Program of Study
Environmental Studies (ES) students matriculating under WIU’s fall 2009 academic catalog will choose a program of study built around one of three foundation areas: (1) Environmental and Earth Sciences, (2) Human Dimensions and Environmental Interactions, and (3) Environmental Management and Decision-making. Typically, ES minors take Envr 201 (Introduction to Environmental Studies) within their first four regular semesters of enrollment. Students then focus on foundation area requirements and complete the ES minor by successfully completing the capstone course, Envr 401.

Faculty
As an interdisciplinary minor, courses are taught by faculty from academic disciplines representing the College of Arts & Sciences’ three core areas of concentration: physical and natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities. This framework provides students with a unique, integrated, and holistic approach to understanding environmental challenges.

Special Opportunities
Students have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities, including WIU’s Environmental Summit, service learning projects conducted in close coordination with the local community, sustainability groups, and other environmentally relevant activities sponsored by individual departments. Through the Institute for Environmental Studies, WIU has formal agreements with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which provides opportunities for students to assist with real-world research being conducted on the Mississippi River and its tributaries.

After College
The ES minor supports a diverse array of options for future careers as well as additional graduate-level study. Depending on an individual’s major and ES minor foundation area, students can prepare for a wide range of environmentally related careers. Representative examples include natural resource management (wildlife biologist), environmental policy (policy analyst), environmental advocacy (professional lobbyist), and environmental journalism or technical writing.

Employers in government, commercial, and nonprofit sectors understand the importance of fostering environmental stewardship in their organizations and policies. These groups regularly cite the need for employees who understand the complexity of environmental problems and are grounded in environmental planning, policy, regulations, and science. Regardless of an individual student’s major and ES foundation area, all ES students gain essential skills that are highly sought by employers and graduate programs alike; these include graduates with diverse and multiple perspectives who are strong communicators, who understand the various dimensions of problems, and who can apply a variety of critical thinking and problem solving skills aimed at the solution of real-world problems.

For More Information
For more information, please see the IES website at wiu.edu/ies or contact our office at (309) 298-1632 or IES@wiu.edu.
University Libraries
University Libraries consists of the Leslie F. Malpass Library, which is the main branch, and four other branches: the Physical Sciences Library, the Music Library, the Curriculum Library, and the Quad Cities Library. We offer students access to a variety of resources in print and online. Research assistance is available in person at the Reference Desk and via instant messaging. Check out our website for hours, events, and services available: wiu.edu/libraries.

Higher Values in Higher Education
Located in Macomb (population 20,000), with a campus in the Quad Cities (Moline, IL), Western offers a caring and supportive learning environment in west-central Illinois. Western students have all the advantages of a large public university—strong faculty, state-of-the-art technology and facilities, and a wide range of academic and extracurricular opportunities—in an atmosphere free from distractions. Western offers a broad-based athletics program, sponsoring 19 NCAA Division I intercollegiate varsity sports. Football competes in the NCAA Division I Football Championship Subdivision through the Missouri Valley Football Conference; all other varsity sports compete at the Division I level through The Summit League. Western's presence in the Quad Cities spans more than 40 years, and that campus offers undergraduate and graduate programs to more than 1,400 students. The core values that are at the heart of the University are academic excellence, educational opportunity, personal growth and social responsibility.

Western's GradTrac and Cost Guarantee programs ensure that students can achieve their degrees within four years while paying a fixed rate for tuition, fees and room and board.

Western Illinois University is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity employer with a strong commitment to diversity. In that spirit, we are particularly interested in receiving applications from a broad spectrum of people, including, but not limited to, minorities, women and individuals with disabilities. WIU has a non-discrimination policy that includes discrimination based on an individual's membership in the following classes: sex, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, genetic information, veteran status, and any other classes protected by state or federal law.

Campus Visits
The Admissions Reception Center (Sherman Hall 115) is open most weekdays from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. when the University is in session. Group information sessions are available on Mondays and Fridays at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., and individual appointments can be made on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Campus tours are conducted at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. Appointments with advisors, faculty or a financial aid advisor may be arranged separately during the week. The Admissions Reception Center is open from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. most Saturdays when the University is in session. A group information session is available at 10 a.m., and a campus tour is conducted at 11 a.m. Students may schedule a visit or tour online at wiu.edu/admissions by selecting “Visit Campus.” Students may also schedule a visit, tour or individual appointment by calling toll free (877) PICKWIU (742-5948) or (309) 298-3157, or by emailing admissions@wiu.edu.