This major includes a spectrum of disciplines focused on understanding the processes that influence the tectonics and environment of the planet, on using this understanding to read the record of earth history written in rocks and sediments, and on developing models that can be used to predict future changes due to natural phenomena and recent perturbations caused by humans.

**BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) REQUIREMENTS OVERVIEW**

**One Introductory Courses. Several Examples are:**
- Planet Earth, Oceanography, Crises of a Planet, Climate Change, or Earthquakes

**One Lower Division Science Course, choose one from the following:**
- General Biology: Organismal Biology and Evolution
- General Chemistry B
- Physical for the Life Science A

**Three Core Courses**
- Minerals and Earth Systems
- General Chemistry A
- Calculus I

**Seven Upper Division Electives. Several examples are:**
- Structural Geology and Tectonics
- Introduction to Engineering Geology
- Oceans, Climates, and the Environment
- Geobiology and Astrobiology
- Paleontology and Evolution in Deep Time
- Environmental Hydrogeology
- Ecosystem Function and Earth Systems

**EXPERIENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**Earth Science Team Research:** This eight-unit, multidisciplinary student research experience takes place largely outside of the classroom. Student teams work closely with faculty to collect data in the field, interpret their findings, and present at symposia held in the spring semester.

**Earth Science Research Apprenticeship:** Students have the opportunity to apply for and receive funding to conduct their own research projects with the guidance of a faculty member.

**Study Abroad:** Spend a semester or a year earning credit at New Zealand’s University of Otago, known for its strong natural and environmental science programs.

For additional information, including all major requirements, please consult the USC Catalogue or http://dornsife.usc.edu/earth/undergraduate-degrees/