



SOIL SCIENCE

Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Consumer Sciences

Students in the Davis College are offered fields of study that complement a wide variety of careers. Programs are constantly being updated to reflect industry trends, and student initiative is strongly encouraged. Advising is conducted by faculty members, promoting mentorship. Many current students and alumni comment on the small-school feel of the Davis College, citing the individual attention from faculty, substantial extracurricular opportunities, and hands-on learning that enhance our academic experience.

The Davis College has 22 undergraduate major fields of study and a growing number of minors in the academic divisions of animal and nutritional sciences, design and merchandising, forestry and natural resources, plant and soil sciences, and resource management. Our programs allow for considerable flexibility, as several offer individual academic tracks depending on student interests and goals.

Instructional facilities and unique settings offer varied learning opportunities for students. The majority of classrooms, laboratories, design studios and offices are located on WVU's Evansdale Campus. The College also maintains eight farms, a campus greenhouse, and more than 8,000 acres of forest land for teaching and research. Hands-on experiences, service learning, undergraduate research and study abroad are strongly encouraged for students in every program.

The Soil Science Program is designed for students who want to have careers as soil scientists or work in fields where expertise in soil science is highly desirable, such as natural resource management. Courses within this major emphasize environmental soil science, and students work with their advisors to select courses relating to land use or watershed management.

Program Admission and Curriculum

Students who meet University admission requirements may be accepted directly into the Davis College as Soil Science majors. To earn a bachelor's degree, all students must complete 128 credit hours, including the General Education Curriculum required by the University.

Examples of core courses within the major are soil science, plant science, general microbiology, soil conservation and management, principles of entomology, principles of genetics, and general plant pathology.

Students may select 15 hours from these restricted electives to suit their interests: soil judging, soil fertility, soil survey and land use, soil genesis and classification, soil microbiology, soil physics, and reclamation of disturbed soils.

Students may choose to emphasize in *land use* or *watershed management*. Courses within the *land use* emphasis include land surveying, soil mechanics, bioremediation, and environmental geology. *Watershed management* courses include plant ecology, environmental engineering, environmental sampling and analysis, and limnology.

Complete course listings and descriptions can be found in the current *WVU Undergraduate Catalog*.

Employment Opportunities

Graduates are prepared to work in any number of fields, including soil conservation, soil survey, water quality and nutrient management, land reclamation and revegetation, and hazard waste management. Jobs are available in regulatory and educational agencies of federal and state governments and in the private sector. Beginning salaries range from \$26,000 to \$32,500.



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Majors in the Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Consumer Sciences

Agribusiness Management & Rural Development:	B
Agricultural & Extension Education:	B, M
Agricultural & Resource Economics:	M
Agriculture, Forestry, & Consumer Sciences:	M
Agroecology:	B
Agronomy:	B, M
Animal & Food Science:	D
Animal & Nutritional Sciences:	B, M
Applied & Environmental Microbiology:	B
Biochemistry:	B
Design Studies:	B
Entomology:	M
Environmental & Natural Resource Economics:	B
Environmental Microbiology:	M
Environmental Protection:	B
Family & Consumer Sciences:	M
Fashion Design & Merchandising:	B
Forest Resources Management:	B
Forest Resources Science:	D
Forestry:	M
Genetics & Developmental Biology:	M, D
Horticulture:	B, M
Human and Community Development:	D
Human Nutrition & Foods:	B
Interior Design:	B
Landscape Architecture:	B
Multidisciplinary Studies:	B
Natural Resource Economics:	D
Plant & Soil Sciences:	D
Plant Pathology:	M
Recreation, Parks, & Tourism Resources:	B, M
Reproductive Physiology:	M, D
Resource Management:	D
Soil Science:	B
Wildlife & Fisheries Resources:	B, M
Wood Science & Technology:	B

B = Bachelor's; M = Master's; D = Doctorate

For more information, visit
www.davis.wvu.edu

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