

Field Hydrology in Western Wisconsin (3 cr)

2025 Dates: Monday-Friday May 19-June 6 (No class Memorial Day)

Description: This course involves field study of hydrologic science in western Wisconsin, such as groundwater and aquifer characterization, wetland delineation, evaluation of aquatic ecosystems, and water quality assessment. Assignments may include reading and discussion, presentations, evaluation of field notes, and project writeups. A culminating independent project will be completed by the student in week three, and a final project report will be produced.

Examples of Past Modules:

- Agricultural influence on nutrient contamination and lake eutrophication in the Red Cedar Watershed
- Bacterial contamination of surface water in Wisconsin
- Wetland delineation using multiple environmental variables
- Landscape restoration and nutrient contamination of Lake Menomin
- Aquifer characterization and groundwater flow analysis
- Community engagement investigation nitrate contamination with farmer-led watershed council
- Quantifying groundwater and surface water interaction in carbonate and siliciclastic environments.
- Remote sensing evaluation of freshwater landscape change
- Vadose zone hydrology at research farm

Expense: Food, parking, housing, and transportation to field sites are covered through a Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin grant. Participants will pay to enroll in three (3) course credits through UWEC (non-UWEC students can enroll as a Special Student). Participants will also need to secure their own transportation to and from campuses. Financial assistance may be available for participants with financial need. More information on course logistics and credit enrollment will be provided to accepted applicants.

Eligibility: To apply you must be enrolled in a freshwater science-related degree program at your university and have completed at least two semesters of your program.

This course may be applied toward your major or other academic requirements at the discretion of your home department/institution. If your department chair or faculty advisor have questions about this course, they can contact Sarah Vitale (vitalesa@uwec.edu).

To Apply: Submit your application using the link here. Accepted participants are expected to attend an informational Zoom meeting in early April.

Apply here:



tinyurl.com/hydro2025

Questions: Email Sarah Vitale at vitalesa@uwec.edu

University of Wisconsin
Eau Claire

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