South Dakota State University

Bachelor of Science
Major: Ecology and Environmental Science
2025-2026 Sample 4-Year Plan
Total Degree Requirements: 120 credits

Student _____ **Student ID#** _____ **Student Phone #** _____

Advisor _____ **Minimum GPA** 2.0 **Minor/Career Interest(s)** _____

Students are not limited to this plan; it is meant to be used as a guide for planning purposes in consultation with your advisor. The sample schedule is one possible path to completing your degree within four years. For official program requirements, please refer to the Undergraduate Catalog.

FIRST YEAR

Fall

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
BIOL 151-151L	General Biology I and Lab (SGR #6)		4	F/S(I)	
CHEM 106-106L or CHEM 112-112L	Chemistry Survey and Lab (SGR #6) or General Chemistry I and Lab (SGR #6)	p. Math placement p. MATH 114 or higher	4	F/S F/S	
MATH 114 or higher	College Algebra or higher (SGR #5)	p. Placement	3	F/S	
NRM 119	Orientation to Natural Resource Management		2	F	
SGR #1	Written Communication (SGR #1)	p. Placement, ENGL 101 recommended	3		
		Total Credit Hours	16		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
BIOL 153-153L or BOT 201-201L	General Biology II and Lab (4 cr) or General Botany and Lab or (3 cr)	p. BIOL 101 or BIOL 151	3-4	F(I)/S S	
CHEM 108-108L or CHEM 114-114L	Organic and Biochemistry and Lab (5 cr) or General Chemistry II and Lab (4 cr)	p. CHEM 106 or CHEM 112 p. CHEM 112, MATH 114 or higher	4-5	F/S F/S	
EES 275	Introduction to Environmental Science		3	S	
NRM 276	Scientific Communications		1	F/S	
SGR #4	Arts and Humanities (SGR #4)	Two different disciplines or a sequence of foreign language courses	3		
		Total Credit Hours	14-16		

SECOND YEAR

Summer

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
NRM 230	Natural Resource Management Techniques	1 week summer course in person	2	SU	
		Total Credit Hours	2		

Fall

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
NRM 311	Principles of Ecology	p. BIOL 151/L or BIOL 153/L	3	F	
SGR #2	Oral Communication (SGR #2)	CMST 101 recommended	3		
SGR #3	Social Sciences (SGR #3) - Civics Requirement	Select from the designated list of courses to fulfill civics requirement	3		
SGR #4	Arts and Humanities (SGR #4)	Two different disciplines or a sequence of foreign language courses	3		
STAT 281	Introduction to Statistics	p. MATH 103 or higher	3	F/S/SU	
		Total Credit Hours	15		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
General Elective	Select from any discipline		3		
Major Elective	Select a minimum of 25 credits from Emphasis	See catalog and consult with advisor	3		
PS 213-213L	Soils and Lab	p. CHEM 106/L or CHEM 112/L	3	F/S	
SGR #1	Written Communication (SGR #1)	p. ENGL 101	3	F/S	
PHYS 101-101L or PHYS 111-111L	Survey of Physics and Lab or Introduction to Physics I and Lab	p. MATH 114 or higher	4	F/S F	
		Total Credit Hours	16		

Information Subject to Change. This is not a contract.

p. = Course Prerequisite, I = Internet
Semester: F = Fall, S = Spring, SU = Summer

THIRD YEAR

Fall

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
EES 425 or EES 430	Disturbance & Restoration Ecology OR Biological Invasions	p. NRM 311	3	F Even F Odd	
GEOG 372-372L	Introduction to GIS and Lab		3	F/S/SU	
Major Elective	Select a minimum of 25 credits from Emphasis	See catalog and consult with advisor	3		
PS 243	Principles of Geology	p. CHEM 106 or CHEM 112	3	F	
SGR #3	Social Sciences (SGR #3)	Two different disciplines, one must fulfill civics requirement	3		
		Total Credit Hours	15		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
General Elective	Select from any discipline		3-6		
Major Elective	Select a minimum of 25 credits from Emphasis	See catalog and consult with advisor	3		
NRM 300	Laws and Policies in Natural Resource Management		3	S	
NRM 464 or WL 427-427L	Ecosystem Ecology or Limnology & Stream Ecology and Lab	p. NRM 311 & STAT 281 p. NRM 230, NRM 311, & STAT 281	3	S Even F Even	
		Total Credit Hours	12-15		

FOURTH YEAR

Fall

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
General Elective	Select from any discipline to reach 120 total credits		3		
Major Elective	Select a minimum of 25 credits from Emphasis	See catalog and consult with advisor	3		
Major Elective	Select a minimum of 25 credits from Emphasis	See catalog and consult with advisor	3		
Major Elective	Select a minimum of 25 credits from Emphasis	See catalog and consult with advisor	3		
PHIL 383 or PHIL 454	Bioethics (4cr) or Environmental Ethics (3cr)	Cross-Listed: BIOL 383 Cross-Listed: REL 454	3-4	F/S F	
		Total Credit Hours	15-16		

Spring

Prefix + Number	Course Title	Prerequisites/Comments	Credits	Semester	Grade
General Elective	Select from any discipline to reach 120 total credits		3-6		
Major Elective	Select a minimum of 25 credits from Emphasis	See catalog and consult with advisor	3		
Major Elective	Select a minimum of 25 credits from Emphasis	See catalog and consult with advisor	4		
NRM 485	Integrated Natural Resource Management	Senior Standing	3	S	
		Total Credit Hours	13-15		

COMMENTS/NOTES

Students from all academic majors can pursue graduation with Fishback Honors College distinction. View the Honors program requirements.

*****Students must achieve a grade of "C" or better in all major core courses; maximum of 6 credits at the 200 level in major electives