What's Special about Westfield State University's Department of Environmental Science?

- We're one of the few colleges and universities to have an actual Department of Environmental Science
- We're one of the largest Environmental Science programs in the country, with over 120 students
- We have a low student : faculty ratio
- We have small class sizes. Most ENVS classes are limited to 16-24 students. Labs are typically capped at 16 students. First year lab sciences typically have lectures with 48 students and labs with 16 students.
- Our focus is on hands-on learning.
- Our program is highly interdisciplinary.
- There are many options to double major or minor in other areas leading to careers in Environmental Planning, Environmental Policing, Environmental Policy, Environmental Law, Environmental Communication, etc.
- Our location allows for easy access to field locations for research, including the college's beaver / wetland complex, islands on the Westfield River, and many forest and mountain ecosystems.

For Parents

- Westfield State University has a clean, safe campus
- Westfield State University offers a quality, affordable education
- Our students have a very good success rate for getting jobs, even in the current economy.

For Students

- The Environmental Science Major is designed to allow you flexibility. YOU choose coursework from a variety of options to design a program to meet YOUR future.
- Students in the major tend to form tight support groups during freshman classes, which last through their college experience and beyond.
- Though we've grown to be a fairly large major, you'll form tight bonds with the faculty in your classes and with your advisor.
- We're in a great location for outdoor activities including hiking, road biking, mountain biking, cyclocross, whitewater kayaking and canoeing, skiing, snowboarding, XC skiing, climbing, fishing, etc. WSU has property right on the Westfield River, a whitewater river with many portions designated "Wild and Scenic" by the National Park Service. Blandford Ski Area (where several students work) is about ten-minutes up the road.

Recent ENVS Capstone Senior Research Projects

- "The Effects of Global Warming on Leaf Drop Timing as Determined by River Level Step Jumps" 2009
- "Tail, Agroforestry, and Replicate Native American Display Plan for Wapping Park, South Windsor, CT" 2008
Recent ENVS Alumni’s Job Successes

Students leaving our program go on to get a variety of jobs and attend graduate school. There are a lot of possible careers and futures in Environmental Science. Here are some examples from this past year:

- Mark (ENVS 2012) and Jo (ENVS 2012) both got jobs working for Springfield Water and Sewer. Caitlin (ENVS 2010) works in their water quality lab. Scott (ENVS 2009) is the GIS/Information manager for SW&S and Brian (ENVS 2010) is an engineering technician for them.
- Sean (ENVS 2009) works for ARCADIS on NY State Dept. of Environmental Conservation projects
- Laura (ENVS 2010) works for National Grid is beginning a graduate program in education at Worcester State
- Paudraig (ENVS 2009) got a job working for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
- Sean (ENVS 2008) just got a new job working for a company called Arcadis as an Environmental Scientist.
- Jordan (ENVS 2010) is working for the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
- Aubrey (ENVS 2010) came in second in the 2011 Triathlon World Championships, and is teaching at the YMCA and training in Colorado.
- Rowan (ENVS 2011) just got a job in Hawaii as a leader/manager in the Youth Conservation Corps
- Ally (2011) just got a job working for Contest Analytical Lab. Andrea (ENVS 2006) is the Metals Lab Manager and Libby (ENVS 2010) also works there.
- Nicole (ENVS/DGCE 2010) works at Spectrum Analytical Lab.
- Jordan (ENVS 2010) just got a job working for the state of Connecticut’s Dept. of Conservation/Resources, doing mosquito and fisheries research.
- Dan (ENVS 2009) started Vermont State Trooper boot camp this winter.
- George (ENVS/REPL 2006) is in graduate school at Northeastern.
- Candace (REPL/ENVS 2007) is in graduate school at the University of Edinburg.
- Brittany (ENVS/REPL 2007) started graduate school at the University of Edinburg.
- Jenna (ENVS/REPL 2009) is working as a contract employee for NOAA.
- Darrin (ENVS/REPL 2007) is working as the conservation agent in Framingham, supervising a staff of assistants.
- John (ENVS/REPL 2008) is working as the GIS coordinator for the City of Westfield, and has sponsored Caitlin (2010), Nick (2010), Jon (ENVS 2011), and several REPL students as interns.
- Marianne (ENVS/REPL 2010) is finishing up her dual Masters in Planning and Landscape Architecture at UMASS.
- Tawny (ENVS/Biol 2010) is graduating this spring with her MS in Biology / Entomology at UMaine, Orono. While an undergraduate at WSU, she was selected out of a nationwide search for a summer undergraduate research position at the Harvard Forest.
- Alicia ENVS 2010) is finishing up her masters in Environmental Education at the U. of Minnesota.

Recent ENVS Capstone Senior Internship Sponsors

- The Nature Conservancy
- The Trustees of Reservation
- National Park Service
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- The Department of Defense
- Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
- Riverways
- Southwick Conservation Commission
- Contest Analytical Lab
- City of Westfield
- City of Greenfield
- Chicopee Water Dept.
- Springfield Water and Sewer
- Wilderness Experiences Unlimited
- Forest Park Zoo
- Blue Star Equiculture

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