What Can I Do With a Major In…

Ecology for Environmental Science
https://biology.unt.edu/undergraduate-programs/ecology-program

**General information on Careers for Ecology Majors:**

Do you enjoy the outdoors? Are you interested in environmental and conservation issues? Do you have a strong background in physical, life and natural sciences? If so, you should pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Ecology for Environmental Science at the University of North Texas. We are the first university in the region to offer this degree program.

Ecologists increase our understanding of the natural world and potential environmental impacts. The knowledge ecologists provide is used by other scientists, teachers, policy makers, citizens and managers.

With a bachelor’s degree in this area, you could have a career as a(n):

- Field or research technician
- Laboratory assistant
- Outdoor educator
- Park naturalist
- Volunteer coordinator
- Wildlife biologist

A master’s degree allows for greater specialization in a field and more opportunities in research and administration. Some community colleges will hire Master’s level teachers. Doctoral degrees are necessary for advanced research and administrative positions, university teaching and independent research.

Job opportunities are expected to grow substantially during the next several years, especially in private companies and non-government organizations. Your bachelor’s degree can also provide the foundation for advanced graduate degrees in Ecology and related disciplines.
Majoring in Ecology for Environmental Science:

The Ecology for Environmental Science degree program will expose you to a wide range of courses and facilities that focus your understanding from an ecological perspective. You will also gain experience with applied aspects like ecotoxicology.

Faculty members are active researchers in many fields including:

- Aquatic and terrestrial ecology
- Conservation genetics
- Contaminant effects on freshwater, marine and terrestrial ecosystems
- Satellite remote sensing
- Wildlife biology

The program utilizes resources from multiple departments across campus, including the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies and the Department of Geography. Among the other resources are well-equipped analytical and biological laboratories, UNT’s Sub-Antarctic Field Research Station in Chile and the UNT Water Research Field Station. These resources provide additional research possibilities available only to UNT students or allow for hands-on experience.

*For more information about specific classes and requirements for students beginning in 2016-2017 follow the links provided below.

BS in Ecology for Environmental Science

Related Career Titles:

Entry-Level (Possible with a Bachelor’s Degree)

- Field Analyst
- Research Assistant
- Laboratory Technician
- Wildlife Biologist
- Wildlife Specialist
- Fish and Game Warden
- Conservation Officer
- Wildlife Manager
- Natural Resource Officer
- Wildlife Officer
- Range Manager
- Habitat management Coordinator
- Grassland Conservationist
- Conservationist
- Range Technician
- Forest and Conservation Technicians
### Jobs Requiring Additional Experience (Master's, Doctorate, Certifications)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zoologist</th>
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<tr>
<td>Botanist</td>
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<td><strong>Environmental Restoration Planner</strong></td>
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<td>Coastal and Estuary Specialist</td>
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<td>Environmental Consultant</td>
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<td>Environmental Analyst</td>
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<td>Field Ecologist</td>
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<td>Endangered Species Conservation and Recovery</td>
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<td>National Resource Manager</td>
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<td>Marine Habitat Specialist</td>
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<td>Wildlife Forensic Scientist</td>
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<td>Environmental Engineer</td>
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<td>Environmental Lawyer</td>
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<td>Soil and Plant Scientist</td>
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<td>Toxicologist</td>
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<td>Hydrologist</td>
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<td>Director Positions</td>
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<td>High-Level Research Positions</td>
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<td>Research Coordinator</td>
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<td>Research Administrator</td>
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### Possible Work Settings

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>National/State/Local Government</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Land Management</td>
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<td>Department of the Interior</td>
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<td>National Park Service</td>
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<td>U.S. Fish and Wildlife</td>
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<td>U.S Forest Service</td>
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<td>Bureau of Reclamation</td>
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<td>Texas Parks and Wildlife</td>
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<td>Texas Commission on Environmental Quality</td>
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<td>Texas Wildlife Damage Management Service</td>
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<td>Coastal Program of Texas</td>
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<td>Arlington Ecological Services Field Office</td>
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<td>Corpus Christi Ecological Service Field Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas Fish and Wildlife Conservation office</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Marcos Aquatic Resources Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inks Dam National Fish Hatchery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denton County, Sustainable Denton</td>
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<td>Parks/Refuges/Reserves</td>
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Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge  
Trinity River Audubon Center  
Army Corps of Engineers  
Zoos/Aquariums/Museums  
Dallas Zoo  
Fort Worth Zoo  
Frank Buck Zoo  
Elm Fork Education Center  
Research Laboratories  
Non-Profit Organizations  
World Wildlife Fund  
Greenpeace  
Keep Denton Beautiful  
Consulting Firms  
Treatment Plants  
Environmental Activist Organizations  
Colleges/Universities  
Community Colleges  
High Schools/Middle Schools  
Private Industry  
Pharmaceutical Companies  
Oil Companies  
Chemical Companies  
Waste Management  

Skills Used and Developed in the Ecology for Environmental Science Major  
Science  
Time Management  
Judgment and Decision Making  
Critical Thinking  
Analytical & quantitative abilities  
Complex Problem Solving  
Equipment Selection  
Information Handling & Organization  
Curiosity and Creativity  
Oral Expression  
Inductive Reasoning  
Written Comprehension & Expression  
Category Flexibility  
Problem Sensitivity  

Websites for Exploring Careers Ecology for Environmental Science Major  
Wildlife Careers, [http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Education/WildlifeCareers/](http://nationalzoo.si.edu/Education/WildlifeCareers/)  
Explore Ecology Careers, [http://www.esa.org/esa/?page_id=793](http://www.esa.org/esa/?page_id=793)  
Ecotourism Career Guide, [http://environmentalprograms.net/resources/ecotourism-academic-requirements-professional-outlook](http://environmentalprograms.net/resources/ecotourism-academic-requirements-professional-outlook)  
Environmental Protection Agency Careers, [http://www.epa.gov/careers/](http://www.epa.gov/careers/)  
Association of Zoos and Aquariums, [https://www.aza.org/](https://www.aza.org/)  
Department of the Interior Careers, [https://youthgo.gov/careers](https://youthgo.gov/careers)  

Student Organizations at UNT (Learn more at UNT [ORGSYNC](http://www.orgsync.com))
Internship and Volunteer Opportunities

Texas Parks and Wildlife Internship, [http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/business/jobs/summer_internships/program_info.phtml](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/business/jobs/summer_internships/program_info.phtml)
National Park Service Student Jobs, [http://www.nps.gov/aboutus/jobsforstudents.htm](http://www.nps.gov/aboutus/jobsforstudents.htm)
Student Conservation Association Internships, [http://www.thesca.org/serve/young-adult-programs](http://www.thesca.org/serve/young-adult-programs)
Smithsonian Opportunities, [http://www.smithsonianianofi.com/](http://www.smithsonianianofi.com/)

Job Sites for Your Major

Ecology jobs and internships, [https://youthgo.gov/jobs](https://youthgo.gov/jobs)

Professional Organizations

The Student Conservation Association, [http://www.thesca.org/](http://www.thesca.org/)
Ecological Society of America, [http://www.esa.org/esa/](http://www.esa.org/esa/)
National Association for Environmental Professionals, [http://www.naep.org/](http://www.naep.org/)
Additional Resources

O*NET OnLine: http://www.onetonline.org/
Eagle Careers: http://careercenter.unt.edu/eagle_network.html
LinkedIn: http://university.linkedin.com/linkedin-for-students.html
mySkills myFuture: http://www.myskillsmyfuture.org/
USAjobs: https://www.usajobs.gov/StudentsAndGrads
CareerOneStop: http://www.careeronestop.org/
CareerRookie: http://www.careerrookie.com/

Need help figuring all this out? Call the Career Center and make an appointment with your Career Advisor! You can also get help with resume and cover letter writing and interview skills preparation.

*Information for this handout compiled from the following Career Services Departments:
Central Washington University: http://www.cwu.edu/career/
Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne: http://www.ipfw.edu/offices/career/
Texas State University: http://www.careerservices.txstate.edu/
University of North Carolina Wilmington: http://www.uncw.edu/career/index.html
University of North Texas: http://careercenter.unt.edu/
University of Tennessee-Knoxville: http://career.utk.edu/
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire: http://www.uwec.edu/Career/index.htm