

**WESTERN
CONNECTICUT
STATE
UNIVERSITY**



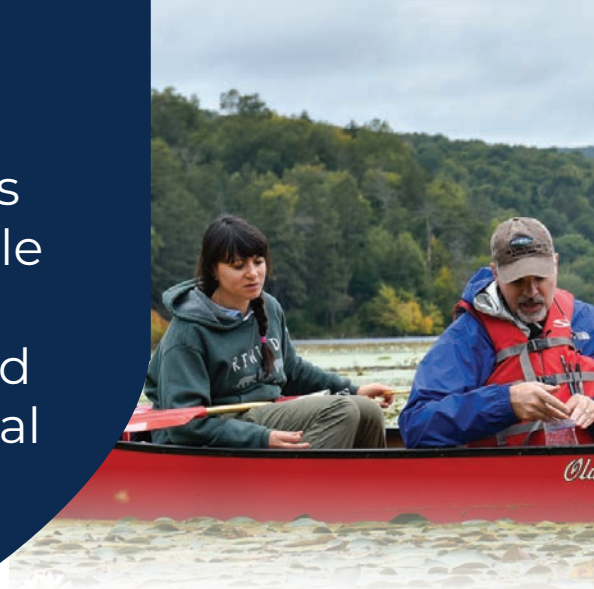
GRADUATE



**M.S. in Integrated
Biological Diversity**

Addressing Global Issues with Local Solutions

Biodiversity Stewardship is the responsible protection of organisms and their ecological relationships.



WCSU's Master of Science in Integrative Biological Diversity program develops

environmentally responsible stewards who apply scientific thinking to conserve biological resources, manage biodiversity and address the concerns of stakeholders. The program is designed to complete in as few as 18 months, and summer courses are available. Thesis students, and students with jobs, may take longer depending on the nature of their stewardship and research.



By applying genomic, molecular and field-based skills, graduate students work on projects with faculty and their collaborating partners to inventory and monitor organisms, monitor dispersal and movement of organisms, and investigate strategies of how organisms adapt to changing environmental conditions. Students are trained to translate, communicate and apply their projects to engage with policy-makers, managers and the public.

A student wishing to obtain a Master of Science in Integrated Biological Diversity must hold a baccalaureate degree in biology, environmental science or related program.



The program welcomes students from diverse educational backgrounds (including non-science majors) who have experience or have completed coursework related to biodiversity. The applicant should have an undergraduate cumulative average of at least 3.0 on a GPA scale of 1–4 or a recommendation from the graduate program coordinator.

Application materials:

Prospective students should submit a completed application to **www.wcsu.edu/graduate/application/**, all undergraduate transcripts and a 500-word essay explaining why they would like to join the program. Students can enroll full-time or part-time. Priority for receiving funding from graduate assistantships and/or grant-funded training fellowships will be given to full-time students who have successfully completed the stewardship seminar course.

Assistantships/ Fellowships:

Grant-funded student fellowships or assistantship stipends may be available to qualified students, but do not typically come with a tuition waiver.





The deadline to submit an application for Summer or Fall admission is March 15. Applications may be accepted after this deadline on a case-by-case basis.

Contact Dr. Theodora Pinou for more information at pinout@wcsu.edu.

Degree Requirements

M.S. in Integrative Biological Diversity requires the completion of a total of 30 credits in one of two options.



Option 1: 27 credits of coursework, and 3 credits of stewardship.

Option 2: 21 credits of coursework, 3 credits of stewardship, 6 credits of thesis.

Master of Science in Integrative Biological Diversity

Required courses 9 SH

Hybrid Stewardship Seminar 1 SH

Applied Stewardship 2 SH

Climate Change (SCSU/EVE 559) 3 SH

Technology Course (several options) 3SH*

Electives courses 21 SH

Thesis Track 15 SH

Thesis Research (for thesis track only)
6 SH or Non-Thesis Track 21 SH

Total Credits 30 SH

For more information, go to: wcsu.edu/biology-msbiodiversity