

Miner Institute is a place where, in the Thoreau tradition, students can live and learn deliberately.



The William H. Miner Agricultural Research Institute

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Applied Environmental Science Program

A collaboration between SUNY Plattsburgh and Miner Institute



A 30-Year Tradition with more than 1,100 Alumni

Program Overview

The Applied Environmental Science Program (AESP) is a highly regarded, semester-long, residential program for students in the Center for Earth and Environmental Science at SUNY Plattsburgh. It operates under a highly-flexible, full-day class structure that incorporates lectures and classroom learning with hands-on activities in the field.

For the past four decades, Miner Institute has collaborated with SUNY Plattsburgh to offer the Applied Environmental Science Program. The Institute's 9,000 acres of forest and agricultural lands, analytical and computer laboratories, and residential facilities provide students a unique opportunity to study the environment.

The Institute has laboratories for chemical and physical analyses of water, soil, and plant tissue samples, a computer laboratory, classrooms, library, cafeteria and residential housing. The natural resources owned by Miner



Institute include more than 9,000 acres of forests and agricultural land in the Little Chazy and Great Chazy river watersheds.

The upper Little Chazy River watershed contains a sandstone pavement pine barrens, known locally as Altona Flat Rock. This portion of the watershed has become the site for the Ecosystem Studies Field Laboratory.

The hydrological and meteorological equipment at the field laboratory is dedicated to undergraduate teaching and research. The Lake Alice Wildlife Management Area is another resource that is utilized.



To learn how you can spend a semester at Miner Institute, talk to your advisor as soon as possible!

www.whminer.org

"I found living in Chazy at the Miner Center to be a great experience. The landscape in and around Miner is sprawling and pastoral in nature, which makes for great star gazing, watching sunsets, and eyeing storms rolling in. The farm is a beautiful place to take a walk or run; accented by long rows of white split rail fences with horses grazing in the pastures. The apartments are spacious and in good condition, equipped with a full bath, full kitchen, and lots of natural light. The meals offered by the Miner Center were nearly as good as my Mom's, which is hard to do, and a welcomed treat after a long day in the field.

And the company — Miner's staff, the students, and instructors — were always great. There is something special about Miner that spurs a strong comradery amongst everyone."

— Joe Thouin
2002 AESP Student
Environmental Program
Specialist 1, NYS Adirondack Park
Agency

AESP COURSES:

Agriculture & the Environment:

This unique course was designed to illustrate the balance between production and protection in order for sustainable agriculture to exist.



Hydrogeology:

This course provides students opportunities to explore how groundwater moves and transports solutes.



Water Quality Modeling:

Students will learn how to measure a variety of water quality parameters to quantify aquatic ecosystem health, determine the sources of pollutants, calculate pollutant loadings, and determine the degree to which the pollutants impact water quality.



Soil Science:

Students learn the basics of soil formation and description, soil organisms, nutrient cycling, soil acidity and non-point source pollution.



Wildlife Ecology & Management:

Students will become familiar with wildlife census and survey techniques for conservation of wildlife species and will meet wildlife professionals in the field.



Independent Study:

Project based learning on various topics pairs students with faculty members for semester long research projects.

For more information, please visit:
http://www.whminer.org/academic_appliedscience.html

About Miner Institute

The William H. Miner Agricultural Research Institute operates a demonstration dairy and equine farm and offers educational programs in dairy and equine management and environmental science. It incorporates the most modern agricultural practices with a keen eye on environmental stewardship.

The Institute is operated under the philosophy and principles of William H. Miner, who grew up in Chazy and became a wealthy inventor of railroad mechanisms in Chicago. At the turn of the century, Mr. Miner operated a complete farm with hydroelectric power as its primary energy.

Students who live in the residential complex at Miner Institute get the most out of the program. In addition to being incredibly affordable, Miner Institute offers students an experience unlike any other. Students live and work in a pristine setting that encompasses thousands of acres and includes many miles of hiking and biking trails. Campus is located in Chazy, a quaint town located just a few miles from Point Au Roche State Park and within walking distance from Lake Alice Wildlife Management Area.

