

Earth and Environmental Sciences

▶ The University of Rochester's Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences (EES) is focused on understanding solid Earth processes and exploring global environmental issues to achieve a more sustainable existence on Earth. With undergraduate and graduate degree programs available in geosciences and environmental science, students are focused on gaining a better understanding of the Earth, its resources, and possible solutions to the problems our planet faces.

The department's multidisciplinary, systems-based approach integrates chemistry, biology, and physics and applies those disciplines to the study of the Earth and planetary systems. Students explore how plate tectonics, natural climate variability, water, earthquakes, and human activities affect the Earth on multiple time scales. Small class sizes allow for close interaction between faculty and students.

EES educates and graduates problem solvers who can conduct scientific studies, collect and analyze samples Rochester's EES department is highly ranked and respected. According to Thomson Scientific's Essential Science Indicators, it is in the top 1 percent of its rankings. The department also has a high citation record: nearly 150 papers have been cited 2,500 times in a recent 10-year period.

and data, solve environmental problems, and communicate clearly. A bachelor's or advanced degree from Rochester is excellent preparation for a wide variety of careers in consulting, education, environmental planning, industry, and government. Since geologic and environmental issues impact most sectors of the job market, employment opportunities in the geosciences are numerous.

Points of Pride Rankings

Rochester's EES department is highly ranked and respected. According to Thomson Scientific's Essential Science Indicators, it is in the top 1 percent of its rankings. The department also has a high citation record; nearly 150 papers have been cited 2,500 times in a recent 10-year period.

In-Depth Study

More than half of the graduating seniors complete a rigorous senior honors thesis. Topics have included fluid flow in fractures, understanding basin linkages from strontium isotope signatures in Tibet, studying the paleoclimate of the Canadian Artic, understanding mountain belt growth in the Andes and Himalaya, and analyzing patterns of seismicity in the southern Red Sea Rift in Ethiopia.

Research

Undergraduate research includes many opportunities for fieldwork. Recent expeditions include the Canadian Arctic, East Africa, the Galapagos Islands, Greenland, New Zealand, the Peruvian Altiplano, the Tibetan Plateau, as well as New Mexico and Wyoming.



"The opportunities for undergraduate research are outstanding here. I've been to California, Bolivia, and Peru, working alongside my professors and immersing myself in fieldwork."

Sarah Smith '13 Earth and environmental sciences major



Distinguished Faculty

The department's distinguished faculty is now joined by its first-ever climate and ocean scientists, Vasilii Petrenko and John Kessler. Both are looking at modern ocean and atmospheric processes to better understand the role of greenhouse gases in warming of the planet today and in the geologic record.

How You Can Help

Your support can create academic and research opportunities for students and faculty that have a profound effect on our understanding of the Earth system. Consider any of the following giving opportunities:

Scholarships and Fellowships

Supporting students is one of the highest priorities at Rochester. Elevate the undergraduate experience by funding scholarships or summer research programs. At the graduate level, provide support for fellowships, stipends, and research grants. Or fund postdoctoral positions, which bring outstanding visiting scientists to Rochester.

Professorships

Endowed professorships help to attract and retain faculty of exceptional talent, support new programs and research, and are visible honors recognized across the University and by other top educational institutions. Help bring the department's data analysis to the next level by endowing a computational science–focused professorship.

Lab Support

To maintain state-of-the-art labs, funds are needed to support skilled technical staff to maintain the efficiency of the labs, address problems as they arise, tend to equipment needs, and support student research.

Building Endowment

Support targeted EES research and community outreach programs by providing a naming gift for a new science and engineering building on the River Campus. Help put Rochester on the forefront of environmental engagement and discovery.











Learn, Discover, Heal, Create—And Make the World Ever Better www.ees.rochester.edu



For more information on giving opportunities, please contact Lisa Ann Seischab Executive Director of Advancement (585) 276-3352, lisa.seischab@rochester.edu