

## Natural Resources Degree (NRD)

Natural resources covers a range of environmental occupations in horticulture/floriculture, agriculture, forestry, recycling, and materials handling 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 materials management 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   |          |       | ENG100   |
| MAT126                      | Topics in Mathematics                  | 3   |          |       | MAT096 or placement  |
| BIO116                      | Ecology                                | 4   |          |       | ENG100, RDG100, or placement   |
| BIO130                      | Plant Science                          | 4   |          |       | ENG100, RDG100, MAT092 or placement  |
| EAS125                      | Dynamic Earth                          | 4   |          |       | RDG100, ENG100, or placement   |
| ENG102                      | English Composition II                 | 3   |          |       | ENG101   |
| BIO140                      | Introduction to Greenhouse Management  | 4   |          |       | ENG100, RDG100, MAT092, or placement   |
| CIS127                      | Computer Technologies                  | 3   |          |       | ENG100, RDG100, or placement   |
| BIO220                      | Soil Science                           | 4   |          |       | CHE120 or CHE107 (pre or co-requisite);<br>ENG100, RDG100, or placement, BIO130,<br>MAT092           |
| CHE120                      | Environmental Chemistry                | 4   |          |       | MAT096, RDG100, ENG100, or placement   |
| BIO102                      | Introduction to Forestry               | 4   |          |       | ENG100, RDG100, MAT092, or placement   |
| BIO120                      | Horticulture                           | 4   |          |       | ENG100, RDG100, or placement   |
|                             | Humanities Elective                    | 3   |          |       | <b>Note:</b> THE113 recommended  |
| PER126/130                  | Health, Fitness, & Wellness Elective   | 2/3 |          |       | <b>Prerequisite:</b> MAT092, RDG100, or placement<br><b>Note:</b> PER130 is recommended for transfer |
| BIO122                      | Zoology: The Biology of Animals        | 4   |          |       | ENG100, RDG100, or placement   |
|                             | General Elective                       | 3   |          |       | <b>Note:</b> MGT110, BIO104, NRD105, NRD106 is recommended   |
|                             | Social Science Elective                | 3   |          |       | <b>Electives:</b> ANT, DSI, PSY, SOC, GEO, HIS, POL, ECO, SSC  |
| BIO132                      | Global Environmental Issues (CapStone) | 3   |          |       | Required after completing all "major" courses.   |
| NRD220                      | Practicum in Natural Resources         | 3/4 |          |       | Completed in final semester  |
| <b>Total: 65/67 credits</b> |  |     |          |       |  |

See page 137 of the college catalog for program competencies and technical standards.

**Campus/format:** 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 and the University of Phoenix.

Visit MWCC's transfer planning 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, recycling, or materials handling. Graduates can also work for golf courses or landscaping firms.

**Earning potential:** Per year \$32,533 to \$49,225 for an agricultural inspector or a forest aide can receive \$22,326 to \$25,149.