

Natural Resources Degree (NRD)

Natural resources covers a range of environmental occupations in horticulture/floriculture, agriculture, forestry, and recycling fields. Because of a growing appreciation and heightened awareness of the nation's natural resources, opportunities in these fields are growing. The Natural Resources degree program provides students with a background in practical plant and animal science, basic ecology, and other environmentally-oriented subjects. Along with courses that examine the structure and function of ecosystems, and the state laws and regulations designed to protect them, students will learn about the principles of soils as they relate to biological systems, environmental chemistry, and recycling. MWCC offers the perfect setting for the natural resources program by providing hundreds of acres of undeveloped plant communities and forested areas, two pond ecosystems, and a life studies center consisting of a greenhouse, potting area, and lecture facility.

Number	Suggested Course Order	Cr	Semester	Grade	Prerequisites/Notes
ENG101	English Composition I	3			ENG098, FYE101, RDG098, or placement
MAT126	Topics in Mathematics (or higher)	3			MAT096 or placement
BIO116	Ecology	4			ENG098, FYE101, MAT092, RDG098, or placement
BIO130	Plant Science	4			ENG098, FYE101, MAT092, RDG098, or placement
EAS125	Dynamic Earth	4			ENG098, FYE101, RDG098, or placement
ENG102	English Composition II	3			ENG101
BIO140	Introduction to Greenhouse Management	4			ENG098, FYE101, MAT092, RDG098, or placement
CIS127	Computer Technologies	3			ENG098, FYE101, RDG098, or placement
BIO220	Soil Science	4			BIO130, CHE107, or CHE120 (or co-requisite); or permission of division dean
CHE120	Environmental Chemistry	4			ENG098, FYE101, MAT096, RDG098, or placement
BIO102	Introduction to Forestry	4			ENG098, FYE101, MAT092, RDG098, or placement
BIO120	Horticulture	4			ENG098, FYE101, RDG098, or placement
	Humanities Elective	3			Electives: ART, ASL, ENG, FRE, HUM, MUS, PHL, SPA, THE Note: THE113 recommended
	Health Elective	2/3			Electives: BIO101, BIO103, BIO112, BIO230, CHC101, CHC102, CHC108, CHC220, EXS102, EXS201, PER126, PER127, PER130
BIO122	Zoology: The Biology of Animals	4			ENG098, FYE101, RDG098, or placement
	General Elective	3			Electives: Any course (see page 66 for exceptions) Note: BIO104, EGM105, EGM106, MGT110 recommended
	Social Science Elective	3			Electives: ANT, ECO, GEO, HIS, POL, PSY, SOC, SSC
NRD232	Global Environmental Issues (Capstone Course)	3			Completion of most NRD major courses and permission of division dean
NRD220	Practicum in Natural Resources	3/4			Prerequisites: Completion of most NRD major courses and permission of division dean Note: Completed in final semester
Total: 65/67 credits					

See page 140 of the college catalog for program competencies and technical standards.

Campus/format: A majority of this program can be completed during the day at the Gardner Campus.

Helpful hints: Since the Natural Resources program is a rigorous curriculum in the sciences, students who have taken previous high school or college science courses or have a background in the sciences will be best prepared. Also, since the focus of the curriculum is on plant science, an interest in horticulture and plant biology is recommended.

Transfer options: Many graduates seek immediate career entry. Students should check with individual colleges and universities to examine transfer options. Transfer agreements exist with Charter Oak State College, the University of Phoenix, and UMass Amherst.

Visit MWCC's transfer services website: <http://transfer.mwcc.edu>.

Special requirements: A 120-hour practicum is required. Technical standards must be met with or without accommodations.

Career options: Students can pursue entry-level jobs in horticulture/floriculture, agriculture, forestry, or recycling. Graduates can also work for golf courses or landscaping firms.

Earning potential: \$34,000.