Undergraduate Program Assessment

Department of Natural Resource Conservation

Student Learning Objectives

Building Materials and Wood Technology
- Specify materials, methods, and building/structural systems common to residential and commercial construction projects.
- Evaluate and specify building energy systems and materials with respect to their ecological impact and their contribution to sustainable design.
- Understand physical, mechanical and environmental attributes of wood construction.
- Analyze, estimate and communicate building project requirements using a thorough knowledge of blueprint specifications, contractual documents, CAD (Computer-Aided Design) and BIM (Building Information Modeling).
- Apply a breadth of management skills and an understanding of key business aspects of design, construction and materials supply industries.
- Contribute responsibly to a sustainable built environment.

Environmental Sciences
- Understand the complex interactions that define ecosystems and how they may be affected by human activities.
- Measure, analyze, and monitor environmental contaminants introduced into air, soil, and water.
- Prevent or decrease the negative effects of adverse human activities on ecosystems and human health.
- Develop comprehensive methods to restore or remediate contaminated ecosystems.
- Apply an interdisciplinary approach to the technical assessment and analysis of global environmental challenges, and develop effective policy options to meet those challenges.

Forestry/Urban Forestry/Arboriculture
- Acquire and analyze data describing the biophysical and social aspects of forests.
- Make management decisions about forests that integrate relevant ecological, physical, and social information.
- Appreciate the natural complexity of forest systems, and the interdisciplinary nature of their conservation.
- Understand the multiple values of forests across the spectrum of circumstances from urban to rural, developed to wild.
- Communicate to the public that forests are important resources.
- Behave professionally and ethically in the management of forests for the benefit of society.

Natural Resource Studies
- Acquire and analyze data describing the biological and social aspects of the environment.
- Make management decisions about land and water that integrate relevant ecological, physical, and social information.
- Appreciate the natural complexity of ecosystems, and the interdisciplinary nature of their conservation.
- Understand the multiple values of ecosystems and the environment across the spectrum of circumstances, from urban to rural and from developed to wild. Communicate to the public that natural resource conservation is essential to long-term sustainability.
- Behave professionally and ethically in the management of the environment for the benefit of society.

Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation
- No information
Assessment tools
- Indirect: Student review of learning objectives in light of their own experiences in the major.

Highlighted recent activities
- Students in Junior Year Writing asked to review student learning goals and objectives to determine how their experiences matched up with the objectives. Department Head reviewed responses and shared them with program directors, to enable them to further share them with faculty in each program. Department was to discuss results at their summer retreat, to enable them to modify and improve on the undergraduate program.