# Admission Requirements

## Environmental Biology (BSc)

### Prerequisite Requirements for BSc:
- ENG4U, MHF4U, SBI4U, SCH4U
- Recommended: SPH4U

### Expected minimum admission average:
low-to-mid 80s

### If you major in Environmental Biology your courses in first year will probably be:
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physical Geography
- Computer Use
- Calculus
- General Education Course

### In second year you will probably take:
- Ecology
- Statistics for Biologists
- Plants
- Animals
- Genetics
- Cell Biology and Biochemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- General Education Course

### Career options for Environmental Biology majors include:
- Research – academic, government, industry
- Conservationists, Natural Resource Conservation
- Environmental consultant, Environmental Assessment and Restoration
- Public Policy, Health
- Law, Business
- Government agencies
- Hydrologist, climatologist
- Agriculture – ecologist, plant biologist, forester, agronomist
- Professional Schools – Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Law, Business
- Education – elementary, high school, college, university

### Courses you might take in upper years include:
- Field Course (studying plants and animals in their natural surroundings)
- Population Ecology
- Conservation Biology
- Biodiversity
- Environmental Biology
- Biology in Environmental Management
- Birds and the environment
- Microbiology
- Quantitative methods in Biology
- Current Topics in Biological Research
- Applied Plant Ecology
- Freshwater Biology
- Biogeography
- Processes of Evolution
- Honours Thesis
Why study Environmental Biology at York University?

The health of the environment is an urgent global concern. A wide range of biological, economic and health crises can result from the continuing loss of biological diversity. With this growing problem, there will continue to be a greater need for people well trained in areas of environmental biology. York’s Environmental Biology program offers you comprehensive knowledge and skills in aspects of conservation biology and environmental management while making key connections with areas such as human health and public policy.

The Environmental Biology program is structured to pair theoretical work with hands-on experience. Led by some of Canada’s leading environmental biologists, you will have the opportunity to engage in active field research and learn to develop and implement solutions for everyday environmental problems. You will also have the opportunity to pursue additional studies in other areas, making the program an excellent example of York’s dedication to interdisciplinary education.

Program Overview

The Environmental Biology program can be taken as either a three or four year degree program with a range of options for double majors and major/minor combinations. The flexible nature of this program allows you to explore other areas of interest, such as:

- International Development
- Geography
- Statistics
- Chemistry
- Sociology
- Health Policy
- Environmental Studies

The Environmental Biology curriculum includes courses that focus on areas such as:

- Biodiversity assessment
- Conservation of endangered species
- Restoration ecology
- Environmental management
- Environmental physiology
- Invasive species biology

Along with your academic studies, field courses will complete the entire experience of practical work by providing you with an opportunity to conduct research at various sites such as Tanzania and Costa Rica (as well as a wide variety of local and provincial sites). Research practica are also offered to provide you with experience as part of a Biology research team. Students have the opportunity to learn about the research conducted by researchers at York while also taking part in the experimental procedures.

In fourth-year, students take part in extensive research through a thesis project. Under the supervision of a professor of your choice, you will have the opportunity to analyze and interpret results obtained from the experimentation and observation of an environmental biological question. Through this unique course, students will have the opportunity to enhance their critical analytical and communication skills.

Facilities and Opportunities at York University and Beyond

York’s Environmental Biology program offers opportunities beyond the classroom setting. Our small labs of about only 24 students allow students to effectively interact with each other and teaching assistants. The new Life Sciences Building, houses state-of-the-art undergraduate laboratories, an advising office and a learning commons. Our many strong academic support systems are available for students. The Life Sciences Help Centre offered by Normal Bethune College is available for students in first and second-year. Staffed by outstanding student peer-tutors and professors, students will learn how
to navigate through difficult courses and learn new ways to approach course concepts.

Experiential Education

The Faculty of Science provides a rich diversity of opportunities for undergraduate students to engage in Experiential Education. Students can explore the ideas covered in class through a variety of experiences – whether they are in the classroom, in a lab, working in a community organization or a private sector firm.

Here are just a few of the companies you could have the opportunity to work for:

- Sanofi Pasteur
- Health Gene Corporation
- Parks Canada
- City of Toronto
- Grande Prairie Regional College

Visit /science.yorku.ca/current-students/ee/ for more information

Research Opportunities

Advance your knowledge by gaining research experience outside the classroom. Students are able to learn advanced lab skills, use sophisticated lab equipment, interact with graduate students, gain in-depth knowledge in a particular field, and actually contributes to the advancement of scientific knowledge.