

# BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

## What is it?

The Biodiversity Conservation Minor evaluates how Earth's resources are being depleted at an increasing rate and how humans are pushing environmental systems to the brink of crisis. Students will **consider the biological diversity of the planet** and explore how overutilization of animal and plant populations, loss and degradation of habitats in the U.S. and across the world, and pollution play a part in impacting biodiversity.



## Why do it?

In addition to professional natural resource and environmental managers, there is a need for an informed populace who can understand and contribute to the conservation of biological diversity within the context of their chosen profession. In this minor, students will take courses that help them **gain a global and ethical perspective of environmental issues and discover that economics, policy, and social factors must be considered for effective management of declining resources** and wild populations of animals. The capstone class will contribute to developing their inquiry and problem-solving abilities, which will serve them well in whatever professional path they follow.



## Who is it for?

This minor encourages interaction by **students from a diversity of majors who have a common interest in conserving biodiversity**, becoming better informed on issues, and considering solutions to loss of biological diversity. environmental conservation.

## Pathways Core Concepts

- 3 - Reasoning in the Social Sciences
- 4 - Reasoning in the Natural Sciences
- 5f - Foundational Quantitative and Computational Thinking

## Pathways Integrative Concepts

- Ethical Reasoning
- Intercultural and Global Awareness

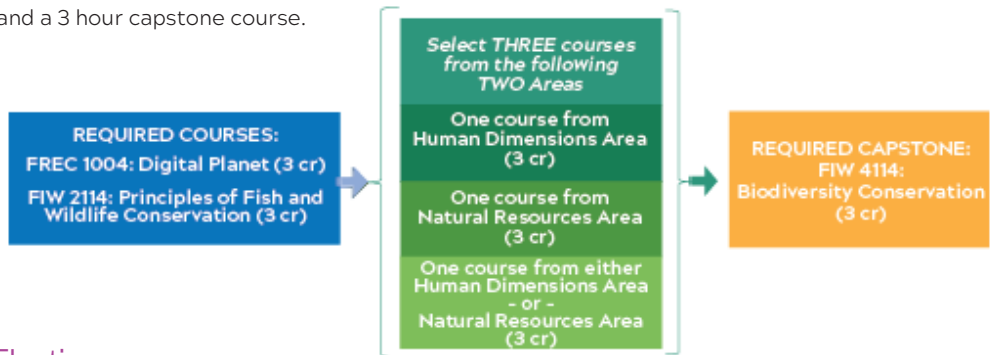
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## Requirements

The 18-credit hour minor in Biodiversity Conservation includes 6 hours of required courses, 9 hours of elective courses from 3 categories, and a 3 hour capstone course.

## Required courses

FREC 1004: Digital Planet  
 FIW 2114: Principles of Fish and Wildlife Conservation  
 FIW 4114: Biodiversity Conservation



## Elective courses

Students select 9 credit hours of elective courses ranging from human dimensions of fish & wildlife, American environmental history, wildlife field biology, fish ecology, and environmental silviculture. For a complete list of elective courses, consult the checksheet at <https://registrar.vt.edu/graduation-multi-brief/index1.html>.

- Develop knowledge of geospatial technologies and landscapes critical to effective management of environmental resources.
- Establish a foundation of critical ecological principles, with options to pursue paths in human dimensions and sociology or in natural resources.
- Focus on solving problems related to environmental issues with managing wild animal populations from a global perspective.
- Apply understanding of the human aspects of these issues to knowledge of the ecological nature of global biodiversity loss.

