Some students may consider Mining Engineering to be low-technology, dirty, and damaging to the environment. In fact, Mining Engineering is one of the top 3 fastest growing engineering fields in the U.S. Environmental engineers report high rates of job satisfaction. If you want to get a good job that you will live, AND make a difference, then be an environmental engineer!

Who excels in this discipline?

- Passionate about the environment or water, intrigued by interdisciplinary work (engineering, geology, chemistry, microbiology, hydrology), drawn to the complexity and unpredictability of natural systems, and of course, on protecting the environment.
- Some students think that Mining Engineers only work “out in the boonies” when in fact Mining Engineers can often choose to be located in towns and cities with a great social climate and quality of life, and they can choose to work in almost any country on earth. Mining Engineering is an adventure.

What misconceptions do students often have about this discipline?

- That it is for tree huggers or that it is not rigorous engineering.
- Energy and mining companies are now hiring engineers than chemical engineers.
- Environmental engineers than in electrical engineering. There are more practicing environmental engineers than chemical engineers.
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This discipline often seeks answers to...

- Complex problems that require an understanding of many different disciplines, and that is highly important to the physical and mental health of the public, flora, and fauna.
- Humanitarian engineering, because some of the most pressing needs in developing countries are water and sanitation. In truth, almost any minor pairs well with environmental engineering, because it is so multi-disciplinary at its core.

The future of this discipline includes...

- Integration of many different disciplines, including social systems.
- Humanitarian engineering, because some of the most pressing needs in developing countries are water and sanitation. In truth, almost any minor pairs well with environmental engineering, because it is so multi-disciplinary at its core.

What minors are often paired with this major/degree? Why?

- Environmental microbiology
- Environmental chemistry
- Stormwater management
- Groundwater remediation and contaminant transport
- Hydrology and Water Resources
- Water and Wastewater Treatment
- Environmental microbiology
- Environmental chemistry

Highly disciplinary at its core, it cross cuts engineering, physical science, biological science, and social science. It also inherently involves the complexity of natural systems. No single equation or system of equations can adequately explain it. It touches the lives of every human in your town, state or nation.

The degree is often compared to environmental science.

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Why should a student pursue this degree? Why should they not?

- Because you are passionate about water or the environment, you want a job that will deliver satisfaction throughout your career, you can live anywhere in the U.S., including small and medium size towns, and large cities, and because you want to get a job (placement rates are high), and EnvE is one of the fastest growing engineering fields, and you want a career that is relatively steady through economic highs and lows.

Different Than, Similar to...

- Environmental engineering is driven in large part by laws, public health, and the need to conserve precious resources. Thus, it is relatively steady compared to other industry driven engineering fields in time so economic downturns. Job satisfaction is among the highest reported by all engineering professions.

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Answers provided by representatives of the respective department. Students are encouraged to connect with CASA or the Academic Department for more information.