



## Letter from the Dean

Dear future Griz,

Do you want to make a difference in the world? Do you want to help create a sustainable future for people and the planet?

The Franke College of Forestry and Conservation (FCFC) has been an educational leader in sustainable natural resource management and environmental science for more than a century. As an FCFC student, you will receive individual attention and hands-on, field-based learning opportunities as you learn about fish and wildlife conservation, forests, wildland fire, restoration, water resources, climate change, wilderness, outdoor recreation and tourism, geospatial planning and more from our internationally renowned faculty. Join our college and you will help develop solutions to natural resource and sustainability challenges as you help conduct field-based research locally, regionally and internationally. Our students work closely with one another and our faculty, and they find success in a wide range of fields after graduation.

Here are just a few examples of the opportunities that await you at UM:

- Conduct a prescribed fire during the Prescribed Fire Practicum as you learn about fire management.
- Help biologists count mountain goats or band bald eagles with the Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society or put your cross-cut skills to the test as a member of the Woodsman Team. These are but two examples of how you can meet new friends and learn new skills by joining one of the college's 12 student clubs.
- Explore the world through one of our faculty-led study abroad trips to Africa, Asia or South America or by pursuing a prestigious Franke Sustainability Fellowship, which supports study abroad experiences.
- Backpack the Bob Marshall Wilderness and earn a minor. Students in the Wilderness and Civilization program spend a semester learning about environmental sustainability and wildlands conservation through multiple field trips, including a 10-day backpacking trip in "The Bob" and a float trip down the Blackfoot River.
- Conduct your own research by designing a project under the guidance of your faculty mentor. Funding is available through the Irene Evers Scholarship, the Franke Freshwater Initiative or one of several other scholarships and grants.
- Gain work experience through summer jobs and internships related to your chosen major and career interests. Take advantage of our professional connections and job search resources to find the perfect fit.
- Highly relevant, experiential classes. We believe in learning by doing, and many student projects have real-world outcomes. Recent students have mapped tiger habitat in Malaysia to help combat poaching, monitored efforts to restore aquatic systems at the Milltown Dam removal site, and created forest management plans for Montana landowners.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if we can answer any questions, or if you're in Missoula, please stop by. We're excited to be a part of your journey. See you soon!

Sincerely,

Alan Townsend  
Dean and Professor



## Environment. Conservation. Sustainability. You.

If you're interested in the environment, nature and a career devoted to managing, sustaining or restoring the living landscape, the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation is the place for you! We offer undergraduate and graduate degree programs for students with interests in the environment, forests, climate change, wildlife conservation, sustainability and resiliency, water resources, restoration, recreation and tourism management, wilderness, community and environmental planning, geospatial technologies, wildland fire and more. Established in 1913, FCFC educates some of the nation's top leaders in sustainable natural resource management and environmental science. Home to 730 undergraduates, 135 graduate students and more than 45 faculty members, the college has a direct impact on the land and people of the region. FCFC students develop solutions to natural resource and sustainability challenges and conduct field-based research locally and internationally. We offer five undergraduate majors, six minors, five certificates and nine graduate degrees spread across four departments.

As a student in the college, you'll study ecology, environmental science and natural resource management in the best classroom in the world: the heart of the Rocky Mountains in Montana. Hands-on experiences complement classroom learning and lab work. Students have ready access to the college's 28,000-acre Lubrecht Experimental Forest and 3,500-acre Bandy Ranch at the south end of the Bob Marshall Wilderness complex. Classes also make use of the extensive 20 million acres of national forests, 3.5 million acres of designated wilderness and 1.2 million acres of national park land across Montana. You'll learn the practice of sustainability and natural resource management by applying science to real world problems through outdoor labs, internships and field courses in beautiful, wild places just minutes from campus.

### Did you know?

UM is home to the second oldest wildlife biology program in the country. Our program was founded in 1936.



## Grizzlies up close – meet Jonathan!

Jonathan Karlen is a senior in the Wildlife Biology Program and a student in the Davidson Honors College. Originally from New York City, Karlen came to Montana after high school to study at UM and explore the state's public lands. Since starting at UM, he's interned for the Arizona Game and Fish Department; Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks; and the Legislative Affairs Office of the U.S. Forest Service in Washington, D.C. In 2020, he was named a Udall Scholar, considered one of the most prestigious recognitions awarded to students studying in fields related to the environment and issues related to Native American nations. He is one of just 50 students nationally to win this scholarship for 2020. He was also a recipient of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's Wildlife Leadership Award in 2020.

With support from the Udall scholarship and the Wildlife Leadership Award, Karlen will join the inaugural cohort of a new joint wildlife biology and public administration degree program at UM. Launched in January 2020, this 4+1 program allows UM students to earn both a four-year Bachelor of Science degree in wildlife biology and a two-year master's degree in public administration at an accelerated pace of five years.

When Karlen isn't in class, you can find him participating in activities with the UM Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society, of which he is a former president, or serving on UM's student government.



"My experience at UM, specifically with the faculty and administrators, has been instrumental in shaping my career goals and connecting me with extraordinary opportunities." – Jonathan Karlen





# Programs of study

## UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS

### ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Environmental Science and Sustainability bridges science and practice, so you graduate with the knowledge and skills to solve complex environmental problems and advance sustainability. This interdisciplinary program brings together courses from all four of the college's departments and emphasizes scientific curiosity, critical thinking and hands-on learning.

### GEOGRAPHY

If you want to help the world, you have to know it better. Study landscapes, people and the dynamic relationships between them. Our program specializes in mountain landscapes, community and environmental planning, and geospatial science and technologies.

### FORESTRY

Learn how to promote, sustain and conserve forest resources, from water and wildlife to wood products. Here you'll build expertise in the biological, physical, social and management sciences vital to the stewardship of forested landscapes.

### PARKS, TOURISM AND RECREATION MANAGEMENT

Learn to sustain wild places through outdoor recreation and tourism management. In Parks, Tourism and Recreation Management you develop skills and gain knowledge to help manage park visitation, provide environmental interpretation and integrate conservation sciences into recreation and tourism planning.

### WILDLIFE BIOLOGY

Study wild animals and their habitats and pursue a career in wildlife conservation. As a wildlife biology student, you'll learn about fish, birds, mammals and more. But you'll also focus on ecology, population biology, conservation genetics and learn critical thinking and quantitative skills so you can become a leader in bringing science to the dynamic management of fish and wildlife.

## UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATES

### GIS SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGIES

Geographic information systems technology and analysis is used in almost every discipline and industry, from wilderness studies to urban planning. Learn what it is and how to use it.

### NORTHERN ROCKIES OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP

Gain leadership skills through experiential learning in Montana's outdoor and wilderness settings in this transdisciplinary program.

### WATER SCIENCE AND SOCIETY CERTIFICATE

Learn about water science and management through courses in the biological, physical, social and policy sciences. Apply your knowledge through an internship and/or hands-on capstone project.

## UNDERGRADUATE MINORS

### ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

Ecological restoration is the practice of restoring damaged ecosystems. Learn basic principles in ecology and ecosystem science; then dive deeper into restoration ecology and the human dimensions of natural resource management.

### FIRE SCIENCES AND MANAGEMENT

Montana's only academic program in wildland fire, Fire Sciences and Management combines academics and practical skills to prepare you for careers in fire-related natural resource management or graduate school in fire sciences.

### GEOGRAPHY

Montana's diverse human and natural landscapes provide unique opportunities to study growing mountain communities and the challenges they both pose and face. Learn about landscapes, people and the dynamic relationships between them with a minor in geography.



## UNDERGRADUATE MINORS (continued)

### MOUNTAIN STUDIES

Mountain Studies is an interdisciplinary field focusing on the physical and human dimensions of mountain environments. Coursework emphasizes bio-physical ecology and mountain-society interactions.

### WILDERNESS STUDIES

Spend a semester learning about environmental sustainability and wildlands conservation. Explore Montana's wild landscapes through multiple field trips, including a 10-day backpacking trip in the world-renowned Bob Marshall Wilderness.

### WILDLIFE BIOLOGY

Strengthen your credentials with a minor in Wildlife Biology! The minor provides you with a foundation in biological sciences and a basic understanding of wildlife conservation and management.

## GRADUATE PROGRAMS

### M.S. FORESTRY

### M.S. GEOGRAPHY

### M.S. PARKS, TOURISM AND RECREATION MANAGEMENT

### M.S. RESOURCE CONSERVATION

### M.S. WILDLIFE BIOLOGY

### M.S. AND Ph.D. SYSTEMS ECOLOGY

### Ph.D. FOREST AND CONSERVATION SCIENCES

### Ph.D. FISH AND WILDLIFE BIOLOGY

## GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

### PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT DISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM

### WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT



**THREE HOURS FROM**  
Glacier National Park  
and four hours from  
Yellowstone National Park.

## The numbers don't lie ...



**30,000 ACRES OF LAND**  
managed for faculty and student  
research and learning including  
Lubrecht Experimental Forest  
and Bandy Ranch.



**NO. 1 WILDLIFE  
BIOLOGY PROGRAM**  
in North America based  
on research productivity  
(Academic Analytics,  
2016).



**97% OF FCFC GRADUATES**  
are employed or in  
graduate school.



**ESTABLISHED IN 1913,**  
FCFC has been committed  
to sustainability for more  
than 100 years.



**THREE OF OUR GRADUATES**  
have won the Society of  
American Foresters' Young  
Forester Leadership Award  
in the past five years.



**FIVE MOUNTAIN RANGES**  
converge around the  
Missoula Valley.



**UM IS A TOP PRODUCER  
OF UDALL SCHOLARS,**  
with 43 students earning  
the honor since 1992.



**LOCAL SKI HILL**  
just 25 minutes  
from campus.



**3.5 MILLION ACRES**  
of federally designated  
wilderness in Montana.



**A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT:**  
The Clark Fork River borders  
campus and flows through  
the middle of Missoula.



## Hear more from us!

Come visit the W.A. Franke College of Forestry and Conservation. Spend a day with us. Sit in on one of our classes. Meet our faculty and our students. See what a tomorrow-proof education is all about at the University of Montana.

Sign up for a tour today at: [admissions.umt.edu/visit](https://admissions.umt.edu/visit)

STAY CONNECTED WITH US. [f](#) [t](#) [i](#) [y](#) [p](#)  
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**W.A. Franke  
College of Forestry  
and Conservation**  
at the University of Montana