WHY ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND STUDIES AT WASHINGTON COLLEGE?

Our location—on the Chester River and in the Chesapeake Bay watershed—is the setting of your hands-on environmental education. You will have direct access to the nation’s largest estuary and its watershed, history, culture, people, and ongoing environmental challenges. You will be immersed through small classes that offer field experiences here and abroad using state-of-the-art labs and equipment or by answering your own questions through research opportunities. Get ready to examine the complexity of environmental issues that interest you!

MAJOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

After you take core science classes, you will choose from an array of environmental science courses, including wetlands ecology, climate change, energy & the environment, and marine conservation. You will learn to design research projects, and collect, analyze and interpret field and lab data.

MAJOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

You can choose environmental courses ranging from art and ethics to economics and policy, complemented with a small core of environmental science classes. Through this interdisciplinary coursework, you will critically analyze and investigate solutions to regional and global environmental issues.

OPPORTUNITIES ABROAD

You can participate in our credit-bearing summer programs in:

- **Ecuador** – Beginning in Quito, you’ll immerse yourself in Ecuadorian cultures and examine environmental challenges affecting the country. You’ll visit indigenous people in the Andes highlands and explore cloud forests and volcanoes. In the Amazon Rainforest, you’ll travel by boat and on foot to discover this fascinating ecosystem. Off-shore in the Galápagos Islands, you’ll study the remarkable diversity and uniqueness of species that compelled Charles Darwin’s Theory of Evolution.

- **Bermuda** – Based at the Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences (BIOS) you’ll examine the complex ecology of the Bermuda Islands and coral reef ecosystems, the impact that humans have had on their natural history, and current environmental concerns and proposed solutions. You’ll participate in snorkeling trips to coral reef formations, visit cave ecosystems, and immerse yourself in Bermuda’s history.
Anna Windle '16

Environmental Science major, Biology and Anthropology minor

In 2014, Anna Windle '16 traveled with the Department of Environmental Science and Studies’ field course to Ecuador, studying in the Amazonian rainforest as well as the Galápagos Islands off the coast. The previous summer, she traveled with the College’s Tanzania Seminar and completed a research paper on women’s healthcare in the African country. Through her 2015 summer internship with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Windle spent 10 weeks at Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, a pristine, 110,000-acre habitat of mangrove forest and lagoons, canals, and creeks of the Ten Thousand Islands. Open water habitats comprise 70,000 acres, and this is where Windle spent most of her time. She lived on Marco Island at the reserve’s field station, traveling by boat each day to remote areas to conduct research on loggerhead sea turtle nesting activity.

Windle completed her Master’s Degree in Environmental Management with a concentration in Coastal Environmental Management from the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University in 2018. In September 2017, she won a highly competitive NOAA/North Carolina Sea Grant fellowship to assess oyster reef health using unoccupied aircraft systems (UAS), or drones. Currently, Anna is a PhD student at the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science’s Horn Point Laboratory in Cambridge, Maryland. Her research includes satellite and UAS remote sensing for water quality assessment in the Chesapeake Bay.