Career Options after Environmental Biology

What is Environmental Biology?

Environmental Biology is a Physical Science at the intersection of environmental science, ecology, evolution, and global change. Environmental biology examines the ways organisms, species, and communities influence, and are impacted by, natural and human-altered ecosystems. The Specialist in Environmental Biology program focuses on i) the biology of ecosystems and environmental processes; ii) the causes and consequences of environmental change; and iii) how environmental change impacts life on Earth.

Skills of Environmental Biology Grads

- Contemporary field and lab methods in ecology, evolution, and conservation biology
- Contemporary field and lab methods in environmental science for soil, water, air, and climate assessments
- Assessment of how toxic compounds impact life on Earth, from individuals to species to communities
- Climate change impact assessments
- Climate change modelling with a focus on biodiversity impacts
- Environmental impact assessments and audits
- Design of applied environmental and ecological experiments
- Quantitative methods for collecting and interpreting ecological and environmental data
- Application of ecological research for environmental policy- and decision-making
- Earth imaging, including Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing (RS), for environmental problem solving and conservation

What makes Environmental Biology at UTSC unique? Graduates of Specialist programs are eligible to receive their Environmental Professional in Training (EPt) designation, which is a developmental certification for emerging environmental professionals: www.eco.ca/accreditation.

Entry-Level Careers for Bachelor Grads

Careers in the field of environmental biology include:
- Ecologist with regional Conservation Authorities
- Environmental Scientist or Biologist with government, or planning and engineering firms
- Environmental Impact Assessor in environmental consulting firms
- Conservation Biologist in governmental, or national and international conservation organizations
- Education Coordinator in environmental NGOs
- Climate Change Risk Assessor in the private sector
- Environmental planner in the fisheries, forestry, or mining sector

The Career Directory: www.canadastop100.com/tcd

Graduate & Professional Studies

Popular further education opportunities include:
- Environmental Science –Master/ PhD
- Environmental Engineering – Master/ PhD
- Conservation Biology – Master/ PhD
- Environmental Biology – Master/ PhD
- Biotechnology – Master/ PhD
- Environmental Management – Post-Grad Diploma
- Ecological Restoration – Post-Grad Diploma
- Occupational Health & Safety - Certificate
- Earth imaging, including Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing (RS), for environmental problem solving and conservation

Use LinkedIn!

UTSC Environmental Biology graduates are working in Research, Education, and Operations.

Attend our LinkedIn workshop to learn about the Find Alumni tool!

Environmental Biology Grads from UTSC have gone on to:
- Golder Associates (Environmental Consultant)
- GlaxoSmithKline (Clinical Data Manager)
- CINCS (Climate Risk Analyst)
Examples of Fields that ‘Fit’ the Skills of Environmental Biology Grads

- Food and Agriculture
- Environmental Education
- Natural Resources Sector
- Environmental Consulting
- Non-governmental environmental organizations
- Environmental Research and Development
- Conservation and Environmental Protection
- Government sectors in the environment
- Biotechnology
- Renewable Energy

Your 4-Year Career Exploration Action Plan

1. Do Your Research

The databases below provide you with details about job prospects, the nature of environmental work, educational requirements, prospective career paths, and salary expectations:

**Career Cruising:** Log into cln.utoronto.ca, click on Resources, and click on Career Cruising to be logged in automatically

**O*Net:** online.onetcenter.org (U.S. site)

Attend our workshop Discover Your Skills and Career Options, meet with a Career Counsellor, and use our resources to get to know your skills, values, personality and interests:

www.utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/get-know-yourself

Use the advice on our tip sheets for gathering info:

- Information Interviews
- Working On-Campus
- Internships
- Volunteering

2. Explore Career Options & Get Experience

Gain exposure to the world of environmental biology, and make connections while you’re a student through campus events and programs listed on cln.utoronto.ca and ccr.utoronto.ca:

- Extern Job Shadowing
- In the Field
- Explore It! (course-based)
- Partners in Leadership (4th year students)
- iLead, uLead, weLead (Dep’t of Student Life)
- Employer Information Sessions
- Career & Volunteer Fairs
- Departmental Student Association Events

Apply for Work Study jobs on CLN in the Fall and Spring! You might also find positions via www.scsu.ca/jobs. Find environmental internship programs, early-career positions, and other networking opportunities at www.workcabin.ca and www.goodwork.ca. As an upper year student (14+ credits), attend UTSC’s Get Hired Conference and participate in Jobs for Grads. As a graduate, explore internships and other trainee programs like www.careeredge.ca

3. Build Your Network

Explore student and professional associations in environmental biology. Attend their events, and get to know people in the environmental industry. These environmentalists, biologists, ecologists, and conservationists are your future colleagues and mentors!

UTSC Environmental & Physical Sciences Student Association - www.myepsa.ca

UTSC Biology Student Association - http://www.thebiosa.org/biosasite/

Society for Conservation Biology - www.conbio.org

Association of Professional Biology - www.professionalbiology.com

Canadian Society of Environmental Biologists - www.cseb-scbe.org

Environment and Climate Change Canada - www.ec.gc.ca


Conservation Ontario - www.conservation-ontario.on.ca

Please note: This document is a starting point for your further research into career options in this field of study. For more information on this program and course requirements, please visit the departmental website at the top of the first page.