

DEFIANCE COLLEGE

Restoration Ecology

Bachelor of Science Degree with a major in Restoration Ecology

Those who possess a passionate curiosity about the natural world and are led by a protective spirit of stewardship live the truth of Thoreau's words: "You must love the crust of the earth on which you dwell more than the sweet crust of any bread or cake."

At Defiance College, these lovers of the earth are restoration ecology students and faculty.

Restoration ecology is the art and science of restoring and repairing damaged or destroyed ecosystems. With the worldwide destruction of rain forests, wetlands, old growth forests, prairies, streams, lakes, rivers and oceans, restoration ecologists make a real difference in the world.

As students work with restoration ecology faculty, their curiosity and stewardship spirit transforms into critical skills, and they graduate with a global perspective on ecological restoration, prepared for work in settings that range from private business and conservation organizations to governmental agencies.

Love the crust of the earth. Learn about it. Protect it.

The feast begins here.

"Restoration Ecology is more than a diploma or degree. The training in real world situations and making connections with other people in related fields make Defiance College's program training for the future." Ambrose Krouse

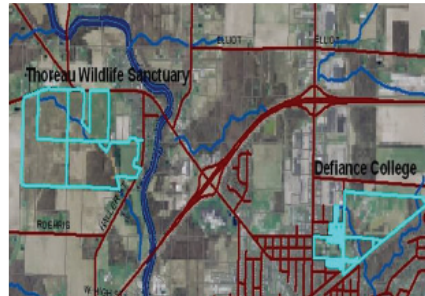
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DC Field Zoology class conducts an animal survey at the Thoreau Wildlife Sanctuary.

"Restoration Ecology at Defiance College is a unique program that offers many opportunities outside of the classroom that will put students above others in the future job field. DC is located close to Lake Erie, which is ideal for aquatic studies. This, along with access to the nearby Thoreau Wildlife Sanctuary, makes the experience both unique and beneficial. My experiences in the program have opened my eyes to many things and helped me realize what I am truly interested in and what I really enjoy."

Phoenix Golnick



After College — What's Next?

Because of major environmental problems faced worldwide, graduates in the environmental fields are in demand. Opportunities exist in private businesses and with governmental agencies. Examples include restoration project managers, nature sanctuary research assistants, environmental organization staff, and restoration consultants with private firms. Students have gone on to work in a variety of public and private sector jobs, such as working for environmental consulting firms and park districts.

Training in Restoration Ecology gives you an opportunity to prove yourself, and in the process, become accustomed to working in a career situation that demands application of special academic skills. Students graduate with a global perspective on ecological restoration, well-prepared for a wide variety of career options in this field.

A Unique Opportunity

Defiance College, in partnership with the Diehl Family Foundation, established the Thoreau Wildlife Sanctuary in 1989. More than 200 acres of farmland were converted to prairie, meadow, deciduous forest, wetland, and white pine forest habitats. Management of these habitats is ongoing and has been integral to the development of the Restoration Ecology major at Defiance College.

The Restoration Ecology program at Defiance College is unique among undergraduate programs in the United States. This program began in the 1990's, and is one of less than 20 Restoration Ecology degree programs offered in the United States and Canada and the only one at a small, liberal arts college.

At Defiance College, students gain critical fieldwork experience at the Thoreau Wildlife Sanctuary where they have planted more than 40,000 trees in addition to herbaceous terrestrial and wetland plants. Students have also conducted research involving prairie burns, the reintroduction of bobwhite quail and ringneck pheasants, and distributions of amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Current projects range from control of invasive terrestrial plants to effects of cropland on water quality.



A salamander found at Thoreau Wildlife Sanctuary by Field Zoology students.

www.defiance.edu/pages/NS_majors_restoration.html

The Faculty

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Additionally, part-time instructors may teach specialized courses.



The Fisheries and Wildlife Management class visit the Ohio Coastal Services to learn more about environmental concerns in our area.

The Courses



Faculty member Dr. Doug Kane and DC student Dalton Gordon conduct Stream Quality Monitoring Studies in the Maumee River for a senior research project.

- BI 120 Principles of Biology I
- BI 129 Principles of Biology II
- BI 250 Field Zoology
- BI 270 Field Botany
- BI 320 Ecology
- BI 350 Fisheries and Wildlife Management
- BI 420 Restoration Ecology I
- BI 421 Restoration Ecology II
- BI 422 Restoration Ecology III
- CH 123 General Chemistry I
- CH 124 General Chemistry II
- CH 233 Organic Chemistry I
- NS 198 Natural Science Seminar
- NS 310 Geographic Information Systems
- NS 394 Cooperative Education/Internship
- NS 499 Senior Capstone
- MA 106 Pre-Calculus Mathematics
- PY 230 Behavioral Statistics

Internships/Co-op Experiences

Students will complete an internship (normally between the junior and senior year) to acquire additional field experience. An undergraduate restoration research project will serve as the senior capstone experience for the restoration ecology major. Undergraduate research may be completed at the 200-acre Thoreau Wildlife Sanctuary located within two miles of campus. Examples of research include establishment of relic prairie plants and wildflowers, study of bird migration, development of wetlands, woodlot development, study of meadow species establishment, and butterfly population restoration, just to name a few. Students have the opportunity to take yearly field trips and recently have been to Yellowstone National Park and the Tetons in Wyoming as well as the rain forests of Belize and Australia.

“Enveloped in the Restoration Ecology program is the unique experience to use the Thoreau Wildlife Sanctuary as a means of merging classroom knowledge with the physical practice of restoration.” Kasey Carlisle



DC Restoration Ecology Class members conduct an invasive species survey at the Thoreau Wildlife Sanctuary.

Student Ecology Club

This organization was established to promote ecological restoration, develop/restore small ecosystems, and increase environmental awareness by connecting with nature through positive learning experiences which will benefit ourselves, our environment, and wildlife in our community. Members are also responsible for road-side pickup. This club is open to any student with an interest in environmental issues and the outdoors.

Come for a Visit!

A campus visit is the best way to find out how Defiance College defies the ordinary college experience. We'll arrange for you to meet with an admissions counselor, professors, coaches, students, and learn about scholarship and financial aid opportunities. You can sit in on a class, tour campus, and stay overnight if you wish. Call our Office of Admissions at 419-783-2359 or 1-800-520-GO DC to set up your appointment.

Defiance College admits students regardless of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, disability, or sexual orientation. 6/11