### ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

**What Can I do with this Major?**

#### FOCUS AREAS

**SOIL SCIENCE**
- Soil and Water Conservation
- Wetland Delineation / Hydric Soil Assessment
- Contaminated Soil Remediation and Restoration
- Hydrology
- Land Use Planning
- Water Resources
- Waste Disposal
- Environmental Compliance
- Reclamation of Contaminated Lands
- Natural Resource Management
- Agrichemical Management
- Nutrient Management Specialist
- Fertilizer Technology
- Agricultural Production
- Research
- Education

**CONSERVATION BIOLOGY**
- Aquaculture
- Wildlife/fisheries biology
- Genetics
- Climate Change Impacts
- Marine Biology
- Ecology
- Education, Research, Planning
- Vegetation Management
- Aquatic Nuisance Vegetation control
- Habitat Restoration
- Wetland Delineation
- Endangered Species

#### EMPLOYERS

**Government agencies including:**
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- USDA Natural Resource Conservation Services
- US Army Corp of Engineers
- State Departments of Environmental Protection
- US Geological Survey
- USDA Forest Service
- US Department of Health and Human Services
- State farm bureaus

**Private Industries including:**
- Environmental research laboratories
- Agricultural or environmental consultant firms
- Privately owned farms and ranches
- Environmental Consulting Firms
- Universities
- Civil/Environmental Engineering Firms

### STRATEGIES

- Maintain knowledge of current environmental issues including policy, conservation, and industry trends.
- Stay current on technology used in natural resource management including GIS and GPS.
- Seek related experience through co-ops, internships, or part-time jobs in area of interest.
- Pursue minor or double major in related field (Geology, Natural Resource Conservation, Chemistry, etc.)
- Gain extensive laboratory and research experience to prepare for research positions.
- Participate in related clubs, organizations, to build contacts and cultivate academic interests
- Learn about certification programs offered by the Soil Science Society of America
- Become familiar with the federal job application procedure for government employment.
- Obtain Ph.D. for optimal research and university teaching careers.
- Gain research experience
- Develop a broad scientific education.
- Minor or double major in Biology or Nature Resources
- Get experience and skills in computers, statistics and computer modeling.
- Join the Peace Corps as a segue way into federal government positions.
- Learn about the federal job application process.
- Gain knowledge in GPS, GIS, and computer modeling
- Become familiar with environmental regulations
ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGY
Hydrogeology
Geomorphology
Glacial Geology
Geochemistry
Contaminant Assessment & Remediation
Environmental Compliance
Watershed Management

Consulting Firms
Federal government agencies such as:
Environmental Protection Agency
Forest Service
Army Corps of Engineers
US Geological Survey
Bureau of Land Management
Department of Defense

>Maintain knowledge of current environmental issues including policy, conservation, and industry trends.
>Stay current on technology used in geological mapping including software, geographical info systems and GPS
>Seek related experience through co-ops, internships, or part-time jobs in area of interest.
>Pursue minor or double major in Geology
>Gain extensive laboratory and research experience to prepare for research positions.

CLIMATE CHANGE
Climate Change Impacts
Invasive Species Management
Climate Change Adaptation
Impact Planning and Preparation
Climatology
Food and Water Scarcity
Cultural conflicts over resources

City, county, and regional planning agencies
Local and state government
Federal government agencies including:
Agency for International Development
World Bank
Department of Housing and Urban Development
Research organizations
Private business
Industrial firms
Public utilities

Gain expertise in additional areas such as communications, writing, fund-raising, negotiation, and computer applications.
Obtain working knowledge of a foreign language
Minor in Political Science, Geography, or related science
Obtain skills with computers, statistics, and accounting through coursework, internships or part-time jobs.

POLICY & PLANNING
Environmental Geography
Social Justice
Building/Zoning
Land-Use
Consulting
Recreation
Transportation
Water Resources
Green Energy & Green Infrastructure
Environmental Lobbying

Federal, state, regional, and local government
Cáorporations
Consulting firms
Banks
Real estate development companies
Law firms
Architectural firms
Market research companies
Colleges and universities
Nonprofit groups
Nongovernmental land trusts, conservation organizations

Get on planning boards, commissions, and committees.
Have a planning specialty (transportation, water resources, air quality, etc.).
Master communication, mediation and writing skills.
Network in the community and get to know "who's who" in your specialty area.
Develop a strong scientific or technical background.
Diversify your knowledge base. For example, in areas of law, economics, politics, historical

For example,
### ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION & COMMUNICATION

- **Ecotourism**
  - Master public speaking skills.
  - Learn certification/licensure requirements for teaching public K-12 schools.
  - Develop creative hands-on strategies for teaching/learning.
  - Publish articles in newsletters or newspapers.
  - Learn environmental laws and regulations.
  - Join professional associations and environmental groups as ways to network.

- **Teaching**
  - Two-year community colleges
  - Four-year institutions
  - Corporations
  - Consulting firms
  - Media
  - Nonprofit organizations
  - Political Action Committees

- **Journalism**
  - Media
  - Nonprofit organizations
  - Political Action Committees

- **Nature Interpretation & Visitor Services**
  - Become active in environmental political organizations
  - Earn a law degree. Prepare for law school by maintaining a high g.p.a. and studying for the LSAT
  - Build strong recommendations from faculty.
  - Work a part-time or summer job in a law firm.
  - Develop strong written and oral communication skills.
  - Participate in pre-law honor societies, debate teams, or moot court.

- **Law Regulation**
  - Corporations
  - Consulting firms
  - Media
  - Nonprofit organizations
  - Political Action Committees

- **Compliance**
  - Become active in environmental political organizations
  - Earn a law degree. Prepare for law school by maintaining a high g.p.a. and studying for the LSAT
  - Build strong recommendations from faculty.
  - Work a part-time or summer job in a law firm.
  - Develop strong written and oral communication skills.
  - Participate in pre-law honor societies, debate teams, or moot court.

- **Political Action/Lobbying**
  - Become active in environmental political organizations
  - Earn a law degree. Prepare for law school by maintaining a high g.p.a. and studying for the LSAT
  - Build strong recommendations from faculty.
  - Work a part-time or summer job in a law firm.
  - Develop strong written and oral communication skills.
  - Participate in pre-law honor societies, debate teams, or moot court.

### ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

- **Superfund**
  - Law firms
  - Large corporations
  - Federal and State government agencies including: US Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Justice, Attorney General Office
  - Nonprofit organizations, e.g. Green Action and Natural Resources Defense Council
  - Become active in environmental political organizations
  - Earn a law degree. Prepare for law school by maintaining a high g.p.a. and studying for the LSAT
  - Build strong recommendations from faculty.
  - Work a part-time or summer job in a law firm.
  - Develop strong written and oral communication skills.
  - Participate in pre-law honor societies, debate teams, or moot court.

- **Environmental Injustice**
  - Environmental regulation development
  - Become active in environmental political organizations
  - Earn a law degree. Prepare for law school by maintaining a high g.p.a. and studying for the LSAT
  - Build strong recommendations from faculty.
  - Work a part-time or summer job in a law firm.
  - Develop strong written and oral communication skills.
  - Participate in pre-law honor societies, debate teams, or moot court.

- **Natural Resource Damage Assessments**
  - Environmental regulation development
  - Become active in environmental political organizations
  - Earn a law degree. Prepare for law school by maintaining a high g.p.a. and studying for the LSAT
  - Build strong recommendations from faculty.
  - Work a part-time or summer job in a law firm.
  - Develop strong written and oral communication skills.
  - Participate in pre-law honor societies, debate teams, or moot court.

- **Pollution Liability and Damages**
  - Environmental regulation development
  - Become active in environmental political organizations
  - Earn a law degree. Prepare for law school by maintaining a high g.p.a. and studying for the LSAT
  - Build strong recommendations from faculty.
  - Work a part-time or summer job in a law firm.
  - Develop strong written and oral communication skills.
  - Participate in pre-law honor societies, debate teams, or moot court.

- **Environmental regulation development**
  - Environmental regulation development
  - Become active in environmental political organizations
  - Earn a law degree. Prepare for law school by maintaining a high g.p.a. and studying for the LSAT
  - Build strong recommendations from faculty.
  - Work a part-time or summer job in a law firm.
  - Develop strong written and oral communication skills.
  - Participate in pre-law honor societies, debate teams, or moot court.

### TOXICOLOGY

- **Public Health / Environmental Health**
  - Gain research experience
  - Minor or double major in Chemistry, Biochemistry and/or Environmental Health Sciences
  - Plan on graduate degree in related field.

- **Pollution Risk assessment**
  - Large Corporations
  - Independent Research Laboratories
  - Universities
  - Private Consulting Firms
  - Government Agencies: federal and state

- **Contaminant Assessment & Remediation**
  - Gain research experience
  - Minor or double major in Chemistry, Biochemistry and/or Environmental Health Sciences
  - Plan on graduate degree in related field.

- **Bio/phytoremediation**
  - Gain research experience
  - Minor or double major in Chemistry, Biochemistry and/or Environmental Health Sciences
  - Plan on graduate degree in related field.

- **Emerging Pollutants**
  - Gain research experience
  - Minor or double major in Chemistry, Biochemistry and/or Environmental Health Sciences
  - Plan on graduate degree in related field.

- **Environmental Impact Assessment**
  - Gain research experience
  - Minor or double major in Chemistry, Biochemistry and/or Environmental Health Sciences
  - Plan on graduate degree in related field.

- **Water & Air Quality**
  - Gain research experience
  - Minor or double major in Chemistry, Biochemistry and/or Environmental Health Sciences
  - Plan on graduate degree in related field.

- **Environmental Chemistry**
  - Gain research experience
  - Minor or double major in Chemistry, Biochemistry and/or Environmental Health Sciences
  - Plan on graduate degree in related field.

### NOTES

Choice depends upon career focus, for example, administration or policy-making versus technical areas or research.

- **Combine liberal arts skills with analytical skills to increase employability.** Formally, obtain a double major or minor in one of these areas. Informally, obtain these skills through internships, co-ops, volunteer work, summer jobs, or independent research projects.

- **Become familiar with current environmental laws and regulations.** Stay up-to-date with changing environmental legislation.

- **Join related professional associations; read related literature and journals to keep up with new developments.**

- **Attend seminars, conferences and workshops sponsored by professional associations or public interest groups.**

- **Network and get to know people who are working in area of interest.**

- **Learn local, state and federal government job application procedures.**

- **Obtain graduate degree for job security/advancement.**