

Blu Blugold

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Education

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI, May 2026
Bachelor of Science: Biology, Ecology and Environmental Emphasis
G.P.A. 3.88/4.00

Academic Awards:

Blugold Fellow Scholar, May 2023 - May 2025
Dean's List, December 2024 - Present

Relevant Coursework

Organismal Form and Function

- Further enhance laboratory, reading, and critical-thinking skills by learning about and experimenting on plants and animals
- Conducted experiments on plants and animals using fundamental principles of ecology, genetics, evolution, and organism structure and function

Genetics

- Familiarized with basic principles of heredity and variation
- Gained knowledge in genetic systems, structure and role of nucleic acids, mutation, allelism, genes in development, genes in populations, and genetics in human life
- Developed understanding of genetic engineering and genomics

Vegetation Ecology

- Surveyed the natural vegetation of Wisconsin and analyzed patterns
- Learned and implemented field methods during lab projects
- Applied multivariate statistical analysis in laboratory research

Plant Physiology

- Studied physiological processes enabling plants to grow under varied conditions
- Examined topics including plant metabolism, transport, growth, and development
- Exposed to modern research techniques in the field of biology

Conservation Biology

- Explored global efforts in research, education, and advocacy for conserving genes, species, and ecosystems
- Engaged in habitat restoration, conservation research, and education

Research Experience

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI

Research Assistant, September 2025 - May 2026

Dr. Edgar Plantman: The effects of soil erosion on the Chippewa River

- Coordinated with a faculty member to identify research question and hypothesis
- Investigated area and applied a variety of testing methods to determine soil erosion effects
- Worked with a team to formulate results and propose topics for further research

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI

Research Assistant, September 2024 - May 2025

Dr. Taylor Doe: The effects of carbon emission on natural ecology

- Gained knowledge on how to set up and conduct an experimental study
- Completed lab tasks including running experiments, setting up equipment, and entering data
- Established increased understanding of statistics and presented data to the public

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI

Blugold Fellowship Participant, September 2023 - May 2025

- Received a research scholarship for two years as an incoming freshman student
- Collaborated with faculty mentor to develop a research topic and experimental design
- Collected data and conducted statistical analyses using Statistical Product and Service Solutions (SPSS)
- Presented findings to peers and faculty using various forms of communication including PowerPoint presentations, graphs, and pictures

Laboratory Skills

Genetic manipulation of plant cell

Isolation and analysis of DNA

Microbiological assays

Professional laboratory practices

Physiological processes

Simple inorganic & organic synthesis

Pure culture methods

Crystallization

Presentations

Blugold, Blu. (2026, May). *The effects of soil erosion on the Chippewa river*. Poster presented at Research Day at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire.

Blugold, Blu. (2026, January). *The effects of soil erosion on the Chippewa river*. Poster presented at National Conference on Undergraduate Research in Washington D.C.

Blugold, Blu. (2025, May). *The effects of carbon emission on natural ecology*. Poster presented at Research Day at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire.

Teaching Experience

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI

Student Academic Apprentice, September 2025 - December 2025

Course: Plant Physiology

- Utilized knowledge in course content to coach students through assignments and answer questions
- Planned and organized study sessions for students and clarified any confusion on test material and content
- Developed connections with students to gain trust and facilitate learning

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, Eau Claire, WI

Student Academic Apprentice, January 2024 - May 2024

Course: Statistical Analysis of Biological Data

- Tutored students to better understand statistical methods
- Collaborated with a team to assist in grading assignments and organization of the class
- Provided encouragement and support to increase students' confidence with course materials

Leadership Experience

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire: U Lead Leadership Conference, Eau Claire, WI

Presenter, March 2026

- Informed participants of effective networking and how to create meaningful work and learning opportunities
- Explained different networking tools and shared personal success stories

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire: Biology Club, Eau Claire, WI

President, September 2024 - May 2025

- Facilitated weekly meetings and developed agendas and objectives for each meeting
- Appointed committee chairs and presided over all chapter committees
- Trained new officers and educated members on club policies
- Planned activities and invited guest speakers to advise on topics of interest

University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire: Leadership Seminar Series, Eau Claire, WI

Participant, February 2023

- Attended lectures on becoming a student leader and developed a leadership plan
- Corresponded with potential networks and set goals to advance leadership skills

Related Work Experience

Dunn County, Menomonie, WI

Natural Resources Intern, May 2025 - August 2025

- Collected data and ran an analysis on soil respiration for agricultural land
- Helped implement conservation practices with the United States Department of Agriculture and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Winterthur Museum, Garden, and Library, Winterthur, DE

Natural Lands Intern, May 2024 - September 2024

- Explored and developed new techniques for proper management of meadows, streams, ponds, and woodland areas
- Collaborated with horticulture staff to maintain historic naturalistic design of the garden using horticultural techniques
- Educated guests on the botanical nomenclature of plants and history of the museum utilizing effective communication

Walworth County Public Health Department, Elkhorn, WI

Environmental Health Technician Intern, May 2023 - August 2023

- Sampled drinking water wells and beaches per DNR guidelines throughout Walworth County under direct supervision of the Environmental Health Specialist
- Researched the Rural Water Sampling Program to identify risk areas for nitrogen contamination of private wells
- Entered data into a GIS database and was certified to test bacterial water samples

Volunteer Experience

Beaver Creek Reserve, Eau Claire, WI

Volunteer, September 2024 - May 2026

- Educated visitors of the Butterfly House about insects, native plants, and plants for pollinator gardens
- Collected monarch eggs and young caterpillars to raise in the butterfly lab and release in the wild and the Butterfly House
- Gained hands on experience working with butterflies and learned how to identify various native species