It’s Your Nature to Explore. Come Experience SIU Forestry.
Southern Illinois University - Forestry: An Education for Fulfilling Careers in Sustainability and Conservation of Natural Resources

SIU Forestry

- A Quality Program
- An Excellent Reputation
- Nationally Accredited by the Society of American Foresters
- Nationally Ranked (of 48 accredited programs, most recent 5 years data)
  - 4th in enrollment
  - 2nd in Bachelor of Science degrees in Forestry
SIU Forestry Alumni:
Varied Natural Resource-Related Jobs

Ed, Director, Hartman Reserve Nature Center Cedar Falls, Iowa

Christy, Realty Specialist, USFS, Superior National Forest,

Amanda, Forestry Technician, US Forest Service, Gila National Forest, New Mexico

Jeremy, National Park Service, Winema National Forest, Oregon
SIU Forestry Alumni:
Varied Natural Resource-Related Jobs

Jake, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Specialist, Association of Illinois Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Jacob, Ranger, Forest Preserves of Cook County, Illinois

Jacqueline, Project Forester, South Carolina Forestry Commission
SIU Forestry Alumni:
Varied Natural Resource-Related Jobs

Laura, Integrated Resource Technician, US Forest Service, Land Between the Lakes, National Recreation Area, KY & TN

James, Wildland Firefighter, USFS, Klamath National Forest, California

Matt, US Forest Service

John, Ranger Police Officer, Conservation Law Enforcement, DuPage County Forest Preserve District, Illinois
SIU Forestry Alumni:
Varied Natural Resource-Related Jobs

Kira, Wolf Researcher, Yellowstone National Park

Heidi, Statewide Hunting Education Coordinator, Texas

Wade, District Forester, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Marion County, IL

Jason, Supervisory Forester, USFS, Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area
Lucy and Joseph
Grand Canyon National Park

SIU Forestry Alumni:
Varied Natural Resource-Related Jobs

Christine, Resource Specialist, Soil and Water Conservation District, Indiana

John, Stanislaus National Forest, California

Tom, Hall Woodprocessing Co., Montana
SIU Forestry Alumni: Varied Natural Resource-Related Jobs

Amy, Joshua Tree National Park, California

Kyle and Bill, Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, KY & TN

Lionel, Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Minnesota

Steve, Regional Fuels Planner, San Bernardino National Forest, California
SIU Forestry Alumni: Varied Natural Resource-Related Jobs

Chad, Hydrologist, Southern Research Station
US Forest Service, North Carolina

Kristen, Lincoln Home
National Historic Site, Illinois

Marty, Wildland Firefighter, Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands, Fort Campbell, KY

Jamie, Interpretive Ranger, Glacier National Park, Montana
SIU Forestry Alumni:
Varied Natural Resource-Related Jobs

Lisa, Isle Royale National Park, Michigan

Jennifer, Jamie and Chuck (all alumni), Mammoth Cave National Park, Kentucky

Jeremy, Forest Glen Preserve, Danville, IL
This is not a place for people who just want a piece of paper. SIU fosters student involvement and genuine engagement. I have never had anyone tell me, ‘No, you can’t do that.’ Faculty and staff encourage students to be unique, to follow their passions and to leave SIU with real skills.

EXPERIENCE SIU

CASEY FUSON  Senior

MAJOR: Forestry

INVolVEMENT: SIU Climbing Club; SIU Fire Dawgs and certified as a Wildland Firefighter Type 2 with the US Forest Service; Touch of Nature educator, programmer and counselor, Maple Syrup Festival and trail stewardship program coordinator; forestry department intern working with data collection; Southeastern Recreation Research Conference presenter.

HOMETOWN: Carbondale

HIGH SCHOOL: Carbondale Community High School, Class of 2013

Employed with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department after graduation.
Career Sample of SIU Forestry Alumni

- Wildlife Refuge Deputy Manager
- Hydrologist
- Forest Management Consultant
- Supervisory Wildlife Biologist
- Regional Forester
- Urban Forester
- Assistant (fire) Engine Operator
- Chief of Resource Management Division
- Fire Crew Leader
- Conservation Officer/Game Warden
- Environmental Scientist
- Community College Teacher
- Utility Forester
- University Professor
- Park Ranger
- District Forester
- Silviculturist
- Interpretation Resource Coordinator
- Superintendent of State Parks
- Deputy Director of US Bureau of Land Management
- State Forester US NRCS
- Park Manager
- Research Social Scientist
- Hunter Education Specialist
- Director of Business Administration Development
- Park District Ranger
- Chief of Resource Management and Education
- National Recruiter and Trainer
- G.I.S. Specialist
- Resource Forester
- Ranger Police Officer
- Vegetation/Habitat Manager
- Research Ecologist
- Soil Conservationist
- Director, Nature Center
- Supervisory Forester
Some Employers of Alumni

- US Forest Service and other USDA agencies
- US National Park Service
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- State Conservation Agencies IL, MO, WI, IN, UT, CA, TN, PA, MI, MN, MT, FL, SC, TX, NC, NV, ID, OR, ND, WA, and others
- Conservation Organizations – The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, National Great Rivers Research and Education Center, The Parklands Foundation, National Wild Turkey Federation, Prairie Rivers Network
- US Dept. of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- US Dept. of Defense Military Installation Land Management
- Community Forestry: DuPage County Forest Preserve District, McHenry, Vermillion, and Linn County Conservation Dist. Champaign and Collinsville Park Districts
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Industry and Private - land management, timber, tourist, landscape, restoration companies, consulting forestry, contractors including: Davey Resource Group, Marion Plywood Corp., Quality Forest Mgt, Illinois Forest Products, Iowa Oak, Long Forestry Consultation,
- Land investment/acquisitions and estate law planning firms
- Self-employed as consultants
- Universities, Community Colleges, research agencies
Getting into the field of Forestry and Conservation Science, According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics: August 2018

- Conservation Scientists and Foresters held 34,600 jobs in 2016. It is estimated there will be a 6% increase in employment between 2016-2026.
- Conservation Scientists and Foresters manage the overall land quality of forests, parks, rangelands, and other natural resources. They work for state, local, or federal governments, on privately owned lands, or in social advocacy organizations.
- Typical Entry Level Education – Bachelor’s degree.
- 2017 data has Conservation Scientists and Foresters earning a median pay of $60,970.
- Other related positions in natural resources management and conservation have variable earning potential. Your earning potential increases as you gain experience and knowledge.
SIU Forestry
Degree Programs

• **B.S. Forestry**
  - Enrollment ~180
  - Nationally Accredited by the Society of American Foresters

**Specializations**
• Forest Resource Management
• Forest Hydrology
• Forest Recreation and Park Management
• Urban Forestry
• Wildlife Habitat Management and Conservation

• **M.S. Forestry**
  - Enrollment ~30
  - 10 faculty, 2 staff, 2 research technicians
Forest Resources Management

• Manage forest resources on public and private lands
• Develop strong outdoor/field knowledge and conservation skills
• Habitat and fire management, ecosystem restoration, forestry consulting
Forest Hydrology

Monitoring, planning, restoration, and maintenance of community and regional watersheds

- Courses include:
  - Watershed Management
  - Forest Hydrology
  - Forest Soils
  - Civil Engineering, Geology, Physics, Plant Ecology, & Zoology

- Earn credentials for Federal Hydrologist employment
- National exposure for our students with agency jobs after graduation
Forest Recreation and Park Management

- Outdoor recreation
- Environmental and cultural interpretation of natural resources
- Public communication
- Courses align with National Recreation and Park Association requirements
- Summer experience - public and private park management
- Outstanding employment across the nation!
Urban Forestry

- Sustaining urban forest resources and ecosystems
- Community forest, greenspace, and tree management
- Tree care and maintenance
- Landscape management and design
- Small business management
**Wildlife Habitat Management and Conservation**

- Habitat conservation and restoration for wildlife
- Management of wildlife populations
- Conservation police officer (CPO)
- Summer experiences – wildlife technician working hands-on with wildlife, CPO training
- Many opportunities for future employment in the wildlife conservation field!
14 outdoor lab courses offered including “Summer Camp”

• Learn from professionals on the job
• Experience nature
• Hands-on work
Outdoor Lab Courses: Classrooms with a View
State champion cherrybark oak and baldcypress swamp at Heron Pond State Natural Area, Illinois

Forest Resources Camp, Current River

Shawnee National Forest, Southern Illinois
Summer Field Experiences: Park & Wildlands and Resource Management Camps

Assessing Sustainability

Monitoring Impacts

Experiencing Wildlands

Understanding Management Issues

Evaluating Interpretation
International Experiences

• Study Abroad Courses
  • Ireland
  • Scotland
  • Panama
  • Germany

Bog Ecology in Ireland.

Rainforest conservation studies in Panama
Internships, Undergraduate Research, Training, and Student Work Opportunities

- Seasonal jobs and internships available with state and national parks and forests, natural resource agencies, and private companies
- SIU undergraduate assistantships and research, student work
  - Hands-on research with i2i, REACH and McNair
  - Participation and presentations at professional meetings
- Career training and certifications
  - Wildland Firefighter Type II cert.
  - Project Learning Tree
  - Project Wild
  - Project Wet
Extracurricular Activities - Develop Leadership Skills, Knowledge, and Friendships While Pursuing Your Interests and Having Fun

- Society of American Foresters
- Forestry Club
- Saluki Environmental Educators
- American Water Resources Association
- National Wild Turkey Federation, CFFA, Saluki Bassers, SIU Shooting Team and Many Other Registered Student Organizations
- Xi Sigma Pi, National Honorary Society
- Alpha Gamma Rho, Sigma Alpha
- AgBassadors
- Fire Dawgs
- Wildlife Society
- Resident Assistant
SIU Forestry Club, Champions of the 2017 Midwestern Conclave
Demonstration-Teaching Forests on SIU lands

Student Outreach and Service

• SIU hosts the FFA Illinois State Forestry CDE
• Forestry Students engage in research and national professional meetings
• Dr. Charles Ruffner leads the Fire Dawg’s that work on state, federal, and private lands for prairie and oak woodland restoration
The Forestry Department is located in the Agriculture Building adjacent to Thompson Woods in the heart of campus. It’s very near Steagall and Bowyer Halls, which are “Living Learning Communities” on Campus Lake. These two residence halls reserved for Forestry and other Agricultural Sciences students.
Steagall & Bowyer Halls, student housing, on Campus Lake. Students living in residence halls including our LLCs will have their own private rooms at no additional cost. Please see details on “Living the Suite Life” at https://www.housing.siu.edu/resources/faqs/suite-life
In each of the last 3 years, SIU was in the top 2.5% of the world’s 25,000 institutions of higher learning based on the quality of education, student training, the prestige of faculty and the quality of research (Center for World University Rankings).

Southern Illinois University Carbondale has earned a spot on the “Top 100 Safest Colleges in America 2017” rankings released recently by the National Council for Home Safety and Security.

The university’s strong commitment to serving veterans and active-duty personnel is recognized by U.S. News and World Report, Military Times and Military Advanced Education magazines.

In 2018, SIU continued to be designated as a Tree Campus USA from the Arbor Day Foundation. Also, SIU earned national recognition for our commitment to sustainability and green initiatives three of the last four years as noted in the Princeton Review’s Guide to Green Colleges.
SIU is Ranked among the top 5% of all U.S. higher education institutions for research

• Forestry faculty are successful scientists who research issues and provide solutions relating to forest management, wildlife, ecology, wildfire, recreation, habitat management and restoration, water quality, and natural resource sustainability.

• Undergraduate and graduate students have opportunities to do research, earn assistantships, and learn in indoor and outdoor laboratories.

• Faculty research enhances student learning through discussions and applications of current research results, case studies, and hands-on experiences.
Morris Library at SIU

• Completed a comprehensive renovation and expansion in 2009.
• One of the premier research libraries in the country.
• >2.6 million volumes; 36,000 current periodicals and serials; and >3.6 million microform units
• Member of I-Share (the statewide automated library system)
• Individual and group study rooms, computer stations, vast electronic database resources, special collections
• Helpful and skilled staff
• More information see http://lib.siu.edu/
We’re a Saluki Nation! The out-of-state tuition rate has been eliminated. Domestic undergraduate students pay the same tuition rate as those from Illinois. Please see http://tuition.siuc.edu/overview.html

The Legacy Tuition Rate is for newly entering freshmen or transfer undergraduate students with parent(s) or legal guardian(s) who graduated from SIUC* and pay 80% of the current applicable rate guaranteed for 4 years. Favorable alternate tuition rates may apply. Tuition costs and programs may change. Please consult admissions for current policies and costs. Please see http://siu.edu/legacy/

Types of Scholarships recognize and reward academically talented new incoming freshman, transfer, or current students university-wide, at the college or departmental level. Please see https://scholarships.siu.edu/types/

*Excludes graduate, professional school and the physician assistant studies students.
The natural beauty of southern Illinois surrounds SIU and provides considerable accessible and diverse outdoor educational and recreational opportunities for all.

Campus including Touch of Nature Environmental Center (3,100 acres) adjoins the Shawnee National Forest (280,000 acres) & the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge (44,000 acres).

SIUC is within 10-45 minutes of Giant City (2,430 acres) & Ferne Clyffe (4,000 acres) State Parks, Trail of Tears State Forest, the River to River Trail & the Cache River Wetlands.

Landscapes vary from bottomlands to uplands with rolling hills, bluffs and rugged topography. There is designated wilderness to developed recreation.

Also nearby are a variety of lakes (~17,000 acres including Crab Orchard, Kinkaid, Devils Kitchen, Little Grassy, Lake of Egypt, Mermet, and Cedar), a multitude of ponds, and significant rivers including the Mississippi, Ohio, Cache and others.
Educational and Recreational Environment Surrounding SIU:
example of
The Shawnee National Forest, USDA Forest Service

- At 280,000 acres - the single largest area of public land in Illinois.
- Seven Congressionally-designated Wilderness Areas (about 10% of the Forest)
- Six candidate Wild and Scenic Rivers
- Four National Natural Landmarks
- Four heritage resource sites on the Register of Historic Places
- 80 Natural Areas of which 10 are Research Natural Areas ecological value.
  - 56 ecological areas
  - 14 botanical areas
  - 3 geological areas
  - 7 zoological areas

Garden of the Gods, Camel Rock, featured by the US mint as one of the “America the Beautiful Quarters”
Veteran and Active Duty Friendly

• Victory Media, who publishes G.I. Jobs magazine, named SIUC a “Military Friendly® School” for 2016 for a 7th straight year.

• SIUC ranks nationally in the top 40 of its “Best for Vets: Colleges 2017” for 4-year universities according to Military Times. SIUC was awarded that distinction in each of the six years it has been published.

• Military Advanced Education & Transition magazine designated SIUC as one of the nation’s 2016 top military-friendly colleges and universities.
Dr. Jon Schoonover
Professor of Physical Hydrology

Courses Taught
- Tree identification
- Introduction to water resources
- Watershed management field lab
- Forest soils
- Forest soils field lab
- Freshwater angling and aquatic resources management

Research Interests:
Impacts of land use on water chemistry, hydrology, channel morphometry, and sediment transport.
Utility of giant cane, mitigation of fecal coliform contamination, and riparian zone management in agricultural systems
Dr. John Groninger – Professor of Silviculture

Teaching
• Silviculture - art and science of producing and tending forests
• Regional silviculture - focuses beyond the Midwest
• Agroforestry - forestry in farm settings
• Urban forestry - managing trees in towns and cities
• Forest Resources Management Summer Field Camp

Research Interests
• Forest Restoration and reclamation
• Forest Stand Dynamics
• Intensive management
• Agriculture and Natural Resources Development to promote security
Dr. Eric Holzmueller
Professor of Forest Management & Ecology

Courses taught:
• Forest Resource Management
• Forest Health
• Geographic Information Systems
• Resource Summer Camp

Research interests:
• Management of oak forests
• Ecological restoration
Dr. Charles Ruffner
Professor of Forestry

Courses and Interests:
- Fire in Wildland Management
- Forest Measurements
- Historical Ecology
- Disturbance Ecology
- Fire History
- International development
Dr. Clay Nielsen
Professor of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

Courses and Teaching Interests
• Forest Management for Wildlife
• Natural Resources Inventory
• Wildlife-Habitat Relationships
• Tropical Ecology and Conservation

Jaguar study area in Sonora, Mexico

Climate change in Patagonia

Swamp rabbit in southern IL

Midwest deer research
Dr. Clay Nielsen

Research Interests:

- Wildlife habitat and population management
- Wildlife-habitat relationships
- International wildlife conservation
- Human dimensions of wildlife

Gray fox in Illinois

Cougar habitat in the Midwest

Maned wolves in Paraguay

Jaguars in Mexico and Panamà

Searching for bird nests in CRP fields

Human-tiger conflict in India
Dr. Kofi Akamani
Assistant Professor in Forest Recreation & Conservation Social Science

Research Interests
• Human dimensions of resource management
• Parks and recreation planning
• Community resilience
• Adaptive governance
• Ecosystem management
• Mixed methods research

Courses Taught
• Forest Policy
• Social Influences in Forestry
• Recreation Landuse Planning
• Sustainable Tourism
Dr. Logan Park
Associate Professor of Forest Recreation and Park Management
Dr. Logan Park

Research and Teaching Interests

• Protected area soundscape ecology
• Trail and campsite assessment, development, and environmental impact
• Computer simulation modeling
• Computer simulation in social research methods
Dr. Karl W.J. Williard
Professor of Forest Hydrology and Watershed Management

- Courses Taught:
  - FOR 430: Watershed Management
  - FOR 429: Watershed Management Field Lab
  - FOR 402: Forest Hydrology
- Research Interests: Nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment attenuation in riparian buffer zones; impacts of forest road construction and harvesting on erosion and sedimentation; water quality impacts of invasive exotic plants.
- Director, University Council on Water Resources
UCOWR
Universities Council on Water Resources

UCOWR objectives:

• Facilitate water-related education at all levels
• Promote research and technology transfer on relevant water resource issues
• Compile and disseminate information on water problems and solutions
• Foster informed water decisions at all levels of society

UCOWR is a national professional water organization governed by a Board of Directors, with daily operations based in the Department of Forestry at SIU Carbondale, Dr. Karl Williard, Executive Director.
Office Staff

- Sarah (left) – Forestry student and office staff
- Patti (center) - Office manager and student services coordinator
- Makenna (right) - Forestry student and office staff
- Katelyn (above) – Forestry student and office staff
Dr. Jim Zaczek
Professor of Forest Ecology & Department Chair

Courses Taught:
• Ecology of North American Forests
• Forest Ecosystems
• Tree Physiology

Research Interests:
• Habitat restoration and rehabilitation
• Ecology of forests and giant cane (native US bamboo)
• Woody plant propagation
The mission of the Department of Forestry at SIU is to foster responsible stewardship of forest resources in Illinois, the Midwest, the Nation, and the world. In pursuit of this mission, the departmental faculty engage in a coordinated program of teaching, research, and service that is dedicated to developing and disseminating appropriate technology, practices, and information.
Forestry at SIU offers extensive course and research opportunities for undergraduate and graduate study. The diverse backgrounds of the forestry faculty, together with our comprehensive curriculum, individual attention to students, excellent research facilities, and location, combine to make the forestry program one of the most fulfilling and exciting in the US.
It’s Your Nature to Explore: SIU Forestry

On Track to Careers in Nature
Interested? For more information --

Contact: Jim Zaczek
or Patti Cludray
Phone: (618) 453-3341
Email: forestry@siu.edu

Or visit in person:
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Room 184, Agriculture Bldg
Carbondale, Il 62901

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