



August 19, 2019

Thank you for supporting students in Conservation Biology by agreeing to assist with the major's Personal Statement requirement. The University requires both direct and indirect assessment of the major's learning goals. For many majors, the direct assessment is completed in a common class. Conservation Biology is an interdisciplinary major that is characterized by flexibility with a broad range of course options. This flexibility means there is not a common class in the major.

The faculty advisor committee of the Conservation Biology major created the Personal Statement Requirement to be completed during the student's senior year. Through both conversation and review of the student's writing, you will evaluate the student's understanding of one of the major's learning goals: **Identify, interpret and communicate conservation ideas, needs and programs to others**. Students will be evaluated on the following three areas:

1. Identify a conservation program of interest –a program you have personal experience with or have researched.
2. Share your interpretation of the program's mission and any notable conservation ideas related to the program.
3. Through your research or experience, identify particular program needs and/or related obstacles to meeting those needs.

Some ideas of writing examples include a personal plan for graduate school, a cover letter for a job or internship, or a one to two page paper that addresses the above. Students will prepare by learning about their chosen organization and being able to share that information with you. Any feedback on their writing is also appreciated.

The student you're working with will provide an evaluation form for you to complete and then the student will return that form to me. Thanks again for the supporting students in the Conservation Biology major. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any comments or questions regarding the process.

Best,

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Conservation Biology Undergraduate Major