

# FIRST TERM BACCALAUREATE

At Unity College Distance Education, we value the diverse experiences and perspectives that our students bring to their studies and we are committed to helping each one to succeed. The path to success in our online learning environment begins in the first term, with two courses carefully designed to meet the needs of busy adult learners, including learners who have little or no online experience or have been away from formal education for a few years or longer.

## EVPC 100 Ecoliteracy

1 Credit, Requirement

**+ This course is the first step in a DE student's journey to becoming an environmental professional** ready to take on some of the thorny problems facing us today. In the Ecoliteracy course, learners develop an understanding of the cycles that sustain life on Earth and cultivate key practices, including empathy (intellectual and affective) and systems thinking that are necessary for addressing complex environmental problems. Learners will build on these foundational skills in subsequent courses within the Environmental Professional Core, which is a required component of all of our degree programs.

## COMM 100 Communication Skills for Online Learners

2 Credits, Elective

**+ In an online setting, learners are most successful when they employ specific strategies** to engage with the learning materials, their peers, and their instructor. This course introduces learners to the structure and routines common to all courses in Unity Distance Education and helps them understand the expectations for college-level work (including ways to use the online learning management system (Canvas), how to engage in discussions, how to access and use scholarly resources, and more). Learners will have opportunities to use a variety of strategies and digital tools as they develop and practice communication and research skills in this course.

These two first-term courses are designed to help learners build skills and knowledge that serve as the foundation for success in all future Unity Distance Education courses, and the combined course load of 3 credits is considered full-time for financial aid.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Concierge Team at [DERecruitment@unity.edu](mailto:DERecruitment@unity.edu).