



## Facilities & Equipment

Housed in Crouse Hall, the Department of Geology and Environmental Science has excellent field and laboratory equipment. The department has sedimentology, paleontology, core, environmental magnetics, geo visual and wet chemistry laboratories.



*Pete Mazzeo (right) gathering data from Lake Erie for his Senior Honors thesis.*



*Rebecca Bixby studying sediments underground in Organ Cave, West Virginia.*



## Department of Geology and Environmental Science

A wide range of traditional and cutting-edge research interests - from environmental and engineering geology to structural geology, economic geology, geophysics, petrology, stratigraphy and paleontology - are pursued by the faculty of The University of Akron Department of Geology and Environmental Science. Eight faculty members direct approximately 20 graduate students and instruct 50 undergraduates.

A particular strength of the department is Terrestrial Records of Environmental Change (TREC). TREC research covers such diverse but related topics as hydrogeology, paleoclimate reconstruction, climate change, glacial geology, modern siliciclastic and carbonate sedimentology, geomorphology and aqueous geochemistry

Your geology education extends beyond the classroom to locations across the country. Faculty members and students regularly travel throughout the United States in their scientific investigations. Summer Field Camp is conducted in South Dakota, Wyoming and Colorado each year and field trips are also taken during the school year to such places as Canada, the Bahamas, Kentucky, Colorado, Virginia and Missouri.

**For more information call:  
(330) 972-7630  
or visit [www.uakron.edu/geology/](http://www.uakron.edu/geology/)**

For admissions information, contact:

Office of Admissions  
The University of Akron  
Akron, OH 44325-2001  
330-972-7100, 1-800-655-4884;  
or visit [www.uakron.edu/admissions/](http://www.uakron.edu/admissions/)

## What Do **GEOSCIENTISTS** Do?

Geoscientists gather and interpret data about the Earth and other planets. They use their knowledge to increase our understanding of Earth processes and to improve the quality of human life. The National Science Foundation considers geology, geophysics, hydrology, oceanography, marine science, atmospheric science, planetary science, meteorology, environmental science, and soil science as the major geoscience disciplines.

## Where Do **GEOSCIENTISTS** Work?

Geoscientists may be found sampling the deep ocean floor or examining rock specimens from the Moon or Mars. But the work of most geoscientists is more "down to Earth." They work as explorers for new mineral and hydrocarbon resources, consultants on engineering and environmental problems, researchers, teachers, writers, editors, and museum curators as well as in many other challenging positions. They often divide their time among work in the field, the laboratory, and the office.

Field work usually consists of making observations, exploring the subsurface by drilling or using geophysical tools, collecting samples, and making measurements that will be analyzed in the laboratory. For example, rock samples may be X-rayed, studied under an electron microscope, and analyzed to determine physical and chemical properties. Geoscientists may also conduct experiments or design computer models to test theories about geologic phenomena and processes.

In the office, they integrate field and laboratory data and prepare reports and presentations that include maps and diagrams that illustrate the results of their studies. Such maps may pinpoint the possible occurrence of ores, coal, oil, natural gas, water resources, or indicate subsurface conditions or hazards that might affect construction sites or land use.

## Job and Salary **OUTLOOK**

The employment outlook in the geosciences -- as in any profession -- varies with the economic climate of the country. The long-range outlook is good at this time. Dwindling energy, mineral, and water resources along with increasing concerns about the environment and natural hazards present new challenges to geoscientists.

According to the National Science Foundation, about 125,000 geoscientists work in the United States. Most geoscientists are employed by industries related to oil and gas, mining and minerals and water resources.

Salary scales vary from employer to employer depending on the career path, location, qualifications of the geoscientist, and, of course, the economy.

Many geoscientists are self-employed as geological consultants or work with consulting firms. Most consulting geologists have had extensive professional experience in industry, teaching, or research.

Also, many geoscientists work for the federal government or a state government agency. The U.S. Geological Survey (Department of the Interior), Department of Energy, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, state geological surveys, and state departments of environment and resources all employ geoscientists.



*Andrea Mullen working on a DOES funded study of the Cuyahoga River (left).*

## Why Geology and Environmental Science?

The Department of Geology and Environmental Science provides undergraduate students with unique opportunities to become involved in individual and collaborative research projects that enhance their scientific training, and prepares them for the job market or graduate school.

### Independent Research Studies

...provide the *Akron Advantage* to our undergraduates through unique research experiences and close interaction with faculty.

### Paid Undergraduate Researchers

...are gaining important job skills. Owing to the externally funded, graduate research program in the Department, opportunities exist for paid undergraduate research positions.

## Degree Programs

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Geology  
Geophysics  
Engineering Geology

### BACHELOR OF ARTS

Geology  
Environmental Science Track

