RIT

Environmental Science MS program

Graduate Open House, Oct 29th 2020

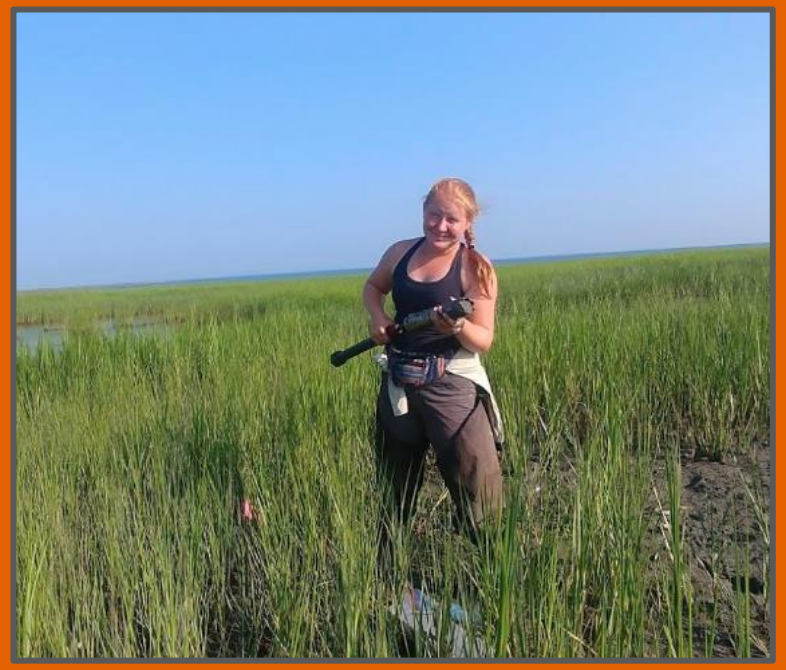


Photo credit – Delanie Spangler

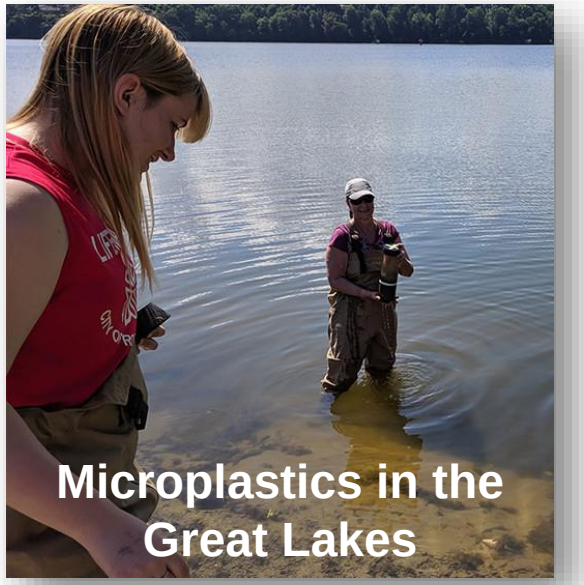
Environmental Science, MS degree, typical course sequence

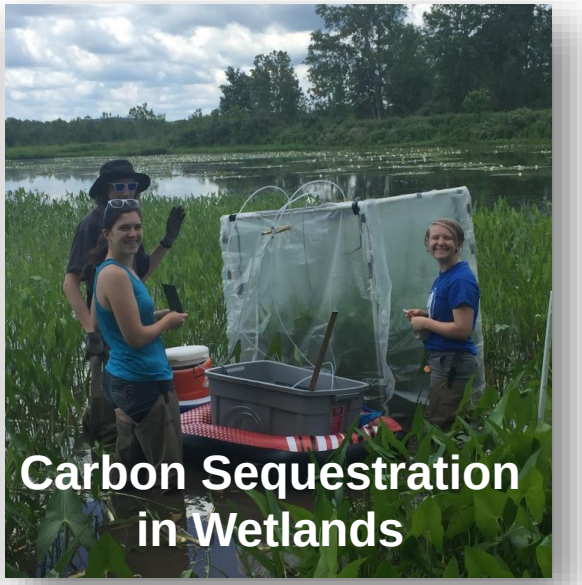
First Year		Second Year	
ENVS-601	Environmental Science Graduate Studies I	*Choose one of the following:*	
ENVS-602	Environmental Science Graduate Studies II	ENVS-780	Environmental Science Project
ENVS-795	Environmental Science Graduate Research	ENVS-790	Environmental Science Thesis
	Graduate GIS Elective		
	Graduate Statistics Elective		
	Graduate Public Policy/STS Elective		
	Graduate Science Core Elective		
	Professional Electives		

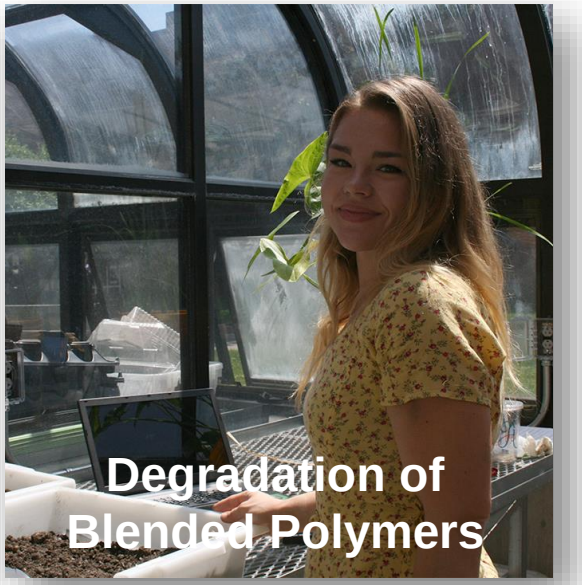
- Expect to spend the summer between the first and second year on campus conducting research
- Thesis projects that include fieldwork often involve two summers of data collection, resulting in some additional time at RIT to finish a thesis

Graduate thesis research

- **RIT environmental science graduate students participate in a wide range of research projects such as:**







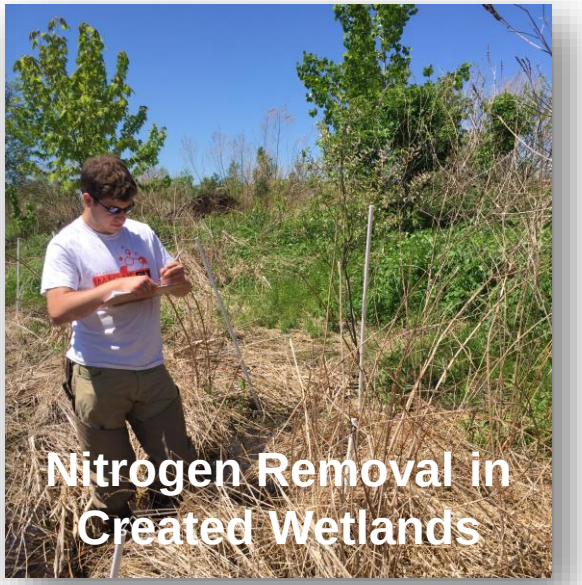


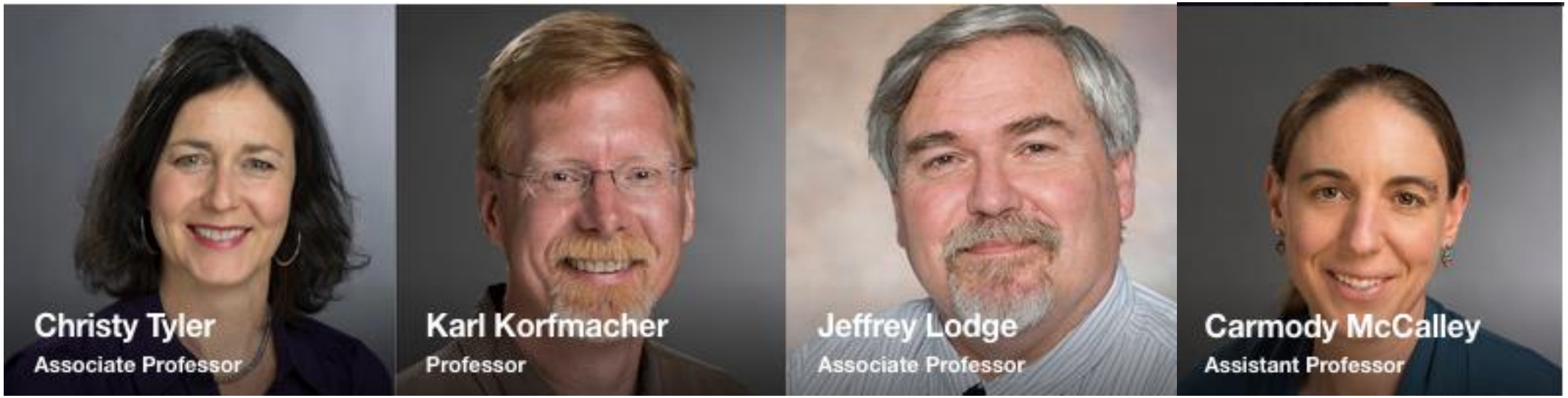
Photo credit – Matthew Hoffman, RIT COS, Delanie Spangler

Selection of current and recently completed thesis projects

Name	Degree	Thesis Title	Advisor
Rachel Allen	BSMS	Habitat and Conservation Suitability Assessment for Shrubland Birds in Monroe County, NY	Korfmacher
Marisa Armany	BSMS	A Shrubland Habitat Suitability Model for the American Woodcock	Korfmacher
Teddy Woldeyohannes	BSMS	Exposure to pesticides and hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) risk in and around Monroe County, NY	Korfmacher
Ben Hamilton	BSMS	Quantity and quality of DOM in created wetlands of varying antecedent land use	McCalley
Briana Burt	BSMS	Effects of herbivory on methane emissions in created emergent wetlands	McCalley
Delanie Spangler	BSMS	Grazer control of carbon cycling in crated wetlands	McCalley/Tyler
Brianna Pollard	MS	Methane emissions from urban stormwater ponds	McCalley
Shradha Shrestha	MS	Ecological impacts of food waste disposal in New York State	Tyler
Evan Squier	MS	Impact of grazing on plant community structure and nitrogen cycling in restored freshwater emergent marshes	Tyler
Michael McGowan	BSMS	Effect of organic matter addition on nitrogen cycling in a restored freshwater marsh	Tyler
Sonia Huang	MS	Fluxes of nitrous oxide and denitrification rates in restored wetlands under different management	Tyler
Taylor Williams	BSMS	Application of organic carbon to control invasive species during wetland restoration	Tyler
Charlie Border	MS	Impacts of carbon fullerenes on benthic ecosystem function and microbial community structure	Tyler
Sarah Goldsmith	BSMS	Using remote sensing to detect carbon sequestration and plant stress in salt marshes	Tyler
Kristina Chomiak	BSMS	Plastic pollution impacts on benthic communities and biogeochemical processes	Tyler
Katelyn Whitburn	MS	Isolation of heterotrophic microorganisms found in distinct water point sources of western NY with historical flooding for the biodegradation of several clinically significant antibiotics	Lodge

Faculty mentors

- **It is strongly encouraged that you reach out to potential faculty mentors to learn more about their research– we love to hear from students!**



- **Additional faculty from the School of Life Sciences also mentor ES graduate students**

Admission Requirements

- Hold a BS degree in environmental science, biology, or related discipline
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (or equivalent) overall and in math/science courses
- International applicant whose native language is not English – minimum TOEFL score of 79

Admission Process

- Complete a graduate application
- Submit official transcripts (in English)
- Submit a personal statement – what are your career goals, research interests and research experiences?
- Three letters of recommendation from academic or professional sources – people who know you as a scientist/researcher are ideal
- GRE – Only required if undergraduate degree not from a US institution
- TOEFL, IELTS, or PTE – international applicant whose native language is not English

Financial support

- Students with competitive applications may be offered partial tuition scholarships
- Many graduate students gain teaching experience through paid graduate teaching assistantships
- Faculty mentor’s may have grant supported projects that they are looking for MS students to participate in – these may include stipends and tuition support

For more information:

https://www.rit.edu/study/environmental-science-ms

Questions?


Photo credit – Delanie Spangler