University of Wisconsin Stevens Point

Sample Graduation Plan
Soil and Waste Resources (BS)
Waste Management and Environmental Protection Option

This graduation plan illustrates the type of curriculum a new student would take to complete a degree in four years. **It is not meant to serve as an official document and your individual plan may be slightly different from this**. Students should contact their academic adviser or the CNR Student Success Center if they need assistance developing a personalized plan of study. Refer to the University Catalog for a complete list of requirements: https://catalog.uwsp.edu/.

Semester 1	Credits	Semester 2	Credits
NRES 251: Intro to Soil and Water Resources	4	NRES 151: Ecological Basis for Natural Resources Mgt (CL-CT)	3
CHEM 101: Basic Chemistry (NSWL) or CHEM 105: Fundamental Chemistry (NSWL)	5	NRES 250: Intro to Fisheries, Forestry and Wildlife Resources	4
		BIOL 130: Intro to Plant Biology (NSWL)	5
ENGL 101: Academic Reading and Writing (CL-WC)	3	Historical Perspectives CGER (SBS-HP)	3
Arts CGER (HA-A)	3		
NRES 101: Natural Resources First Year Seminar (Fa)	1		
Total credits	**16**	***Total credits***	**15**

Summer Term – NRES 385: Field Techniques in Forestry, Soils, Water, and Wildlife (2cr) (Su)

Semester 3	Credits	+Semester 4	Credits
NRES 150: People, Resources and the Biosphere (CP)	3	ENGL 202: Academic Writing and Research (CL-WC)	3
MATH 255: Elementary Statistical Methods (MQR) or FOR 321: Natural Resources Data Analysis (MQR)	4	PHYS 101: General Physics (NSWL) or PHYS 201: Applied Principles of Physics I	4-5
WATR 391: GIS Applications in Natural Resources or GEOG 341: Geographic Information Systems I	3	MATH 111: Applied Calculus (MQR) or MATH 225: Calculus 1 (MQR)	4-5
GEOL: Physical Geology (NSWL) (Fa)	4	Civics & Perspectives CGER (CP)	3
Total credits	**14**	***Total credits***	**14-16**

+Formal admittance to CNR after completion of approximately 45 credits and a 2.00 GPA in major.

Semester 5	Credits	Semester 6	Credits
*WSTE 380: Solid Waste Management (Fa)	3	*WSTE 485: Solid Waste Management II (Sp)	2
Upper-Level Soil Courses (SOIL 365 Recommended)	3	WSTE/WATR 382: Water and Wastewater Treatment	3
NRES 320: Natural Resources Communication and Public Relations or COMM 130: Intro to Public Relations (CL-CT)	3	WSTE/SOIL 482: Nutrient Management: Land Application and Planning (Sp)	3
WATR 390: Water Chemistry and Analysis	4	WSTE 476: Hazardous Waste Management (Sp)	3
WSTE/SOIL 486: Composting (Fa)	1	^Career Skills Elective (See Catalog) Social Science CGER (SBS-S)	3
Total credits	**14**	***Total credits***	**14**

Summer Term – Internship in WSTE 381 (3cr. Required)

2.25 GPA in major required for graduation (and a 2.0 cumulative).

Apply for graduation one semester before you plan to graduate.

Semester 7	Credits	Semester 8	Credits
*WSTE/SOIL 484: Environmental Microbiology (Fa)	4	SOIL/WSTE 479: Environ. Fate of Organic Chemicals (Sp) or CHEM 220: Survey of Organic Chem (Fa)	3-4
WSTE 481: Wastewater Treatment II (Fa)	2		
WSTE/SOIL 387: On-site Wastewater Treatment (Fa)	1	Technical Elective: Any SOIL, WSTE, WATR, or NRES 300+	3
^Career Skills (PHIL 380 Humanities CGER (HA-H) highly recommended)	3	Upper-Level Soil Courses (See Course Catalog)	3
		**Elective/Minor Course	3
**Elective/Minor Course	3	**Elective/Minor Course	3
Total credits	**13**	***Total credits***	**15-16**

(Fa) = offered Fall semesters (Sp) = offered Spring semesters (Su) = offered only in Summer (Wi) = offered only in Winterim

Core General Education Requirements (CGER): Mathematics & Quantitative Reasoning (MQR); Communication & Literacy (CL) Written Communication (CL-WC), Critical Thinking (CL-CT); **Social & Behavioral Science (SBS)** Social Science (SBS-S), Historical Perspectives (SBS-HP); **Humanities & Arts (HA)** Humanities (HA-H), Arts (HA-A); **Natural Science & Wellness (NSWL & NSW)** Natural Science with a lab (NSWL-NS), Wellness (NSW-W); **Civics & Perspectives (CP).**

*It is highly recommended that the Waste Management courses are taken in the sequence suggested above.

**A minimum of 120 college level credits is required to graduate with a bachelors degree at UWSP along with specific university, general education, and major requirements. This major alone does not complete 120 credits, so students must either take elective courses to reach 120 credits or choose a minor to fulfill this requirement.

^Some classes can count for both CGER and major requirements. If CGER courses are not taken within the major required classes, then students will have to take those requirements as additional courses.

Graduation timelines are also affected by placement scores (ex. Math, English, etc.) and additional time may be needed then what is listed above.

Catalog Fall 2026
Updated March 2026