Environmental & Conservation Biology

Environmental & Conservation Biology in general:

Environmental and Conservation Biology combine two related fields – conservation biology and environmental science. Conservation biology focuses on analyzing and protecting Earth's biological diversity. The field is an interdisciplinary subject drawing on biological, physical and social sciences, economics, and the practice of natural-resource management.

Environmental science, on the other hand, monitors the quality of the environment, interprets the impact of human actions on ecosystems, and develops strategies for restoring ecosystems. The discipline encompasses issues such as climate change, conservation, biodiversity, water quality, groundwater contamination, soil contamination, use of natural resources, waste management, sustainable development, disaster reduction, air pollution, and noise pollution.

Description of Major:

The new innovative Environmental and Conservation Biology track dovetails with the major in Landscape Architecture, preparing students for a wide range of environmental careers in governmental agencies, non-profit organizations and consulting. The program emphasizes skills in development in plant field identification, Geographic Information Systems, chemical analysis, experimental design, and ecology.1

Careers/Job titles:

- Air Quality Analyst
- Bioanalyst
- Camp and Outdoor Educator
- Coach
- Energy Efficiency Market Research Analyst
- Environmental Affairs Manager
- Environmental Compliance Inspector
- Environmental Educator
- Environmental Education Counselor
- Environmental Protection Agency Employee
- Environmental Research Associate
- Environmental Scientist
- Environmental Water Educator
- Field Ecologist
- Field Manager
- Fishery Biologist
- Forest Monitoring Technician
- Hydrogeologist
- Invasive Plant Control Field Technician
- Outreach and Stewardship Coordinator
- Peace Corp Volunteer
- Program Coordinator
- Public Health Inspector
- Research Intern
- Restaurant Manager
- Restoration Specialist
- Soil Scientist
- Teacher
- Vegetation Technician
- Watershed Resources Specialist
- Wilderness Project Manager

Who employs PhilaU graduates?

- Bureau of Land Management
- Lake Arrowhead Camp
- LBG Associates
- Lourdas Greek Taverna
- Peace Corp
- Philadelphia Water Department
- National History Museum of the Adirondacks
- Schuylkill Center for Environmental Ed.
- The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia
- United States Environmental Protection Agency
- William Penn Charter School
Helpful websites:

- Society for Conservation Biology Job Board - http://www.conbio.org/professional-development/scb-job-board

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1 Industry and major information taken from the Philadelphia University website at several locations: Undergraduate Degree Programs (http://www.philau.edu/academics/undergrad.html), the Undergraduate Catalog (http://www.philau.edu/catalog/Cat200708), WetFeet.com, a company and career research database, and Wikipedia.com, an online encyclopedia