



Career Options after Conservation and Biodiversity

the study of conserving the variety of life
www.utsc.utoronto.ca/biosci
Specialist, Major

What is Conservation?

Conservation Biology is a Life Science which involves the protection, preservation, and restoration of the environment. **Biodiversity** refers to the variation of organismal life in a particular habitat. (*Source: Oxford Dictionary*)

This program focuses on understanding how human impact shapes the biodiversity as well as the structure and function of communities and ecosystems. Students will learn how ecological and evolutionary perspectives are crucial in understanding and conserving dynamic interactions among organisms, populations, species, and communities in perpetuity.

Skills of Conservation Biology Grads

- Research and analyze biological questions
- Design and conduct experiments
- Collect and analyze data using statistical methods
- Field and laboratory skills
- Writing skills (literature reviews, scientific reports)
- Oral presentation skills
- Knowledge of how organisms interact with the environment
- Application of ecological theory and critical analysis of environmental and conservation problems
- Understanding the theory and practice of conservation biology

What makes Conservation and Biodiversity at UTSC unique? Graduates of the program are trained to understand and actively seek solutions to biodiversity challenges, such as habitat destruction, biological invasions, and climate change, which result in loss of species and disruption of ecosystems worldwide.

Entry-Level Jobs for Bachelor Grads

Common employment destinations include:

- Junior Consultant in Environmental Consulting
- Conservation Officer in Government Services
- Volunteer Coordinator in Non-profits
- Research or Teaching Assistant in Universities
- Lab Technician in Industry or Government
- Project Officer for Environmental Agencies
- Water Technologist in Conservation Authorities
- Educator or Program Developer in Education
- Intern, Ministry of Natural Resources
- Policy Analyst in Government

The Career Directory: www.canadastop100.com/tcd

Graduate & Professional Studies

Popular further education opportunities include:

- Biology – Master, PhD
- Public Policy – Master, PhD
- Environmental Science - Master, PhD
- Sustainability – Master, PhD
- Education – Bachelor, Master
- Medical School - MD
- Project Management - Graduate Certificate
- Energy Management - Graduate Certificate
- Environmental Technology - Post-Graduate Certificate

Use LinkedIn!

UTSC Biology graduates are working in Research, Education, Healthcare and Business.

Attend our LinkedIn workshop to learn about the *Find Alumni* tool for networking!

Biology Grads from UTSC have gone on to:

- Department of National Defence (Arctic Scientist)
- Bio Basic Inc Biotechnology (Project Specialist)
- Natural Heritage Ecologist (Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority)



Examples of Fields that 'Fit' the Skills of Conservation & Biodiversity Grads

- Federal and provincial governments
- Colleges, universities, and research institutes
- Environmental and engineering consulting firms
- Not-for-profit/non-governmental organizations
- Environmental and engineering consulting firms
- Conservation authorities and centres

Your 4-Year Career Exploration Action Plan

1 Do Your Research

The databases below provide you with details about job prospects, nature of work, educational requirements, working conditions, pay and related career paths:

Career Cruising: Log into cln.utoronto.ca, click on Resources, and click on Career Cruising to be logged in automatically

O*Net: online.onetcenter.org (U.S. site)

Attend our workshop **Discover Your Skills and Career Options**, meet with a Career Counsellor, and use our resources to get to know your skills, values, personality and interests:

www.utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/get-know-yourself

Use the advice on our tip sheets for gathering info: www.utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/tipsheets

- Information Interviews
- Working On-Campus
- Internships
- Volunteering

3 Build Your Network

Explore Professional Associations and get involved: volunteer for their events and conferences, and get to know people in your industry of interest. These are your future mentors, supervisors and colleagues!

BioTalent Canada - biotalent.ca

Biology Student Association at UTSC - www.thebiosa.org

Canadian Wildlife Federation (CWF)- <http://www.cwf-fcf.org>

Conservation Ontario - www.conservation-ontario.on.ca

Environmental Careers Organization Canada (ECO Canada) - www.eco.ca

Ministry of Natural Resources - www.ontario.ca/jobs-and-employment/paid-internships-government

Parks Canada- <http://www.pc.gc.ca>

World Wild Life Federation - www.worldwildlife.org

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Canada- <http://www.wwf.ca>

2 Explore Career Options & Get Experience

Gain exposure to your options in the world of work and make connections while you're a student via campus events and programs listed on cln.utoronto.ca and ccr.utoronto.ca:

- [Extern Job Shadowing](#)
- [In the Field](#)
- [Explore It!](#) (course-based)
- [Partners in Leadership](#) (4th year students)
- [iLead, uLead, weLead](#) (Dep't of Student Life)
- Employer Information Sessions
- Career & Volunteer Fairs
- [Departmental Student Association](#) Events

Apply for [Work Study](#) jobs in CLN in Fall and Spring! You might also find work via www.scsu.ca/jobs.

Find networking opportunities, internship programs and entry-level jobs via websites like www.talentegg.ca and www.charityvillage.ca.

As an upper year student (14+ credits), attend UTSC's [Get Hired Conference](#) and participate in [Jobs for Grads](#).

As a graduate, explore internships and other trainee programs like www.careeredge.ca