including accounting, finance, management, marketing, and management information systems.

The courses listed below constitute the 18 hours required for a minor in business.

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
ACCT 209	Survey of Accounting Principles (or TCCNS ACCT 2301 or 2401)	3
ISTM 209	Business Information Systems Concepts <sup>1</sup>	3
MGMT 209	Principles of Business Regulations and Law (or Blinn College BUSI 2371) <sup>2</sup>	3
FINC 409	Survey of Finance Principles <sup>3</sup>	3
MGMT 309	Survey of Management <sup>3</sup>	3
MKTG 409	Principles of Marketing <sup>3</sup>	3
Total Semester Credit Hours		18

<sup>1</sup> The *Information Systems* CLEP exam is available for students who have not taken ISTM 209 to demonstrate mastery of the course concepts. See <http://testing.tamu.edu/Exams/CLEP/> (<http://testing.tamu.edu/Exams/CLEP/>).

<sup>2</sup> MGMT 212 **cannot** be used to meet this requirement.

<sup>3</sup> Course must be taken in residence at Texas A&M. No transfer courses or substitutions will be allowed.

Students must earn a grade of "C" or better in each course listed above to be awarded the business minor and receive transcript recognition.

## Rangeland Ecology and Management Minor

Code	Title	Semester Credit Hours
Select one of the following:		3
ESSM 302	Wildland Plants of North America	
ESSM 303	Agrostology	
ESSM 304	Rangeland Plant Taxonomy	
ESSM 314	Principles of Rangeland Management Around the World	3
Select three of the following:		9
ESSM 301	Wildland Watershed Management	
ESSM 316	Range Ecology	
ESSM 317	Vegetation Management	
ESSM 320	Ecosystem Restoration and Management	
ESSM 416	Fire Ecology and Natural Resource Management	
ESSM 420	Ecological Restoration of Wetland and Riparian Systems	
Total Semester Credit Hours		15

Students must make a grade of C or better in all courses.