

LCDS Green Committee #1 - warfelg
Lancaster Country Day School
Project Green Challenge
Greenest Challenge Day 22

Middlebury College- Environmental Studies Major: George's Answers

What draws you to each program?

- I was drawn to this program because Middlebury is situated in the middle of the Adirondack mountains, which surround students with nature each day. In addition, there is a sustainable Organic Farm on campus that students can volunteer on. They also have a specific focus within the program that is Conservation Biology, something that I am very interested in pursuing in the future.

What makes it unique, compared to other schools?

- This program is unique because it allows students to focus their studies in a myriad of different areas that fall under subjects such as Art, Social Sciences, Humanities, and Natural Sciences. Students can therefore apply concepts of sustainability to all of the problems that are impacting our planet currently.

Can you find out why and when it launched?

- This program was launched in 1965 and was the first Environmental studies major to be created in all of the United States.

If possible, identify a specific class at each that interests you. Is there a syllabus you can share?

- The Perennial Turn is a class that interests me greatly at Middlebury College because it examines how humans have poorly treated the Earth in the past, and ways that we can improve agriculture now in order to save our planet before it's too late. I was also intrigued by the name because it seemed very cryptic to me at first, but then I understood the symbolism behind annual and perennial thinking, or disposable versus sustainable thinking.

Northwestern University- Environmental Engineering Major: George's Answers

What draws you to each program?

- I was drawn to this program because it integrates my interest in engineering and environmental studies. The skills learned in this major would enable me to solve environmental problems with an engineering mindset.

What makes it unique, compared to other schools?

- Northwestern's "Whole Brain Engineering" approach makes students take classes in different subjects other than STEM, allowing them to apply their knowledge in a more meaningful way. This is especially important for environmental engineers because they have to juggle the science of environmental projects with the social and political policies surrounding issues.

Can you find out why and when it launched?

- Environmental Engineering is a part of the Civil Engineering program which launched in 1926, but the website does not specifically state when the Environmental Engineering program was launched.

If possible, identify a specific class at each that interests you. Is there a syllabus you can share?

- Environmental Biotechnology/Microbial Ecology for Resource Recovery is a class that interests me greatly because I am very interested in microbiology. The knowledge gained from this course would enable me to apply microbiological system concepts to the recovery of resources and protection of the planet.

Drexel University- Environmental Studies and Sustainability Major: Laurel's Answers

What draws you to each program?

- I am drawn to this major at Drexel because of its focus of educating people on the environment to better understand and solve our current issues today. It is administered in the Department of Biodiversity, Earth and Environmental Science (BEES). There is an emphasis on learning in the field, and they have many working opportunities to do so, ranging from biological field sampling to making action plans for nonprofits.

What makes it unique, compared to other schools?

- This program is designed to help teach about helping environmentally cross-culturally. It encourages students to learn about how they can help people in many different cultures.

Can you find out why and when it launched?

- This program was established in the late 1960s to expand to areas of environmental policy and sustainability.

If possible, identify a specific class at each that interests you. Is there a syllabus you can share?

- Sociology of the Environment is a class that is taken in the second year of school for this degree. It sounds interesting because the “course examines environmental problems through a sociological lens, and focuses on the ways that social practices, social structures and economic and political systems drive environmental change, degradation and preservation” (Drexel Plan of Study for this Major).

Ursinus College- Environmental Studies Major and Minor: Laurel's Answers

What draws you to each program?

- I really like the Environmental Studies program at Ursinus because of its emphasis towards work experience and getting to do experiential learning in and out of the classroom.

What makes it unique, compared to other schools?

- This program allows students to come up with their own solutions to sustainability challenges by doing projects related to a variety of different topics for whatever they are most passionate about: “climate change, action, and justice; biodiversity and ecosystem conservation; agriculture and food systems; Geographic Information Systems (GIS); land-use change; urbanization and planning; waste and recycling; ocean and freshwater systems; geology; and stewardship of natural resources” (Ursinus College Environmental Studies Program).

Can you find out why and when it launched?

- This program was established in 2000 because a faculty member wanted to promote environmental pedagogy.

If possible, identify a specific class at each that interests you. Is there a syllabus you can share?

- One class that seems very interesting to me within this major is “Drinking it Up: Water Resources on a Thirsty Planet”. This class focuses on water as a natural resource and all of our human impacts on it.

Our ideal class:

- Our ideal class would be a mix of environmental engineering concepts and environmental sustainability to apply to the world and our everyday lives that would allow us to focus on one issue presented by climate change, and ameliorate it through the information that we learned. It is important to us that a class has programs that allow us to apply concepts to the real world and be able to work through and analyze sustainable solutions of the world.
- It would allow the students to choose an environmental issue that interests them.
- It would provide students with the necessary tools to think about how to solve the problem.
- Students would work in groups on a specific problem and its solution. They would conduct research and create a working prototype of their solution. Faculty would review the prototype and make suggestions based on their experience, and the final prototype would then be tested in the local area in order to see whether it works in the real world.
- In the end, students would learn essential environmental problem-solving skills, and it would teach them how to scale up ideas into real-world applicable ones.

Sources:

APguru.com

Middlebury.edu

mccormick.northwestern.edu

http://catalog.drexel.edu/undergraduate/collegeofartsandsciences/environmentalstudiesandsustainability/?_gl=1*9mt1ub*_ga*MTA3MzIyMDY2MS4xNjM0OTUyODY3*_ga_6KJ1PNLE19*MTYzNDk1Mjg2Ni4xLjAuMTYzNDk1Mjg2Ni42MA..

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Middlebury College- Environmental Studies Major:

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lcdsgreen Here is our guide to multiple college programs that address sustainability and environmental protection. We encourage all high school juniors and seniors to read through them and explore whether any of these programs interest them. [@turninggreenorg](#) [#pgc2021](#) [@lcdschool](#) [@middleburycollege](#) [@northwesternu](#) [@ursinuscollege](#) [@drexeluniv](#)