



Ecology and Evolution



Using information from the University of Maryland graduation survey, we have compiled information about Ecology and Evolution majors, such as where they work or go to graduate school post-graduation. Check out the topics below to learn more about planning for your career! For more information, follow the link to the University Career Center at CMNS (UCC@CMNS): go.umd.edu/uccatcmns

Industries and Career Paths

Ecology and Evolution majors are employed by governmental, industrial and academic organizations and non-academic settings. Ecologists play an increasingly important role in modern society through their work in basic research, their role in management of natural resources, and/or their influence on public policy. This specialization will prepare students to assist with basic and applied research. It also provides a strong foundation for graduate study leading to careers in areas such as conservation, environmental biology, veterinary medicine, zoo biology, and science policy.

Organizations

The following list showcases employers of UMD Ecology and Evolution undergraduates:

- Northrop Grumman
- National Centre for Coasts and Climate, School of Biosciences
- Amarex Clinical Research
- Peace Corps
- Chesapeake Conservation Corps
- Orangutan Health Project
- Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- Nature Conservancy
- World Wildlife Fund
- Chesapeake Bay Fund
- Smithsonian Institution
- Maryland Conservation Corp
- Living Classroom Foundation
- Maryland Zoo
- Camp SEA Lab
- Institute for Defense Analysis

Job Titles

The sample job titles below exemplify positions Ecology and Evolution majors are qualified for upon graduation. This is not an exhaustive list, but a starting point for exploration.

- Research Associate
- Lab Technician
- Logistics Administrator
- Lab Manager
- Science Teacher
- Sea Turtle Technician
- Scientist
- Ecologist
- Environmentalist
- Physician Assistant
- Field Educator/Outdoor Educator
- Veterinary Hospital and Conservation Programs Coordinator
- Science Policy Fellow



Graduate Schools

The following is a list of schools where graduates are pursuing graduate degrees:

- City University of New York
- Duke University
- George Washington University
- Penn State University
- University of Colorado, Boulder
- University of Maryland
- University of Pennsylvania

Skills Developed as an Ecology and Evolution Major

The University of Maryland will prepare each student with many different skills to take into the workplace. These skills will come from academic coursework as well as co-curricular experiential learning opportunities. For insight into what employers are looking for, review the skills inventory list (go.umd.edu/skillslist) to examine ways to include technical and cross-disciplinary skills on a resume, in interviews and on LinkedIn. The following link highlights “must have” career readiness competencies, according to employers: (go.umd.edu/fourcompetencies).

This major will prepare you with the following technical and cross-disciplinary skills to:

1. define a research question and design an experiment to answer it in a meaningful and scientific way
2. gather and analyze data, to see relationships among different factors affecting the data, and to draw meaningful conclusions from these data
3. apply appropriate mathematical calculations and modeling to scientific problems
4. communicate via research proposals, journal papers, and oral presentations
5. collaborate efficiently and productively with other researchers
6. master computers and other technology, such as centrifuges, microscopes, and spectrophotometers

Ecology and Evolution Major Resources

The following resources will help you explore relevant career paths, as well as job postings:

- American Institute of Biological Sciences: aibs.org
- Society for Conservation Biology: conbio.org
- Society for the Study of Evolution: evolutionsociety.org
- Vault – Employer/Industry insights, rankings and reviews: vault.com
- Biology and Other Life Sciences Jobs:
<https://access.vault.com/recordurl?nid=9781438191782gpv&wid=256769&vid=1>