

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Mission Statement

The Department of Environmental Studies equips students to function, not only in the world of today, but also to adapt to and perform in the world of tomorrow. Each program track in the major contributes to the University's mission by preparing students to think critically, communicate effectively, and act with reason. The Department aspires to educate students, to help them accept modifications of views, and to discard concepts that have proven to be flawed. The Department seeks truth in science, relying upon the testing of theory by experiment to yield an evolving understanding of environmental phenomena. We stimulate students' thought processes to encourage the intellectual breadth that will forge them into future leaders.

Student Learning Outcomes

UWF Environmental Studies graduates should be able to do the following:

Content

- Demonstrate content knowledge in geography, geology, and environmental science
- Demonstrate familiarity with discipline-specific ideas and terminology
- Describe basic physical processes and resultant physical forms in the landscape
- Discuss key global and local environmental issues and explain how they are interconnected

Critical Thinking

- Apply the models and techniques of research, including the scientific method, in the geo- or environmental sciences
- Use library resources and other information technology to access environmental databases and bibliographies
- Answer a research question by use of literary, field, or laboratory methods

Communication

- Demonstrate effective technical writing and use of professional editorial style and organization
- Effectively communicate about environmental topics orally before an audience
- Select and effectively use technology appropriate to environmental projects

Integrity/Values

- Describe the basic principles of the Code of Ethics for Environmental Professionals
- Analyze complex ethical situations regarding human-environment interactions and design appropriate solutions

Project Management Skills

- Capture, inventory, and present environmental data, in both written and visual forms
- Analyze and model physical and cultural environments using geographic information technologies and science
- Design and execute projects in a systematic and timely manner
- Collaborate effectively as a member of a team

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes in Environmental Studies includes a variety of approaches to show what you know and have learned to do. These strategies include a written exit exam during a student's last semester of residency and a portfolio of the two best student projects. We also expect solid academic performance in GEO 4332 Senior Seminar to show how you integrate your knowledge and abilities in the capstone course for the major.

Job Prospects for Environmental Studies Graduates

Students who complete an undergraduate major in Environmental Studies can find professional positions after graduation although some positions listed below will require additional work in graduate school:

Environmental Specialist
Wetlands Delineation Specialist
Environmental Project Manager
Environmental Educator
Environmental Analyst

Environmental Planner
Resource Manager
GIS Analyst
GIS Coordinator

***Find Out More about Environmental Studies at UWF:
<http://uwf.edu/environmental>***