Environmental Action & Leadership Minor Course Descriptions

**ANTH 104 - The Human Ecological Footprint**
This course is an introduction to global human ecology and concentrates on how we as humans affect global ecosystems and how these changes can impact our behavior, health, economics, and politics.  
**Outcome:** Students will be able to draw connections between basic ecological processes and the global patterns of human population growth, health and disease, inequality and poverty, subsistence strategies, and land use and technology.

**ANTH 303 - People and Conservation**
This course considers the interplay between indigenous peoples and environmental resources utilizing current perspectives from evolutionary and community ecology, conservation biology, anthropology, political ecology and economics.  
**Outcomes:** Students will demonstrate an understanding of factors influencing this interplay, including environmental ethics, traditional environmental knowledge, resource management, community-based conservation, property rights, common-pool resources, sustainable development, land tenure, indigenous movements, and eco-tourism.

**COMM 215 - Ethics & Communication**
*Requirement: PHIL 130 for students admitted to Loyola University for Fall 2012 or later. No requirement for students admitted to Loyola prior to Fall 2012 or those with a declared major or minor in the Department of Philosophy or Department of Political Science.*
*Prerequisite: CMUN/COMM 175 or CMUN/COMM 150 or 160*
This course explores various approaches to ethical decision-making and applies that process to diverse aspects of every day, contemporary life.  
**Outcome:** Students learn to discern a wide variety of ethical issues concerning communication behavior, apply systematic ethical analysis to various communication situations, and clearly explain their analyses.

**COMM 227 - Social Justice & Communication**
This course examines the implications of communication processes and practices for democracy and social justice.  
**Outcome:** Students will be able to articulate and defend their conception of the role of communication in achieving a just society and demonstrate an understanding of how existing communication institutions, laws, and norms impede or assist movement towards that goal.

**COMM 306 - Environmental Advocacy**
This course explores the rhetorical means by which citizens influence the policies and practices affecting our natural and human environments. The focus is on current controversies.  
**Outcome:** The course seeks to provide an understanding of the history and range of communication styles in the U.S. environmental movement and to help students develop practical skills relevant to entering into environmental debates.

**COMM 307 - Communication and Social Change: Topics**
*Prerequisite: CMUN/COMM 150, 160 or 175*
This course explores the communication strategies used to promote and/or resist significant socio-political change. Students will demonstrate an understanding of how communication is used in particular societal struggles to effect socio-cultural change at an individual, community, institutional or global level.

**ENGL 288 - Nature in Literature**
*Requirement: UCLR 100 for students admitted to Loyola University for Fall 2012 or later. No requirement for students admitted to Loyola prior to Fall 2012 or those with a declared major or minor in the Department of English, Department of Classical Studies, or Department of Modern Languages and Literatures.*
This course focuses on the relationship of human beings and the environment in which they function, as represented in a variety of literary works.  
**Outcome:** students will be able to demonstrate understanding of the representations of "nature" in various periods of literary history and diverse cultural contexts.
ECON 328 - Environmental Economics
Prerequisites: Sophomore standing, minimum grade of "C-" in ECON 201.
This course applies economic theory to environmental and natural resource problems and policies, investigates the role economic incentives play, and discusses externalities, property rights, common property problems, pollution and pollution control, and renewable and non-renewable resource management.
Outcome: Students will understand that environmental problems are fundamentally economic problems that come about because there is a market failure (e.g., an externality or public good) and that environmental problems have economic solutions.

ENVS 204 - Evolution & Genetics
Requirement: UCSF 137 for students admitted to Loyola University for Fall 2012 or later. No requirement for students admitted to Loyola prior to Fall 2012 or those with a declared major or minor in the Department of Anthropology, Department of Biology, Department of Chemistry, Department of Environmental Science, Department of Physics, Bioinformatics, Forensic Science or Neuroscience.
Examines the mechanisms responsible for the diversity of life while focusing on the major scientific discoveries that form the underpinnings of evolutionary theory.
Outcome: Students will develop skill in critical reasoning and methods of inquiry, and demonstrate understanding of genetics, gene expression, mutations, cell reproduction, and biogeography and use this knowledge to assess evidence for, and mechanisms of, evolution.

ENVS 207 - Plants and Civilization
Requirement: UCSF 137 for students admitted to Loyola University for Fall 2012 or later. No requirement for students admitted to Loyola prior to Fall 2012 or those with a declared major or minor in the Department of Anthropology, Department of Biology, Department of Chemistry, Department of Environmental Science, Department of Physics, Bioinformatics, Forensic Science or Neuroscience.
Examines the structure, function, ecology, and diversity of plants, their importance to human civilization, and the impact of societal decisions regarding their use and exploitation.
Outcome: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the critical role of plants in the biosphere, their physiological processes, adaptations for specialization, and linkages to humans including agroecology

ENVS 214 - Earth Sci: Weather - Climatology
Requirement: UCSF 137 for students admitted to Loyola University for Fall 2012 or later. No requirement for students admitted to Loyola prior to Fall 2012 or those with a declared major or minor in the Department of Anthropology, Department of Biology, Department of Chemistry, Department of Environmental Science, Department of Physics, Bioinformatics, Forensic Science or Neuroscience.
Examines our understanding of the atmosphere and the measures that allow us to monitor its activity.
Outcome: Students will develop critical reasoning skills, both qualitative and quantitative, and apply them to a variety of atmospheric phenomena including cloud and storm formation, weather systems, climate factors and human impact on the atmosphere.

ENVS 273 - Energy and the Environment
Requirement: UCSF 137 for students admitted to Loyola University for Fall 2012 or later. No requirement for students admitted to Loyola prior to Fall 2012 or those with a declared major or minor in the Department of Anthropology, Department of Biology, Department of Chemistry, Department of Environmental Science, Department of Physics, Bioinformatics, Forensic Science or Neuroscience.
The concept of energy developed from antiquity through the present day and applied to national and worldwide energy use patterns, the technologies supporting their use, as well as the societal impact and environmental consequences of energy usage.
Outcome: Students will become skilled in critical reasoning and methods of inquiry; demonstrate an understanding of critical concepts and knowledge: heat and energy, the laws of thermodynamics, and current and future technologies and their impact.

ENVS 281 - Human Impact on Environment
Requirement: UCSF 137 for students admitted to Loyola University for Fall 2012 or later. No requirement for students admitted to Loyola prior to Fall 2012 or those with a declared major or minor in the Department of Anthropology, Department of Biology, Department of Chemistry, Department of Environmental Science, Department of Physics, Bioinformatics, Forensic Science or Neuroscience.
Examines the diversity, complexity, and functioning of natural ecosystems and how human activity alters these attributes.

**Outcomes**: Students will demonstrate an understanding of foundational knowledge in ecology including species interactions, energy flow and elemental cycles, and use this to assess human impacts such as ozone depletion, elevated atmospheric carbon, invasive species, pesticides/herbicides/hormones, dams and habitat fragmentation.

**ENVS 282 - The Human Environment**
Examines the impact that current environmental conditions have on the health and well-being of humans, both locally and globally.

**Outcome**: Students will demonstrate an understanding of core environmental concepts and make reasoned, ethical judgments regarding the impact of a compromised environment on human health, including the impact of world food distribution, pesticides, water resources and pollution, air pollution, climatic changes, and hazardous waste.

**ENVS 283 - Environmental Sustainability**
*Requirement: UCSF 137 for students admitted to Loyola University for Fall 2012 or later. No requirement for students admitted to Loyola prior to Fall 2012 or those with a declared major or minor in the Department of Anthropology, Department of Biology, Department of Chemistry, Department of Environmental Science, Department of Physics, Bioinformatics, Forensic Science or Neuroscience.*
Examines the impact of humans as consumers on the environment and how these interactions affect the probability of establishing sustainability for human and non-humans on Earth.

**Outcome**: Students will become skilled in critical reasoning and methods of inquiry, and demonstrate an understanding of knowledge critical to the field including current human consumptive practices and their effects on the health and well-being of living organisms.

**ENVS 390 - Integrative Seminar**
*Prerequisite: senior standing*
This course requires students to focus on a specific environmental issue or theme, integrating multidisciplinary perspectives, through individual or group presentations, discussion, and analysis of presentations by outside speakers.

**Outcome**: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the multi-faceted and interdisciplinary nature of environmental issues.

**ENVS 391 - Environmental Research**
Students may register for independent research on a topic mutually acceptable to the student and any professor in the department. Usually this research is directed to a particular course or to the research of the professor.

**ENVS 395 - Environmental Internship**
Students seek out and engage in a semester- or summer-long internship with a civic, business, governmental, or academic group providing hands-on experience in work on environmental issues.

**Outcome**: Students will demonstrate, through daily activity logs and a comprehensive final report, a clear understanding of the environmental context and practical applications of their internship experience.

**ENVS 398 - Special Topics**
*Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing.*
Specific titles and contents vary from semester to semester. Variable credit hours.

**HIST 292 - History U.S. Environment**
This course surveys the environment and environmentalism in United States history, from the transformation of New England into a farm ecology, the expansion of the cotton South, the settlement of the West, to the rise of industrial cities, suburban sprawl, and the globalization of the economy.

**Outcome**: Students will be able to demonstrate historical knowledge of environmental thought and ecological science, to draw links between environmental concerns and public policies, and to develop critical thinking and communication skills.

**MGMT 201 - Managing People and Organizations**
*Prerequisite: Sophomore standing.*
This course introduces students to the dynamics of human behavior in the workplace through the study of such topics as perception, learning, motivation, leadership and group behavior.

**Outcome:** Students will learn principles of interpersonal influence, conflict resolution, and effective group behavior and develop an awareness of ethical issues in the workplace and organizational social responsibility.

**MGMT 318 - Organizational Development and Change**

*Prerequisites: Junior Standing, minimum grade of "C-" in MGMT 201 or HSM 368.*

This course examines the theory and practice of organizational development and change, with an emphasis on effective change management.

**Outcome:** Students will understand the complexity of change in organizations and learn how to use change interventions to manage different types of organizational changes, including the redesign of jobs and restructuring.

**MGMT 360 - Values-Based Leadership**

*Prerequisites: Junior Standing, minimum grade of "C-" in MGMT 201.*

An examination of several major approaches to leadership that are based on personal and organizational values.

**Outcome:** Students will understand major approaches to leadership, examine their own values and approach to leadership and improve their leadership skills.

**PHIL 187 - Environmental Ethics**

*Requirement: PHIL 130 for students admitted to Loyola University for Fall 2012 or later. No requirement for students admitted to Loyola prior to Fall 2012 or those with a declared major or minor in the Department of Philosophy or Department of Political Science.*

This course introduces students to ethical reasoning and to various topics in environmental ethics. Topics may include: pollution, animal rights, and natural resources.

**Outcomes:** Students will demonstrate an understanding of diverse ethical theories and an ability to use philosophical reasoning to defend positions in topics covered.

**PLSC 392 - Environmental Politics**

The issues, significant actors, and public policies relating to the environment.

**Outcome:** Students will be able to analyze and assess the role of various actors in the formulation, adoption and implementation of environmental public policies, and their impact on the everyday lives of citizens.

**PLSC 354 - Global Environmental Politics**

Examines the linkages between the worlds’ natural environment and the global political system.

**Outcome:** Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the role of various private, national and international actors in the formulation, adoption and implementation of environmental public policies.

**PSYC 275 - Social Psychology**

Introduction to the field of social psychology; including topics such as social cognition, impression formation, social influence, attitude formation and change, stereotyping and prejudice, aggression, prosocial behavior, and group behavior.

**Outcomes:** Students will demonstrate the ability to think critically about fundamental theoretical approaches within social psychology, scientific methods of hypothesis testing, and potential applications of social psychology that address real-world problems.

**SOCL 234 - City, Suburbs & Beyond**

Study of the historical emergence of cities, focusing on the ecological, demographic, and organizational processes involved in the continuing growth and change of metropolitan areas and in the relationship of a metropolitan area to the surrounding region.

**Outcome:** Students will understand fundamental facts and theories about the character and development of cities and urban regions.
SOCL 235 - Communities
This course examines communities sociologically, both as a concept and as they exist in society. The course covers urban, racial/ethnic, religious, territorial, utopian, ideological and web-based communities, and their strengths and limitations in a rapidly changing global world.
**Outcomes:** Students will identify, describe and analyze communities using sociological concepts and be able to assess the mechanisms by which old and new communities are being formed as well as their consequences for social life.

SOCL 272 - Environmental Sociology
This course examines the distinctively social aspect of the relationship of people to their environments, both built and natural.
**Outcome:** Students will recognize the role that both social and physical factors play in the environmental problems facing the world. Students will also develop critical thinking skills needed to evaluate statements and policy proposal to improve environmental quality.

SOWK 303 - Group Process
**Prerequisite:** Junior standing.
This course looks at group work, group work in a social services settings, group dynamics, stages in group development, group work with disadvantaged populations, planning and implementing a new group, leadership skills, and ethical considerations.
Students will understand and be able to apply the theoretical and practical elements that influence group functioning.

SOWK 370 - Cultural Diversity
**Prerequisite:** Junior Standing.
This course examines economic, social, institutional and political forces that shape the experiences and life chances of persons within Asian, Latino, and Native American cultures. Social and economic justice in relation to diversity will be explored.
Students will understand the relevance of diversity to social work values and interventions.

THEO 184 - Moral Problems: Ecology Crisis
Christian Life & practice-Ethics: This course considers traditional religious and ethical assumptions about humanity and our relationship to the non-human world.
**Outcome:** Students will examine a number of religious and philosophical traditions and learn how they describe nature, how they evaluate non-human nature's relationship to humanity, how they define "community" to include or exclude the non-human world, and how they relate or do not relate the sacred to the natural world.