

MINOR IN DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN NATURAL RESOURCES

To get more information about this minor or to officially declare it, please visit the department website (<https://warnercnr.colostate.edu/diversity-and-inclusion-in-natural-resources-minor/>).

This minor embraces human diversity and inclusion in natural resources fields, through exploration of how complex and important aspects of diversity serve to shape natural resources and our environment in our modern era. The minor serves students already passionate about natural resources through an exploration of counter-narratives not often thoroughly discussed in seminal works of natural resource history. It provides for a critical examination of historical and current relationships between human diversity, natural resources, and the environment. Students will develop an understanding of the importance of, and types of, diversity in human-environment interactions; how this diversity contributes to vulnerability and/or resilience to environmental change; and the barriers and opportunities for recognizing and protecting human diversity in the context of natural resource conservation and management. The curriculum provides students with the knowledge and skills needed to address diversity and inclusion issues within the natural resource disciplines represented in the Warner College. This includes proposing solutions to environmental injustices, facilitating intercultural environmental communication, integrating multicultural perspectives in assessment of natural resource issues and development of policy and management solutions, and cultivating a deeper understanding and respect for diverse ways of knowing and experiencing the environment.

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion, students will be able to:

1. Reflect on and extend personal knowledge regarding how individual, family, and cultural contexts have shaped past and present human-environment relationships.
2. Distinguish and describe multiple dimensions of diversity, including unique contributions of marginalized social and cultural groups in natural resources.
3. Critically analyze historic and contemporary perspectives of dynamic interactions and relationships between people and nature, centering experiences of historically marginalized communities.
4. Articulate historical and contemporary sources of discrimination and injustice in natural resource conservation and management.
5. Apply diverse conceptual and ethical frameworks for evaluating how environmental risks, costs, and benefits are distributed across populations.
6. Critically analyze how different forms of environmental governance and institutional arrangements can determine distribution of power and access to resources, and differentially impact cultural communities.
7. Identify and develop critical career resources and skills necessary for respectfully engaging diversity in the natural resources field.
8. Apply analytical tools to engage multicultural perspectives in assessment and management of natural resources.
9. Demonstrate competency to communicate across social and cultural differences.