



-Major of the Month- Environmental Health

Have you ever wondered what our environment will be like in ten ...fifty ... or even one-hundred years?

Those in the environmental health field work with the community to preserve and protect a quality environment that aims for the best public health and safety possible. Understanding the issues involved in protecting the environment is central to the work of those in the environmental health field.

This major prepares students for careers that ensure the public will not be exposed to environmental toxins and waste from unsafe food and water sources. Your classroom time will concentrate on elements such as groundwater protection, wastewater treatment, food safety and much more.



If sitting in the same classroom every day isn't for you, listen up! Yes, you'll attend class in a regular classroom setting, but you'll also have opportunities to conduct classroom assignments around the Sault Ste Marie area.

Graduates in the Environmental Health major find jobs with titles such as public health officers, environmental technicians, or scientists, just to name a few.

After gaining work experience in the field, graduates may sit for the Registered Sanitation examination or the Registered Environmental Health Specialist examination and achieve state or national certification respectfully .

If you want to learn more, stop by the Chemistry and Environmental Science office CRW 236A or Career Services LBR 119A.

Careers within Environmental Health

Public Health Office– Works together with local public health offices to protect citizens and the environment; works on developing and promoting public health initiatives and enforces current environmental regulations.

Environmental Technician - collects samples of ground water, soil and other field-based materials; then develops reports on the findings.

Registered Sanitarian - After gaining experience and expertise, you can test for professional certification.

This provides enhanced opportunities in employment and advancement within the public health field.

Environmental Scientist - Develops schedules and budgets; plans and implements activities including, field work, documentation, data analysis, public involvement and environmental analysis.



Career Bits

Student Profile

Do You....

- have an interest and concern for the environment?
- want to work to protect the environment and people?
- enjoy working outdoors and with others?

Personal Qualities

- Ability to accept responsibility
- Ability to do detailed work
- Genuine concern for public well-being
- Tact and persuasion

Skills

- Strong communication skills
- Computer knowledge
- Strong science and math aptitude
- Organizational skills

Career Outlook

Employment in this field is expected to grow steadily over the next ten years. Demand will increase due to stronger public policies requiring companies to comply with strict environmental laws.

Salary

Starting - \$31,366-\$38,580
Median - \$47,808-\$51,190

Studying Environmental Health

As an Environmental Health major you will complete and present a senior thesis project. Not only will you experience what it's like to collect real data, but you'll also get to see your hypothesis through to its conclusion. One of the best things about your thesis is that you get to choose a topic that interests you. The best way to prepare for your thesis is through a summer internship or by designing your own project.

After completing your project, you'll get the opportunity to present your findings and show off your hard work to fellow classmates, the campus and the community. The experience you gain from this project will be a great learning opportunity and will be an attractive addition to your resume.

SENIOR THESIS TOPICS

~Ground Water and Surface Water Monitoring of Nitrates at Northport Point Golf Club.

~Industrial Landfill Impact on Water Quality at Indiana Dunes National Lake Shore.

~Investigation of Underground Storage Tanks Located at Camp Lucas, Sault Ste Marie, MI USA.

~Testing for Gasoline Contamination in the Well Water in Napoleon, MI.



In the Classroom

As a student majoring in Environmental Health you'll take classes in...

~Microbiology, Biochemistry, Parasitology and Epidemiology

~Environmental Chemistry & Water Pollution Control

~Global Positioning Systems & Geographic Information Systems

~Groundwater Hydrology

COUNSELOR'S CORNER



Thanksgiving break is just around the corner and most of you have enrolled in classes for the spring 2007 semester. If you are not yet enrolled or do not plan

on returning to campus next semester make sure to call your advisor to inform them of your plans. There is still plenty of time to get your schedule together.

While you are at home or traveling to celebrate the holiday make sure to include a "Thank-You" to family and friends who have supported you during this semester at school. Often times it would not be possible for an individual to attend college without some support from others. It could be encouraging words, a listening ear, or financial support that helps each of you through. Remember many of these loved ones are also going through a "college transition" this semester.

This is a good time also to focus some attention on your academics. If you are falling behind in a class, take the opportunity to do some "catch-up" work over break. When you return to campus after the break we will have just three weeks remaining in the semester before exam week. Talk with your instructors to see if extra credit work is possible to bring up a grade. The time you spend now may make the difference in your final grade.

If you are still confused about your major or what classes to take next semester stop by Career Services for some help!

Happy Thanksgiving!



Career Services

a division of Academic Services

Lake Superior State University

Library 119A

(across from the Learning Center)

906-635-2733

www.lssu.edu/careerservices

To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe. ~Anatole France~