

Department of Geology

The Responsible Mining Initiative

Internships/Scholarships

In November 2013, the UW-Eau Claire Geology Department was awarded a \$451,000 grant to create a Responsible Mining program, expand environmental course offerings, and support more student opportunities.

Industry response has been very positive. In summer 2015, ten UWEC Geology students worked in paid internships as they gained valuable work experience. Several companies give UWEC Geology students preference over students from other institutions.



For more information, please contact

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[Http://www.uwec.edu/geology/index.htm](http://www.uwec.edu/geology/index.htm)

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Industry donors also have expanded scholarship opportunities for Geology students. Scholarships are available for incoming freshman, sophomore, junior, and field camp students. In 2015, \$41,000 in scholarships and grants were awarded to Blugold Geology majors (some happy Unimin Corp. recipients below).



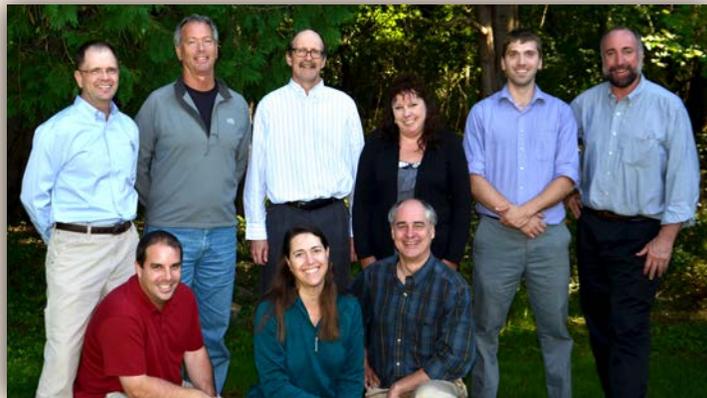
Adventure begins here!

“UW-Eau Claire has an extraordinary undergraduate geology department. The faculty investment in field-based learning and student immersion experiences at both the lower-division general education level and the upper-division level for majors is greater than in any geology program I know. That this happens at a State University is amazing.”
— Dr. Paul K. Link, Idaho State University, external reviewer final report

Background

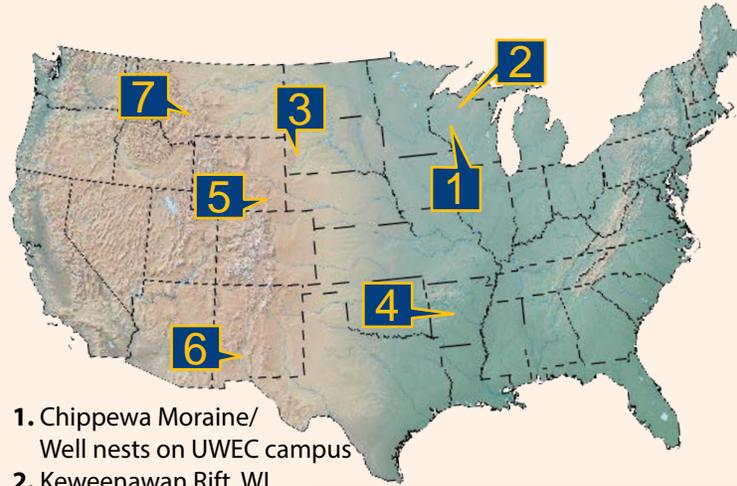


Located along the beautiful Chippewa River in western Wisconsin, the UW-Eau Claire Dept. of Geology is recognized nationally for the quality of its students, faculty, and its rigorous, field-based geology program. High-impact practices such as hands-on learning, faculty-student collaborative research, extensive use of advanced instrumentation, and paid internships prepare students for jobs in the environmental consulting industry, the mining industry, and regulatory agencies such as the DNR, as well as attending top-tier graduate schools.



Geology faculty members are experts in their fields and committed to undergraduate education. Our faculty have diverse research specialties which provide students with an excellent breadth of learning. Research specialties include economic geology/structural geology, geochemistry, geocognition, glacial geology, hydrogeology, mineralogy, petrology, and sedimentation and tectonics.

Field-Based Curriculum



1. Chippewa Moraine/
Well nests on UWEC campus
2. Keweenaw Rift, WI
3. Black Hills, SD
4. Ouachita Mountains, AR
5. Laramie Foothills, WY
6. Field Camp I, NM
7. Field Camp II, MT



Field work begins in the first introductory geology course and continues throughout the program.

Upper-division classes take field trips to classic field areas across the country (see map). These experiences culminate in Field Geology I (New Mexico, January) and Field Geology II (Montana, May/June). Other classes teach communication, computer, and instrumentation skills. Our students are prepared to take jobs as problem solvers and graduate with one of the following comprehensive majors:

- General Geology
- Hydrogeology and Water Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Dual Degree Geological Engineering (with the University of Minnesota)
- Earth and Space Science Education



Engaged Students

UW-Eau Claire Geology majors are engaged in ways extending beyond the classroom and course-related field work. Many students gain valuable experience through faculty-student collaborative **research** and **internships**.

Research

Approximately half of the students complete student/faculty collaborative research projects in the field and/or using advanced lab instrumentation. Projects range from microscopy to studying geochemistry, hydrogeological studies, analyses of Wisconsin Paleozoic sandstone units, field analyses of Argentinian sedimentary basins, and geochemical studies in the Alps. Most students are paid to work on research projects and to present results at

professional meetings. Participation in research projects, internships, and professional meetings differentiate UWEC students from the pack.

