

College of the Environment

What Distinguishes the College or its Programs?

As one of the oldest environmental colleges in the nation, Western Washington University's College of the Environment (CENV) is a recognized leader in producing the next generation of environmental professionals and stewards. CENV's integrative approach is designed to train students for creative, fulfilling careers in a changing world. Since its establishment in 1969, CENV has won national and international recognition for undergraduate and graduate programs that are continually refined to enhance practical, collaborative approaches to solving environmental problems.

Undergraduate Academic Programs

https://cenv.wwu.edu/college-environment-undergraduate-graduate-programs

Department of Environmental Sciences

- Environmental Science Freshwater & Terrestrial Ecology Emphasis
- Environmental Science Marine Science Emphasis
- Environmental Science Toxicology Emphasis
- Environmental Science
- Student/Faculty Design

Department of Environmental Studies

- Business and Sustainability*
- Economics/Environmental Studies*
- Environmental Journalism*
- Environmental Studies Education & Eco-Social Justice Emphasis
- Environmental Studies Geographic Information Science Emphasis
- Environmental Studies Geography Emphasis
- Environmental Studies Justice & Community Resilience Emphasis
- Environmental Studies Policy, Politics, and Governance Emphasis
- Environmental Studies
- Environmental Studies/Elementary*
- Geography/Elementary*
- Geography/Social Studies
- Student/Faculty Design

Department of Urban and Environmental Planning and Policy

- Environmental Policy
- Urban Planning and Sustainable Development
- Urban Sustainability

*Indicates these degrees are shared with other colleges at Western.

Internship, Research, and Extracurricular Engagement

Every major in CENV requires a 5-credit internship although some students may choose to complete a senior project, thesis, or international study. Students are provided with internship announcements and a website listing recent postings. CENV hosts an internship and career fair every February. Students are supported with resume writing workshops and a jobs panel each winter. They can also check out a database of past CENV student internship reports.

Students have held internships with planning departments and other government agencies including Department of Ecology, NOAA, the forest service, and parks. Other students have found internships in private consulting firms focusing on impact assessments, and other companies around sustainability.

Inclusive Community

At CENV, we have a deep commitment to fostering an inclusive community that acknowledges the intersectionality of our identities and life experiences. Our commitment to an inclusive community is evident through the dedicated efforts of students, faculty, and staff who together work to ensure that our college is an inclusive, equitable, and welcoming community for all.

We are resolute in our mission to create and sustain an environment that is accessible, inclusive, and supportive, catering to the unique needs and experiences of our students, faculty, and staff. Through a lens of equity, we rigorously examine every facet of our college, from recruitment and retention strategies to curriculum design, the overall college climate, and our hiring and professional development practices. Our goal is to foster equitable outcomes and cultivate an inclusive academic community.

Currently, our college is actively engage in the following initiatives:

- **Direct Support:** We offer personalized outreach, community-building, and mentoring to both current and prospective first-generation, transfer, and underrepresented students, ensuring they have the guidance they need to succeed.
- **Community Insight:** We regularly solicit feedback from students, faculty, and staff through surveys to gain valuable insights into their experiences within our college climate.

- **Curriculum Enrichment:** We are actively conducting self-assessments to enhance inclusivity in faculty pedagogical practices.
- **Training for All:** We are committed to organizing training sessions for faculty and staff, with a particular focus on mentoring and addressing issues related to power and privilege.

CENV believes that personalized advising and academic support increase student success within our environmental programs. We encourage students to connect with our professional advisors who specialize in working with first-generation, multicultural, and non-traditional students, providing them with inclusive mentoring.

Please contact: Shalini Singh, CENV Diversity Recruiter and Retention Specialist for more information.

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