FOREST ECOSYSTEMS, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description
The Forest Ecosystems minor introduces students to the functions and values of forested ecosystems. After a prescribed foundation in tree and shrub identification and forest ecology, students may choose from a variety of related subjects including climate change, invasive species, tree physiology, agroforestry, fire ecology, forest soils, forest ecosystem management, forest measurements, community forestry, and global forest conservation.

What are Forest Ecosystems?
Forest ecosystems are central to the health of our planet. They exist on every continent except Antarctica, support essential processes on Earth to make life possible, contribute strongly to the stability of our climate, provide habitat for innumerable plant and animal species, offer recreational and spiritual values for humanity, and supply goods and services that benefit humans. Studying forest ecosystems facilitates your understanding of how forest ecosystems work, how ecological processes affect forest functions, how these functions are linked to the provision of ecosystem goods and services, and how forests—a renewable resource with one of the lowest carbon footprints—can be managed to ensure these functions are sustained.

You Might Like This Program If...
• You are passionate about the health of the planet, its forests, other natural resources, and humanity's future.
• You enjoy nature and want to develop skills to identify trees and shrubs in the field.
• You are curious to know how forests work.
• You are concerned about sustaining forests and the values they provide.

Program Requirements

Requirements for the Minor
A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOR 203</td>
<td>Field Dendrology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOR 308</td>
<td>Forest Ecology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOR 200</td>
<td>The Profession of Forestry</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 201</td>
<td>Global Change and Ecosystems</td>
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Additional Courses
Select a minimum of 12 credits of the following FOR courses: 1 12-14

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOR 255</td>
<td>GPS and GIS Applications for Natural Resources Professionals</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 266</td>
<td>Forest Resources Measurements</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 303</td>
<td>Herbaceous Forest Plant Identification and Ecology</td>
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<td>FOR 320</td>
<td>Forest Fire Management</td>
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<td>FOR 350</td>
<td>Forest Ecosystem Monitoring and Data Analysis</td>
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<td>FOR 401</td>
<td>Urban Forest Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 403</td>
<td>Invasive Forest Ecosystem Monitoring and Data Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 409</td>
<td>Tree Physiology</td>
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<td>FOR 410</td>
<td>Elements of Forest Ecosystem Management</td>
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<td>FOR 418</td>
<td>Agroforestry: Science, Design, and Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 421</td>
<td>Silviculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR/WFS 430</td>
<td>Conservation Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 439</td>
<td>Timber Sale Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 440</td>
<td>Forest and Conservation Economics</td>
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<td>FOR 450</td>
<td>Human Dimensions of Natural Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 455</td>
<td>Remote Sensing and Spatial Data Handling</td>
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<td>FOR 466</td>
<td>Forest Management and Planning</td>
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<td>FOR 470</td>
<td>Watershed Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 471</td>
<td>Watershed Management Laboratory</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 475</td>
<td>Principles of Forest Soils Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 480</td>
<td>Policy and Administration</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>FOR 488</td>
<td>Global Forest Conservation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

1 Six credits must be at the 400 level.

Academic Advising
The objectives of the university's academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in- and out-of-class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee's unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy)

University Park
Ellen A. Rom
Coordinator of Undergraduate Programs and Alumni Relations
114 Forest Resources Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-863-0362
exr2@psu.edu
Career Paths

Our department’s career development (http://ecosystems.psu.edu/students/career-development) and employment opportunities (http://ecosystems.psu.edu/students/employment) websites offer a variety of resources to assist you in exploring professional pursuits related to natural resources and environmental science.

Careers

The Forest Ecosystems minor may complement other academic programs that can help prepare you for a career related to natural resources and environmental sciences. The Forest Ecosystems minor does not qualify you for forester positions.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CAREER DEVELOPMENT (http://ecosystems.psu.edu/students/career-development)

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES (http://ecosystems.psu.edu/students/employment)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

The Forest Ecosystems minor can help prepare students for graduate-level study in forest and environmental sciences.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/colleges/agricultural-sciences/forest-ecosystems-minor/%20http://ecosystems.psu.edu/graduateprograms/forest-resources)

Contact

University Park

DEPARTMENT OF ECOSYSTEM SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT
117 Forest Resources Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-865-7521

http://ecosystems.psu.edu/