Forestry and Natural Resources

The Forestry and Natural Resources curriculum is transitioning to Ecosystem Management and Forestry [http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/forestry-natural-resources/#studentlearninggoals](http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/forestry-natural-resources/#studentlearninggoals), effective Fall 2017. Students admitted Fall 2017 or earlier can follow the curriculum here, but new students will be expected to declare Forestry and Natural Resources by the end of their sophomore year (before the end of Spring 2020) to be eligible for the old program. Incoming students in Fall 2018 will be expected to follow the Ecosystem Management and Forestry [http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/forestry-natural-resources/guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/ecosystem-management-forestry/#studentlearninggoals](http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/forestry-natural-resources/guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/ecosystem-management-forestry/#studentlearninggoals) requirements. For updates, please visit the major website [https://nature.berkeley.edu/advising/majors/forestry-and-natural-resources](https://nature.berkeley.edu/advising/majors/forestry-and-natural-resources).

Bachelor of Science (BS)

Forestry and Natural Resources (FNR) focuses on the conservation and restoration of the earth’s natural resources through hands-on study of the ecology, stewardship, and management of forest, woodland, and grassland ecosystems. The program offers two concentrations to choose from, and if the student chooses a specialization in Professional Forestry, they can qualify to take the Registered Professional Forester’s licensing exam in California.

Students in the FNR major select between two concentrations:

- The Forestry and Natural Sciences concentration is split into two specializations, Professional Forestry and Natural Sciences. The Professional Forestry specialization is accredited by the Society of American Foresters and provides four years of qualifying education or professional experience for licensing as a professional forester in California. The goals of the Professional Forestry specialization are very closely associated with the educational requirements of the forestry profession and prepare our students for careers in forestry or closely related natural resource fields. The Natural Sciences specialization allows students to focus their studies more specifically to ecology and the physical environment.

- The Human Dimensions of Natural Resources concentration provides students with greater flexibility to explore subjects in ecology, physical environment, monitoring and measurement, and management and policy.

Students in the program, regardless of concentration, have ample opportunity to acquire interdisciplinary skills in the ecology, stewardship, and management of ecosystems such as forests, woodlands, and grasslands. Within the program, students can choose to emphasize topics such as wildlife biology, water policy, fire science, ecosystem restoration, environmental justice, remote sensing and GIS, and rural sociology.

FNR graduates are well-prepared for graduate school and careers in environmental consulting, public agencies, nonprofit conservation organizations, and private companies. Students also have the option of preparing for professional careers in forestry, wildlife, and range management.

Admission to the Major

Freshman students may apply directly to the major, or they may select the College of Natural Resource’s undeclared option and declare the major by the end of their fourth semester. For further information regarding how to declare the major after admission, including information on a change of major of change of college, please see the College of Natural Resources Undergraduate Student Handbook. [https://nature.berkeley.edu/handbook](https://nature.berkeley.edu/handbook)

Honors Program

Students with a GPA of 3.6 or higher may enroll in the College of Natural Resources honors program (H196) once they have reached upper division standing. To fulfill the program requirements, students design, conduct, and report on an individual research project working with a faculty sponsor. For further information about registration for the honors symposium and the honors requirements, please see the College of Natural Resources website [http://nature.berkeley.edu/site/honors_program.php](http://nature.berkeley.edu/site/honors_program.php).

Minor Program

A minor in Forestry is available for students who are interested in learning about forestry and renewable resource management as an adjunct to their chosen fields. Students in many diverse majors such as business administration, integrative biology, and civil engineering may find this minor complementary to their professional career goals. For information regarding how to declare the minor, please contact the department.

Other Majors and Minors Offered by the Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management


Environmental Sciences [http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/environmental-sciences](http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/environmental-sciences) (Major only)

Molecular Environmental Biology [http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/molecular-environmental-biology](http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/molecular-environmental-biology) (Major only)

Society and Environment [http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/society-environment](http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/society-environment) (Major only)

Students in this major choose a concentration in Forestry and Natural Sciences or Human Dimensions of Natural Resources. The specific requirements for each concentration are outlined below.

In addition to the University, campus, and college requirements, listed on the College Requirements tab, students must fulfill the below requirements specific to their major program.

General Guidelines

1. All courses taken to fulfill the major requirements below must be taken for graded credit, other than courses listed which are offered on a Pass/No Pass basis only. Other exceptions to this requirement are noted as applicable.

2. A minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 is required.
3. A minimum GPA of 2.0 in upper division major requirements is required.

4. At least 15 of the 36 required upper division units must be taken in the College of Natural Resources (except for students majoring in Environmental Economics and Policy; please see the EEP major adviser for further information).

5. A maximum of 16 units of independent study (courses numbered 97, 98, 99, 197, 198, and 199) may count toward graduation, with a maximum of 4 units of independent study per semester.

6. No more than 1/3 of the total units attempted at UC Berkeley may be taken Pass/Not Pass. This includes units in the Education Abroad Program and UC Intercampus Visitor or Exchange Programs.

7. A maximum of 4 units of physical education courses will count toward graduation.

For information regarding residence requirements and unit requirements, please see the College Requirements tab.

Summary of Major Requirements

Please see below for the specific details regarding these requirements.

Lower Division Requirements:
- ESPM Environmental Science Core: One course
- ESPM Social Science Core: One course
- Lower Division Concentration Requirements: Five to seven courses
- General Breadth Requirements: Two courses

Upper Division Requirements:
- Five Core Courses
- Summer Forestry Field Camp or Fall Semester course on Polynesian Island of Moorea
- Six Upper Division Electives, Restricted by Concentration

Lower Division Requirements for all FNR Majors:
- ESPM Environmental Science Core (select one):
  - ESPM 2 The Biosphere
  - ESPM 6 Environmental Biology
  - ESPM C10 Environmental Issues
  - ESPM 15 Introduction to Environmental Sciences
- ESPM Social Science Core (select one):
  - ESPM C11 Americans and the Global Forest
  - ESPM C12 Introduction to Environmental Studies
  - ESPM 50AC Introduction to Culture and Natural Resource Management
  - ESPM 60 Environmental Policy, Administration, and Law
- General Breadth Requirements (two courses):
  - Select courses from the Seven Course Breadth listing on the College of Letters & Science website.
    - One course from the Arts & Literature, Historical Studies, or Philosophy & Values category (3-4 units)
    - One course from the Social & Behavioral Science or International Studies category (3-4 units)

Lower Division Requirements, by Concentration

Students in this major choose a concentration in either Forestry and Natural Sciences (FNS) or Human Dimensions of Natural Resources (FDNR). See below for the lower division requirements for each concentration.

Forestry & Natural Sciences (FNS) Concentration
- CHEM 1A General Chemistry
- CHEM 1AL General Chemistry Laboratory
- BIOLOGY 1B General Biology Lecture and Laboratory
- Math (select one calculus sequence):
  - MATH 16A Analytic Geometry and Calculus
  - MATH 16B Analytic Geometry and Calculus
  - MATH 1A Calculus
  - MATH 1B Calculus
- Statistics (select one):
  - STAT 2 Introduction to Statistics
  - STAT C8 Foundations of Data Science
  - STAT 20 Introduction to Probability and Statistics
- Economics (select one):
  - ECON 1 Introduction to Economics
  - ECON 2 Introduction to Economics--Lecture Format
  - ENVECON C1 Introduction to Environmental Economics and Policy (rec)
- Physical Sciences (select one):
  - EPS 50 The Planet Earth
  - GEOG 1 Global Environmental Change
  - GEOG 40 Introduction to Earth System Science

Human Dimensions of Natural Resources (HDNR) Concentration
- Biology (select one):
  - BIOLOGY 1B General Biology Lecture and Laboratory
- Math (select one):
  - MATH 1A Calculus
  - MATH 16A Analytic Geometry and Calculus
  - MATH 32 Precalculus
- Statistics (select one):
  - POL SCI 3 Introduction to Empirical Analysis and Quantitative Methods
  - SOCIOL 5 Evaluation of Evidence
  - STAT 2 Introduction to Statistics
  - STAT 20 Introduction to Probability and Statistics
- Economics/Business (select one):
  - ECON 1 Introduction to Economics
  - ECON 2 Introduction to Economics--Lecture Format
  - ENVECON C1 Introduction to Environmental Economics and Policy
- UGBA 10 Principles of Business

Physical Science: Select one course from the Physical Sciences category from the Seven Course Breadth listing on the College of Letters & Science website.
Upper Division Requirements for all FNR Majors:

Field Program Requirement:
Participation in a field program is required of all FNR majors. Students may choose from the eight-week summer field program—Forestry Field Camp—in the northern Sierra Nevada or the fall semester course on the Polynesian island of Moorea, Biology & Geomorphology of Tropical Islands.

Option A: 8-week Forestry Field Camp (11 units)
- ESPM 105A Sierra Nevada Ecology
- ESPM 105B Forest Measurements
- ESPM 105C Silviculture and Utilization
- ESPM 105D Forest Management and Assessment

Option B: Fall Semester Course on the Polynesian Island of Moorea (13 units): 2
- ESPM C107 Biology and Geomorphology of Tropical Islands

Core Courses:
- ESPM 72 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
- ESPM 102A Terrestrial Resource Ecology
- or INTEGBI 15E:Ecology
- ESPM 102B Natural Resource Sampling
- & 102BL and Laboratory in Natural Resource Sampling
- ESPM 102C Resource Management
- ESPM 102D Climate and Energy Policy

1 Recommended before junior year. More information is available from the College of Natural Resources’s website (http://forestrycamp.berkeley.edu).
2 More information is available on the program’s website (http://ib.berkeley.edu/moorea/Information.html).

Upper Division Restricted Electives, by Concentration (6 courses)

Forestry and Natural Sciences (FNS) Restricted Electives
The FNS Concentration has two specializations for the restricted elective requirement: Professional Forestry or Natural Sciences.

Professional Forestry Specialization:
- ESPM 108A Trees: Taxonomy, Growth, and Structures
- ESPM 134 Fire, Insects, and Diseases in Forest Ecosystems
- ESPM 182 Forest Operations Management
- ESPM 183 Forest Ecosystem Management and Planning
- ESPM 185 Applied Forest Ecology

Plus one additional course from one of the following subject categories listed below: Physical Environment (PE) or Monitoring & Measurement (MM).

Natural Sciences Specialization:
Two courses each from both the Ecology (E) and the Physical Environment (PE) subject categories listed below, plus one additional course from each of the following: Monitoring & Measurement (MM) and Management & Policy (MP).

Human Dimensions of Natural Resources (HDNR) Restricted Electives
Select six courses from the four subject categories below, one course from each category and two additional courses from any category

Ecology (E):
- ESPM C103 Principles of Conservation Biology
- ESPM 106 American Wildlife: Identification and Conservation
- ESPM 108A Trees: Taxonomy, Growth, and Structures
- ESPM 108B Environmental Change Genetics
- ESPM 111 Ecosystem Ecology
- ESPM 112 Microbial Ecology
- ESPM 113 Insect Ecology
- ESPM 114 Wildlife Ecology
- ESPM 115B Biology of Aquatic Insects
- ESPM C115C Fish Ecology
- ESPM 116B Range Ecology, Improvements, and Management
- ESPM 116C Tropical Forest Ecology
- ESPM 134 Fire, Insects, and Diseases in Forest Ecosystems
- ESPM 187 Restoration Ecology
- INTEGBI 102LIntroduction to California Plant Life with Laboratory
- INTEGBI 153 Ecology
- INTEGBI 154 Plant Ecology
- INTEGBI 157LIntroduction to California Plant Life with Laboratory

Physical Environment (PE):
- EPS 117 Geomorphology
- ESPM 120 Soil Characteristics
- ESPM 121 Development and Classification of Soils
- ESPM C128 Chemistry of Soils
- ESPM C129 Biometeorology
- GEOG 140A Physical Landscapes: Process and Form

Monitoring & Measurement (MM):
- ANTHRO 169AData Analysis and Computational Methods
- ANTHRO 169BResearch Theory and Methods in Socio-Cultural Anthropology
- ARCH 110AC The Social and Cultural Processes in Architecture & Urban Design
- ESPM 172 Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
- ESPM 174 Design and Analysis of Ecological Research
- ESPM/LD Course Not Available
- ARCH C177
- GEOG 187 Geographic Information Analysis
- LD ARCH 110 Ecological Analysis
- LD ARCH C188Geographic Information Systems

Management & Policy (MP):
- ESPM 155AC Sociology and Political Ecology of Agro-Food Systems
- ESPM 165 International Rural Development Policy
- ESPM 168 Political Ecology
- ESPM 169 International Environmental Politics
- ESPM 181A Fire Ecology
- ESPM 182 Forest Operations Management
- ESPM 183 Forest Ecosystem Management and Planning
- ESPM 184 Agroforestry Systems
Students who have a strong interest in an area of study outside their major often decide to complete a minor program. These programs have set requirements and are noted officially on the transcript in the memoranda section, but they are not noted on diplomas.

**General Guidelines**

1. All courses taken to fulfill the minor requirements below must be taken for graded credit.
2. A minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 is required for courses used to fulfill the minor requirements.
3. No more than one upper division course may be used to simultaneously fulfill requirements for a student’s major and minor programs.

**Completing the Forestry and Natural Resources Minor Program**

- Students must complete at least five courses taken from the predetermined list below. No substitutions will be permitted.
- At least three of the required five classes must be upper division.
- The courses taken must total at least 12 semester units.

**Requirements**

**Required Course:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 105D</td>
<td>Forest Management and Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 182</td>
<td>Forest Operations Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 183</td>
<td>Forest Ecosystem Management and Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 185</td>
<td>Applied Forest Ecology</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Electives (four courses):**

At least three courses must be upper division. ESPM 182, ESPM 183, ESPM 185 may also be used as electives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESPM C11</td>
<td>Americans and the Global Forest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 50AC</td>
<td>Introduction to Culture and Natural Resource Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 60</td>
<td>Environmental Policy, Administration, and Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 72</td>
<td>Introduction to Geographic Information Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 102A</td>
<td>Terrestrial Resource Ecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESPM 102B</td>
<td>Natural Resource Sampling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 102C</td>
<td>Resource Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 102D</td>
<td>Climate and Energy Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 108A</td>
<td>Trees: Taxonomy, Growth, and Structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 108B</td>
<td>Environmental Change Genetics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 116C</td>
<td>Tropical Forest Ecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM/EPS C129</td>
<td>Biometeorology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 134</td>
<td>Fire, Insects, and Diseases in Forest Ecosystems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 155AC</td>
<td>Sociology and Political Ecology of Agro-Food Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 172</td>
<td>Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 181A</td>
<td>Fire Ecology</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 184</td>
<td>Agroforestry Systems</td>
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</table>

**UC Forestry Summer Field Program at Baker Forest**

The four Forestry Camp courses (ESPM 105A, ESPM 105B, ESPM 105C, ESPM 105D) may be used toward the minor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 105A</td>
<td>Sierra Nevada Ecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 105B</td>
<td>Forest Measurements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESPM 105C</td>
<td>Silviculture and Utilization</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- For more information and to download application materials, please see the College of Natural Resource's website (http://forestrycamp.berkeley.edu).

**Undergraduate Breadth**

Undergraduate breadth provide Berkeley students with a rich and varied educational experience outside of their major program. Breadth courses are built into CNR major requirements. The EEP major is the only CNR major that requires the entire 7 course breadth. As the foundation of a liberal arts education, breadth courses give students a view into the intellectual life of the University while introducing them to a multitude of perspectives and approaches to research and scholarship. Engaging students in new disciplines and with peers from other majors, the breadth experience strengthens interdisciplinary connections and context that prepares Berkeley graduates to understand and solve the complex issues of their day.

**High School Exam Credit**

CNR students may apply high school exam credit (Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, A-Level Exam) towards many College and Major Requirements. See AP Exam Equivalency Chart and Higher Level IB Exam Equivalency Chart in the CNR Student Handbook (https://nature.berkeley.edu/handbook) for more information.
Units Requirements

Students must complete at least 120 semester units of courses subject to certain guidelines:

- At least 36 units must be upper division courses, including a minimum of 15 units of upper division courses in the College of Natural Resources.
- A maximum of 16 units of Special Studies coursework (courses numbered 97, 98, 99, 197, 198, or 199) is allowed towards the 120 units; a maximum of four is allowed in a given semester.
- A maximum of 4 units of Physical Education from any school attended will count towards the 120 units.
- Students may receive unit credit for courses graded P (including P/NP units taken through EAP) up to a limit of one-third of the total units taken and passed on the Berkeley campus at the time of graduation.

Senior Residence Requirement

All CNR students must enroll in at least 13 units each fall and spring semester.

Semester Limit

Students admitted as freshmen must graduate within 8 fall/spring semesters at UC Berkeley. Students admitted as transfer students must graduate within 4 fall/spring semesters at UC Berkeley. Students who go on EAP and UCD can petition for additional semesters. Summer session, UC Extension and non-UC study abroad programs do not count towards this semester limit. Students approved for double majors or simultaneous degrees in two colleges may be granted an additional semester. CNR does not limit the number of total units a student can accrue.

Semester Unit Minimum

To request permission to take more than 19.5 units in a semester, please see the major adviser.

Semester Unit Maximum

Students may use Summer Session to satisfy one semester of the Senior Residence Requirement, provided that four units of coursework are completed.

Modified Senior Residence Requirement

Participants in the UC Education Abroad Program (UCEAP) or the UC Berkeley Washington Program may meet a modified Senior Residence Requirement by completing 24 of their final 60 semester units in residence (excluding UCEAP). At least 12 of these 24 units must be completed after senior status is reached.

Most students automatically fulfill the residence requirement by attending classes here for four years. In general, there is no need to be concerned about this requirement, unless students go abroad for a semester or year or want to take courses at another institution or through University Extension during their senior year. In these cases, students should make an appointment to see an adviser to determine how they can meet the Senior Residence Requirement.

Grade Requirements

- A 2.0 UC GPA is required for graduation.
- A 2.0 average in all upper division courses required of the major program is required for graduation.

Mission

The Forestry and Natural Resources (FNR) major at the University of California at Berkeley is designed to prepare students to manage forests and wildlands while sustaining ecological integrity and producing vital ecosystem services. The program combines a foundation in the relevant natural and social sciences with explicit hands-on learning opportunities. Students completing this major will be prepared to engage in the challenge of managing forest and natural resources in a rapidly-changing world.

The FNR major includes a professional option (Forestry and Natural Sciences, Professional Forestry specialization) that is accredited by the Society of American Foresters. The Forestry and Natural Resources major also includes a Natural Sciences specialization in the Forestry and Natural Sciences concentration and a Human Dimensions of Natural Resources concentration.

The Professional Forestry specialization provides four years of qualifying education or professional experience for licensing as a professional forester in California. The goals of the Professional Forestry specialization are very closely associated with the educational requirements of the forestry profession and prepare our students for careers in forestry or closely related natural resource fields. When students graduate with a FNR major from UC Berkeley, they will have the basic knowledge and skills to assess and manage forest resources. Graduates with the Professional Forestry specialization should have basic competencies as defined by the Society of American Foresters’ requirements of accredited degree programs. Graduates with the Natural Sciences or Human Dimensions in Natural Resources concentrations will have similar competencies.

Learning Goals for the Major

Knowledge and skills for FNR majors are based on the four major subject areas required by the Society of American Foresters. These four subject areas and the basic competencies expected of students areas follows.

1. Ecology and Biology
   a. Competencies must be documented as an:
      • Understanding of taxonomy and ability to identify forest species, their distribution, and associated habitat requirements.
      • Understanding of soil properties and processes, hydrology, water quality, and watershed functions.
      • Understanding of ecological concepts and principles including the structure and function of ecosystems, plant and animal communities, competition, diversity, population dynamics, succession, disturbance, and nutrient cycling.
      • Ability to make ecosystem, forest, and stand assessments.
      • Understanding of plant and animal physiology and the effects of climate, fire, pollutants, moisture, nutrients, genetics, insects and diseases on ecosystem health and productivity.

2. Measurement of Forest and Natural Resources
a. Competencies must be documented as an:
   • Ability to identify and measure land areas and conduct spatial analysis.
   • Ability to design and implement comprehensive inventories that meet specific objectives using appropriate sampling methods and units of measurement.
   • Ability to analyze inventory data and project ecosystem conditions.

3. Management of Forest and Natural Resources
   a. Competencies must be documented as an:
      • Ability to develop and apply silvicultural and restoration prescriptions appropriate to management objectives including methods of establishing and influencing the composition, growth, and quality of forests and wildlands and understand the impacts of those prescriptions.
      • Ability to analyze the economic, environmental, and social consequences of resource management strategies and decisions.
      • Ability to develop management plans with specific multiple objectives and constraints.
      • Understanding of the valuation procedures, market forces, processing systems, transportation and harvesting activities that translate human demands for timber-based and other consumable natural resource products into the availability of those products.
      • Understanding of the valuation procedures, market, and non-market forces that avail humans the opportunities to enjoy non-consumptive products and services of forests and wildlands.
      • Understanding of the administration, ownership, and organization of forest and resource management enterprises.

4. Resource Policy, Economics, and Administration
   a. Competencies must be documented as an:
      • Understanding of resource policy and the processes by which it is developed.
      • Understanding of how federal, state, and local laws and regulations govern the practice of forestry and resource management.
      • Understanding of professional ethics and recognition of the responsibility to adhere to ethical standards in decision making on behalf of clients and the public.
      • Ability to understand the integration of technical, financial, human resources, and legal aspects of public and private enterprises.

In the College of Natural Resources, we provide holistic, individual advising services to prospective and current students who are pursuing major and minors in our college. We assist with a range of topics including course selection, academic decision-making, achieving personal and academic goals, and maximizing the Berkeley experience.

If you are looking to explore your options, or you are ready to declare a major, double major, or minor, contact the undergraduate adviser for your intended major. Visit our website (https://nature.berkeley.edu/advising/meet-cnr-advisors) to explore all of our advising services.

Undergraduate Adviser, Forestry and Natural Resources
Ginnie Sadil
gsadil@berkeley.edu