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# Undergraduate and graduate programs in environmental science at UNLV

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## Undergraduate and Graduate Programs in Environmental Science at UNLV

By Scott Abella

The School of Environmental and Public Affairs at UNLV houses B.A. and B.S. degrees in Environmental Studies and M.S. and PhD degrees in Environmental Science. These degrees are flexible, multi-purpose, interdisciplinary programs that can be tailored for both breadth and depth.

In the undergraduate degree, students can strategically use elective courses to focus their program in areas such as but not limited to:

- Ecosystem science and management
- Urban environments and planning
- Environmental economics and policy

These focus areas are not formally designated but can be designed based on the interest of the student and the employable skill sets a student wishes to develop. Minors can be formally declared and are listed in bold with examples of skill sets they can provide: **Biology** (skills in ecology), **Chemistry** (environmental chemistry), **Geology** (soils/geomorphology), **Physical Geography** (GIS, landscape analysis), **Landscape Studies** (urban ecology/planning), **Recreation** (land-use planning), **Solar and Renewable Energy** (energy planning), **Statistics** (environmental analysis), **Anthropology** (cultural resource management), **Journalism and Media Studies** (environmental journalism), **Economics** (environmental economics), **Sociology** (human-environment relations), and **Political Science** (environmental regulation).

The M.S. graduate program allows up to two formal concentration areas to be declared and can be in areas such as (but not limited to): **applied ecology, restoration ecology, environmental resource management, solar and renewable energy, urban environments, watershed management, quantitative environmental analysis, environmental modeling, environmental sociology, and policy and governance.**

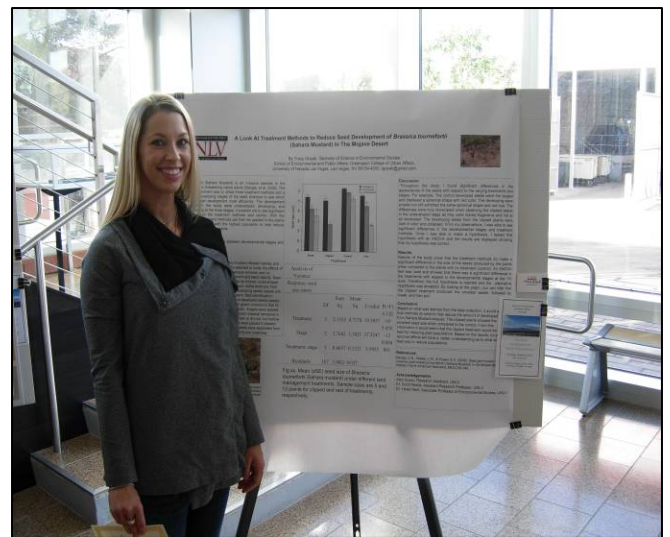
The PhD program can similarly take advantage of the multi-disciplinary focus and the array of statistics and experimental design courses available

at UNLV for a well-rounded program supporting a rigorous dissertation.

Our lab is currently accepting new graduate students who meet admission requirements, are academically engaged to the rigorous extent of committing to publish their graduate research in environmental journals, and are interested in research in applied ecology by developing a mutually beneficial graduate project.



Students can work on a variety of environmental topics, such as this study of plant recovery following wildfire in Red Rock Canyon near Las Vegas.



Students working with our lab are actively supported in presenting and publishing their research for disseminating the findings of environmental research and building their careers.