



What Can I Do With A Major In: Geology

Western Carolina University Center for Career and Professional Development

828.227.7133, careers.wcu.edu

DESCRIPTION

In this major, students will learn how to study the Earth from the rocks it's made of and there changes to the environmental impacts of people on stream and groundwater hydrology.

WHAT JOBS ARE AVAILABLE?

Engineering Geologist	Atmospheric Scientists	Water Specialist
Geochemist Business Analyst	Conservation Scientists	Mudlogger
Water Reclamation Specialist	Eco-Tour Guide	Geophysicist
Water Resources Planner	Environmental Engineer	Geoscientist
Hydrogeologist	Paleontologist	Surveyor Technician
Seismic interpreter	Land Agent	Minerals Surveyor
Water Quality Specialist	Land Surveyor	Cartographer
Geophysical Data Processor	Geologist	Wellsite Geologist
Reservoir Manager	Jeweler	Resources Manager
Drilling Engineer	Volcanologist	

WHO EMPLOYS STUDENTS WITH THIS MAJOR?

Oil, Gas and Petroleum Sector | Groundwater Industry | Environmental Consultancies | Civil Engineering and Construction Companies | British Geological Survey (BGS) | Environmental Agency (EA) | Government Organizations

INTERNSHIP INFORMATION

At Western Carolina University there are numerous internship opportunities for students. In some cases internships are established through a faculty member in the student's major. Oftentimes students find part-time jobs in an area related to their field of study. When this happens, students should discuss with their academic advisor the possibility of receiving college credit. Generally, three hours of general elective credit can be earned for a minimum of 200 hours of experience.

Interested in the classes you'll be taking? Check you your eight semester program here: <http://www.wcu.edu/academics/departments-schools-colleges/cas/casdepts/gnr/geol/geology-curriculum/eight-semester-plan-for-b.s.ed.-earth-sciences-concentration.asp>

WHAT SKILLS ARE LEARNED IN THE CLASSROOM?

Critical Thinking | Writing and Quantitative Skills | Observation | Data Collection | Analysis | Interpretation | Prepare, Process and Present Data | Present and interpret information in a range of different mediums, e.g. textual, numerical, oral, graphical | Written and Verbal Communication Skills | Report Writing Skill | Problem-Solving Skills and Lateral Thinking | Recognition of Patterns and Complex Systems

KNOWLEDGE

- Possess effective written, oral, and graphic communication skills in general and within geology.
- Ability to carry out geological research, including problem definition, study design, analytical procedures, analysis of results, and communication of results.
- Broad understanding of geological knowledge and supporting field, laboratory, and computer skills.
- Confidence to solve problems independently in the field and in the lab.

PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES

- American Institute of Professional Geologists - <http://www.aipg.org/>
- The Geological Society of America - <http://www.geosociety.org/index.htm>
- Geoscience News and Information <http://geology.com/>
- Tip: Join LinkedIn groups that are related to your career interest. Need help finding groups? Check out the “Groups You May Like” link under the Interests/Groups tab. Review the groups that professionals in your field of interest have joined and consider joining them as well.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SOURCES

- Occupational Outlook Handbooks from the Bureau of Labor Statistics: <http://www.bls.gov/ooh/life-physical-and-social-science/geoscientists.htm>
- Information for the Association of State Boards of Geology Exam: <http://www.asbog.org/>
- Information for the Licensing of Geologist: <https://www.ncblg.org/>

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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