

# PhD Degree: Coursework Requirements

## I. Required Courses

Students pursuing a PhD Degree in the Environmental Studies program must complete 30 hours of coursework and 30 hours of Dissertation Credits.

### Required courses (9 hours)

ENVS 5000 – Policy, Science and the Environment

*Worth 3 hours. Should be completed within the first three semesters.*

ENVS 5003 – Conceptual Foundations of Environmental Studies

*Worth 3 hours. Should be completed in the first three semesters.*

ENVS 5004 – Research Design in Environmental Studies

*Worth 3 hours. Should be completed in the first or second semester of Year 1.*

*\*\*See the graduate program coordinator in the event of a scheduling conflict*

### Dissertation Credit Hours (30 hours)

Students should sign up for 30 dissertation credit hours prior to completing their degree. Students must sign up for at least 5 dissertation credit hours per semester after passing their dissertation prospectus defense.

### Remaining 21 hours

Students should use the remaining 21 hours to complete courses recommended by their first-year guidance committee.

## II. Committee Review

Students should review their completed coursework with their dissertation committee during their prospectus defense meeting to confirm that they are on track to fulfill their guidance committee's recommendations. A student may graduate without completing all the formally assigned coursework only with the approval of the committee

## III. Transfer Credit

A transfer credit is defined as any credit earned at another accredited institution, another campus of the CU system, or as a non-degree student within the CU system. Students who earned a master's degree at CU Boulder may apply all CUB coursework at the 5000 level or above towards their PhD degree with the approval of the ENVS Graduate Committee. Students who completed graduate courses at another university may transfer a maximum of 21 transfer credits towards the PhD degree.

To receive transfer credits, a student must successfully complete 6 graduate credits at CU Boulder. The student must then submit a [request to transfer credits](#). This request must be approved by the faculty advisor and ENVS Graduate Director.

Transfer credits cannot be used to fulfill the three required courses for the ENVS PhD degree.