

"I came to Springfield College to build an environmental science program and work hand-in-hand with students to help tackle environmental issues of the 21st century."

- Justin Compton, PhD, Associate Professor of Environmental Biology

What Will You Learn?

- Critically understand and analyze environmental issues from a scientific viewpoint by applying concepts and facts from various disciplines (interdisciplinary knowledge).
- Investigate environmental issues utilizing appropriate tools and techniques in the field or laboratory, and be able to interpret the empirical data obtained using these tools and techniques.
- Gain the ability to effectively communicate scientific information through written, visual, and oral means.
- Be prepared for entry into environmental science professions and/or for entry into graduate and professional school.

Where Can You Go?

Environmental Educator or
Environmental Science Teacher

Environmental Scientist and Environmental
Science and Protection Technicians

Wildlife Biologist

Environmental Health and Safety Specialist

Conservation Officer

Recycling Coordinator

Environmental Consultant

Environmental Policy Analyst

Science Editor

Science Communications Specialist

Data Analyst

1st YEAR

Pursue Knowledge

Take Bioscience (BIOL 121/122/123/124).
Take Foundations of Sustainability (ENVS 120).
Take Outdoor Pursuits (WLPL 201) at East Campus.

2nd YEAR

Take Environmental Geology (ENVS 215/216).
Take Biology Skills and Career Pathways (BIOL 282).

3rd YEAR

Take Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (ENVS 350).
Take Environmental History of America (HIST 365).

4th YEAR

Take Natural Science Capstone (BIOL 482).
Consider taking International Tropical Field Research (BIOL 320) and/or working at an Environmental Science Internship (ENVS 486).

Gain Experience

Introduce yourself to your professors and inquire about research opportunities.
Consider joining the Environmental Science Club.
Knowing another language is a valued asset in nearly all careers. Build language study into your academic and professional plan.

Consider studying in Costa Rica during the January break.
If you're interested in a semester abroad your junior year, start planning now with your advisor and International Center staff.
An internship is one of the most important pre-professional experiences employers look for so start planning now with your advisor and Career Center staff.

Consider doing an internship in the field over the summer or during the fall or spring semesters.
Think about attending a conference even if you are not presenting; it's a great way to network.

Work with a faculty member on a research project and present the findings at Scholars in Action Day.

Build Your Communities

Join the Environmental Science Club, the SEED club, or both.
Get involved with a club, service activity, intramural sports, New Student Orientation (NSO), Residential Life, or Pre-Camp.
Consider a campus job, if you are eligible for work-study, or community-engaged employment opportunities.

Consider volunteering for a local environmental organization.
Get to know the larger Springfield community through service projects with the Center for Service and Leadership.
Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and the International Center.

Do an internship that allows you to use your classroom knowledge and build in new technical skills.
Explore short-term abroad opportunities with the International Center, as well as service-oriented spring break experiences in the U.S., like Alternative Spring Break.

Present research from the Costa Rica course or a faculty/student project at Scholars in Action Day or another relevant conference.
Explore new activities you haven't tried before.

Prepare for Life After College

Get involved to develop transferable skills

- Attend departmental and campus events to network and meet faculty, staff, and students.
- Meet with a Career Counselor to explore careers and/or majors.
- Utilize Career Center resources, including Handshake.

Develop academic and career-related goals

- Visit the Career Center to research fields of interest.
- Have resumes and cover letters reviewed by the Career Center.
- Now is the time to develop your academic and career goals with your advisor and a career counselor.

Gain experiential education in your field

- Attend networking events and job fairs to learn about employment opportunities.
- Plan an internship experience with your faculty internship coordinator and the Career Center.
- Look at graduate school requirements to ensure you are on track.

Apply for jobs or graduate school

- Prepare your applications for jobs and graduate school.
- Ask professionals to serve as references.
- Participate in mock interviews to strengthen skills and build confidence.
- Speak with the International Center about opportunities in the U.S. and abroad.

The map offers suggestions for activities and careers, but everyone's abilities, experiences, and constraints are different. **You don't have to do it all.**