

FOREST ECOSYSTEMS, B.S.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Suggested Academic Plan

The suggested academic plan(s) listed on this page are the plan(s) that are in effect during the 2026-27 academic year. To access previous years' suggested academic plans, please visit the archive (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/archive/>) to view the appropriate Undergraduate Bulletin edition.

Biodiversity and Conservation Option: Forest Ecosystems, B.S. at University Park Campus

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
First-Year Seminar	1-3 AGBM 101, ECON 102, or ECON 104 [†]	3
BIOL 110 [†]	4 CHEM 110 [†]	3
MATH 110 or 140 ^{††}	4 CHEM 111 [†]	1
ENGL 15 or 30H ^{††}	3 STAT 200, 240, or 250 ^{*††}	3-4
General Education Course ¹	3 CAS 100 ^{††}	3
	WFS 209N	3
	15-17	16-17

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 200 [*]	1 FOR 204	2
FOR 203 [*]	3 FOR 266 [*]	4
FOR 255 [*]	3 CHEM 202	3
BIOL 220W	4 SOILS 101 [†]	3
General Education Course ¹	3 SOILS 102	1
	General Education Course ¹	3
	14	16

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 308 [*]	3 ENT 313, FOR 403, or PPEM 318 (need 2)	2-3
ENGL 202C or 202D ^{††}	3 FOR 350 [*]	3
FOR/WFS 430	3 FOR 409	2
Supporting Course Selection from List	3 FOR 410	3
General Education Course ¹	3 Supporting Course Selection from List	3

General Education Course (GHW)	1.5 General Education Course (GHW) ¹	1.5
	16.5	14.5-15.5
Fourth Year		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 421	3 ENT 313, FOR 403, or PPEM 318 (need 2)	2-3
HORT 445	3 FOR 450W	3
General Education Course ¹	3 Supporting Course Selection from List	3
Supporting Course Selection from List	3 Supporting Course Selection from List	3
Elective	3 Elective	1-3
	15	12-15

Total Credits 119-126

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

¹ Refer to your degree audit to determine which General Education requirements need yet to be fulfilled.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Advising Notes:

- Students should be aware that, in most cases, completion of the Forest Ecosystems (FOREM) degree in eight semesters requires enrollment at Penn State University Park beginning the fall semester of the sophomore year.
- All supporting course selections are listed in the FOREM Handbook, which is available on the department's website (<https://ecosystems.psu.edu>) under Undergraduate > Student Resources > Student Handbooks.

- Many FOR classes are offered only once per year, in the fall or the spring; plan your schedule accordingly.
- FOR 409 is offered only in spring of odd years.
- Courses that are listed as both US or IL and GA, GH, or GS can count for both requirements (i.e., a course listed for both GA and IL will satisfy both Arts and International Cultures).
- Students should monitor their academic progress by checking their degree audits on LionPATH.
- Questions about FOREM academic plans or degree audits should be directed to academic advisers or to FOREM Program Coordinator Ellen Rom, exr2@psu.edu or 814-863-0362.

Biodiversity and Conservation Option: Forest Ecosystems, B.S. at Commonwealth Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
First-Year Seminar	1-3 BIOL 220W	4
BIOL 110 [†]	4 CHEM 110 [†]	3
MATH 110 or 140 ^{††}	4 CHEM 111 [†]	1
ENGL 15 or 30H ^{††}	3 STAT 200, 240, or 250 ^{*††}	3-4
General Education Course ¹	3 CAS 100 ^{††}	3
	15-17	14-15
Second Year		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 200 [*]	1 FOR 204	2
FOR 203 [*]	3 FOR 266 [*]	4
FOR 255 [*]	3 CHEM 202	3
SOILS 101 [†]	3 ENGL 202C or 202D ^{††}	3
SOILS 102	1 AGBM 101, ECON 102, or ECON 104 [†]	3
WFS 209N	3 General Education Course ¹	3
	14	18
Third Year		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 308 [*]	3 ENT 313, FOR 403, or PPEM 318 (need 2)	2-3
FOR/WFS 430 [*]	3 FOR 350 [*]	3
Supporting Course Selection from List	3 FOR 409	2
General Education Course ¹	3 FOR 410	3
General Education Course ¹	3 Supporting Course Selection from List	3
General Education Course (GHW)	1.5 General Education Course (GHW) ¹	1.5
	16.5	14.5-15.5
Fourth Year		
Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 421	3 ENT 313, FOR 403, or PPEM 318 (need 2)	2-3
HORT 445	3 FOR 450W	3
General Education Course ¹	3 Supporting Course Selection from List	3
Supporting Course Selection from List	3 Supporting Course Selection from List	3
Elective	3 Elective	1-3
	15	12-15
Total Credits 119-126		

‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education

Course is an Entrance to Major requirement

† Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

¹ Refer to your degree audit to determine which General Education requirements need yet to be fulfilled.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

Advising Notes:

- Students should be aware that, in most cases, completion of the Forest Ecosystems (FOREM) degree in eight semesters requires enrollment at Penn State University Park beginning the fall semester of the sophomore year.
- All supporting course selections are listed in the FOREM Handbook, which is available on the department's website (<https://ecosystems.psu.edu>) under Undergraduate > Student Resources > Student Handbooks.
- Many FOR classes are offered only once per year, in the fall or the spring; plan your schedule accordingly.
- FOR 409 is offered only in spring of odd years.
- Courses that are listed as both US or IL and GA, GH, or GS can count for both requirements (i.e., a course listed for both GA and IL will satisfy both Arts and International Cultures).
- Students should monitor their academic progress by checking their degree audits on LionPATH.
- Questions about FOREM academic plans or degree audits should be directed to academic advisers or to FOREM Program Coordinator Ellen Rom, exr2@psu.edu or 814-863-0362.

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major

Forest Management Option: Forest Ecosystems, B.S. at University Park Campus and Commonwealth Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
First-Year Seminar	1-3 CHEM 110 [†]	3
MATH 22 and MATH 33, or MATH 22 and MATH 34, or MATH 22 and AGBM 106, or MATH 110, or MATH 140 ^{*††}	4-6 CHEM 111 [†]	1
BIOL 110 or 127 [†]	3-4 CAS 100 ^{††}	3
ENGL 15 or 30H ^{††}	3 AGBM 101, ECON 102, or ECON 104 [†]	3
General Education Course ¹	3 STAT 200, 240, or 250 ^{*††}	3-4
	General Education Course ¹	3
14-19		16-17

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 200 [*]	1 FOR 204	2
FOR 203 [*]	3 FOR 266 [*]	4
FOR 255 [*]	3 PPEM 318	2
SOILS 101 [†]	3 ENT 313	2
General Education Course ¹	3 ENGL 202C or 202D ^{††}	3
General Education Course (GHW)	1.5 General Education Course ¹	3
14.5		16

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 308 [*]	3 FOR 320 [*]	2
FOR 440	3 FOR 350 [*]	3
FOR 401 (or Supporting Course) ²	3 WFS 209N	3
General Education Course ¹	3 FOR 450W ²	3
Elective	2 FOR 455 [*]	3
	General Education Course (GHW)	1.5
14		15.5

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
ERM 448, FOR 439, or FOR 475 ²	3 FOR 409 & SOILS 102 (or Supporting Course) ²	3
FOR 421	3 FOR 466W [*]	3
FOR/WFS 430 ²	3 FOR 410 ²	3
Supporting Course	3 FOR 470	3

Elective	0-4 FOR 480	3
12-16		15

Total Credits 117-127

- * Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
- ‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
- # Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
- † Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

¹ Refer to your degree audit to determine which General Education requirements need yet to be fulfilled.

² Refer to FOREM FMGT checklist and your degree audit for clarification about how FOR 401, FOR 450W, ERM 448, FOR 439, FOR 475, FOR 409, SOILS 102, FOR 430/WFS 430, FOR 410, and Supporting Courses satisfy degree requirements.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Advising Notes:

- Students should be aware that, in most cases, completion of the Forest Ecosystems (FOREM) degree in eight semesters requires enrollment at Penn State University Park beginning the fall semester of the sophomore year.
- All supporting course selections are listed in the FOREM Handbook, which is available on the department's website (<https://ecosystems.psu.edu>) under Undergraduate > Student Resources > Student Handbooks.
- Refer to both the FOREM FMGT Supporting Course list and the FOREM FMGT checklist in the FOREM Handbook for clarification about how FOR 401, FOR 450W, FOR 475, FOR 409, and SOILS 102 satisfy degree requirements in the FMGT option.
- Many FOR classes are offered only once per year, in the fall or the spring; plan your schedule accordingly.
- FOR 409 is offered only in spring of odd years.
- Courses that are listed as both US or IL and GA, GH, or GS can count for both requirements (i.e., a course listed for both GA and IL will satisfy both Arts and International Cultures).

- Students should monitor their academic progress by checking their degree audits on LionPATH.
- Questions about FOREM academic plans or degree audits should be directed to academic advisers or to FOREM Program Coordinator Ellen Rom, exr2@psu.edu or 814-863-0362.

Forests, Trees, and People Option: Forest Ecosystems, B.S. at University Park Campus and Commonwealth Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
MATH 22 and MATH 33, or MATH 22 and MATH 34, or MATH 22 and AGBM 106, or MATH 110, or MATH 140 ^{††}	4-6 CHEM 110 [†]	3
BIOL 110 or 127 [†]	3-4 CHEM 111 [†]	1
ENGL 15 or 30H ^{††}	3 AGBM 101, ECON 102, or ECON 104 [†]	3
General Education Course ¹	3 CAS 100 ^{††}	3
First-Year Seminar	1-3 STAT 200, 240, or 250 ^{††}	3-4
	General Education Course ¹	3
14-19		16-17

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 200 [*]	1 FOR 204 [*]	2
FOR 203 [*]	3 FOR 266 [*]	4
FOR 255 [*]	3 HORT 301	3
SOILS 101 [†]	3 ENT 313	2
LARCH 60, 65, or ARCH 316 [†]	3 ENT 314	1
General Education Course (GHW)	1.5 ENGL 202C or 202D ^{††}	3
14.5		15

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 308 [*]	3 PPEM 318	2
HORT 138	3 PLANT 217	3
ERM 448, FOR 439, or FOR 475 (or Supporting Course) ²	3 FOR 409 & SOILS 102 (or Supporting Course) ²	3
RPTM 320, 325, 435, or 470	3 FOR 455, GEOG 363, or SOILS 450	3
Supporting Course	3 General Education Course ¹	3
	Elective	0-5
15		14-19

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 421	3 GEOG 430	3
FOR 495 or 496 [*]	3 FOR 480	3
FOR 401 [*]	3 HORT 408	4
Supporting Course	3 FOR 450W [*]	3
General Education Course ¹	3 Elective	2

General Education Course (GHW)	1.5
15	16.5

Total Credits 120-131

- * Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
- ‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
- # Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
- † Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

¹ Refer to your degree audit to determine which General Education requirements need yet to be fulfilled.

² Refer to FOREM CURFM checksheet and your degree audit for clarification about how ERM 448, FOR 439, FOR 475, FOR 409, SOILS 102, and Supporting Courses satisfy degree requirements.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Advising Notes:

- Students should be aware that, in most cases, completion of the Forest Ecosystems (FOREM) degree in eight semesters requires enrollment at Penn State University Park beginning the fall semester of the sophomore year.
- All supporting course selections are listed in the FOREM Handbook, which is available on the department's website (<https://ecosystems.psu.edu>) under Undergraduate > Student Resources > Student Handbooks.
- Many FOR classes are offered only once per year, in the fall or the spring; plan your schedule accordingly.
- FOR 409 is offered only in spring of odd years.
- Courses that are listed as both US or IL and GA, GH, or GS can count for both requirements (i.e., a course listed for both GA and IL will satisfy both Arts and International Cultures).
- Students should monitor their academic progress by checking their degree audits on LionPATH.

- Questions about FOREM academic plans or degree audits should be directed to academic advisers or to FOREM Program Coordinator Ellen Rom, exr2@psu.edu or 814-863-0362.

¹ Use this Suggested Academic Plan in consultation with your degree audit. SOILS 102 and Supporting Courses are not C-required.

Watershed Ecohydrology Option: Forest Ecosystems, B.S. at University Park Campus and Commonwealth Campuses

The course series listed below provides **only one** of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an **Academic Requirements** or **What If** report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
First-Year Seminar	1-3 CHEM 110 [†]	3
AGBM 101, ECON 102, or ECON 104 [†]	3 CHEM 111 [†]	1
MATH 110 or 140 ^{††}	4 CAS 100 ^{††}	3
ENGL 15 or 30H ^{††}	3 MATH 111 or 141 [†]	2-4
General Education Course ¹	3 STAT 200, 240, or 250 ^{*††}	3-4
14-16		12-15

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 200 [*]	1 FOR 266 [*]	4
FOR 203 [*]	3 ENGL 202C or 202D ^{††}	3
FOR 255 [*]	3 PHYS GN Selection from List [†]	3-4
SOILS 101 [†]	3 Social Sciences GS Selection from List [†]	3
General Education Course ¹	3 General Education Course ¹	3
General Education Course (GHW)	1.5	
14.5		16-17

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 308 [*]	3 FOR 470 [*]	3
ERM 448, FOR 439, or FOR 475 (or Geospatial Analysis Selection from List) ²	3 FOR 471 [*]	1
PHYS GN Selection from List [†]	3-4 FOR 409 & SOILS 102 (or Geospatial Analysis Selection from List) ^{*2}	3
Resources Management Selection from List	3 Physical Sciences Selection from List	3
Water Sciences Selection from List	3 Social Sciences GS Selection from List	3
	General Education Course (GHW)	1.5
15-16		14.5

Fourth Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
FOR 421	3 FOR 450W	3
Physical Sciences Selection from List	3 Resources Management Selection from List	3

Water Sciences Selection from List	3 Water Sciences Selection from List	3
General Education Course ¹	3 Three Additional Credits at the 300- or 400-level from Selections Lists	3
Elective	3-5 Elective	3-6
15-17		15-18

Total Credits 116-128

- * Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
- ‡ Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
- # Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
- † Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

¹ Refer to your degree audit to determine which General Education requirements need yet to be fulfilled.

² Refer to FOREM WMGT checklist and your degree audit for clarification about how ERM 448, FOR 439, FOR 475, FOR 409, SOILS 102, and Geospatial Analysis selection satisfy degree requirements.

University Requirements and General Education Notes:

US and IL are abbreviations used to designate courses that satisfy Cultural Diversity Requirements (United States and International Cultures).

W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ), Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS) and Integrative Studies (Inter-domain) requirements. N or Q (Honors) is the suffix at the end of a course number used to help identify an Inter-domain course, but the inter-domain attribute is used to fill audit requirements. Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

All incoming Schreyer Honors College first-year students at University Park will take ENGL 137H/CAS 137H in the fall semester and ENGL 138T/CAS 138T in the spring semester. These courses carry the GWS designation and satisfy a portion of that General Education requirement. If the student's program prescribes GWS these courses will replace both ENGL 15/ENGL 30H and CAS 100A/CAS 100B/CAS 100C. Each course is 3 credits.

Advising Notes:

- Students should be aware that, in most cases, completion of the Forest Ecosystems (FOREM) degree in eight semesters requires enrollment at Penn State University Park beginning the fall semester of the sophomore year.
- All supporting course selections are listed in the FOREM Handbook, which is available on the department's website (<https://ecosystems.psu.edu>) under Undergraduate > Student Resources > Student Handbooks.
- Many FOR classes are offered only once per year, in the fall or the spring; plan your schedule accordingly.
- FOR 409 is offered only in spring of odd years.

- Courses that are listed as both US or IL and GA, GH, or GS can count for both requirements (i.e., a course listed for both GA and IL will satisfy both Arts and International Cultures).
- Students should monitor their academic progress by checking their degree audits on LionPATH.
- Questions about FOREM academic plans or degree audits should be directed to academic advisers or to FOREM Program Coordinator Ellen Rom, exr2@psu.edu or 814-863-0362.