What you can do with your Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences Major

Major Skills:

Problem Solving
You can describe a problem, identify the required information to solve that problem; formulate and interpret solutions to that problem using appropriate analytical and/or computational techniques; and find connections between physical processes.

Critical Thinking
You can define and analyze problems; identify factors that contribute to outcomes; recognize patterns and analyze connections to use them to make informed decisions and conclusions.

Data Modeling & Prediction
You can build and interpret mathematical models of earth system data using scientific computing methods and developing predictions and projections of future weather and climate.

Experimental Design & Measurement
You are able to design experiments or studies to answer specific questions, properly use standard and specialized instrumentation to make measurements, and quantitatively estimate the reliability of results.

Computational & Data Analysis
You can collect and organize quantitative and qualitative data, test scientific hypotheses using these data, and learn how to properly interpret statistical analysis.

Written & Oral Communications
You can communicate concepts and results effectively with scientific peers and broader audiences, both orally and in writing.

Supplement Your Skills With:

Gain Experience:
Research, Internships, Part-Time Work, Data & Forecasting Contests

Attendance and Participation in Professional Organizations, Seminars, and Colloquia

Career & Self Development

Oral & Written Communication With the Public

Experience Fostering Professional Equity & Inclusion

What You Can Do Now
Activate Your Handshake Account for connections to jobs, internships, employer & alumni networking.

Explore Career Communities to discover a wide variety of fields where you can turn your major into success.

Get Career & Internship Advising from SuccessWorks to make a plan, whether you’re a first-year student or about to graduate.

Get Started: successworks.wisc.edu
Frequent Job Titles of Alumni

- President
- Account Manager
- Data Scientist
- Principal Consultant
- Project Manager
- Researcher
- Airline Pilot
- Energy Analyst
- Meteorologist/Weather Forecaster
- Research Scientist
- Business Owner/Founder
- Software Engineer
- Chief Executive Officer
- Director of Finance
- Executive Director

Top Employers of Alumni:

1. National Weather Service
2. IBM
3. National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
4. United States Air Force
5. DTN
6. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
7. Avnet Applications Inc.
8. AT&T
9. Alliant Energy
10. Capspecialty
11. Consortium for Ocean Leadership
12. Epic
13. Kroger
14. KTTC TV
15. Optirix
16. Southwest Airlines
17. Thrivent v
18. UPS
19. UW Health
20. 15th Operational Weather Squadron

Post-Graduation Plans 2016-2021:

- 59% Employment
- 33% Continuing Education
- 4% Military Service
- 2% Volunteer/Service Program
- 2% Other

Industry of Employment 2016-2021:

1. Education
2. Services
3. Media
4. Transportation & Logistics
5. Defense & Space
6. Government
7. Hospitality
8. Information Technology
9. Retail

Where Alumni Live & Work:

- 29% Wisconsin
- 8% Minnesota
- 6% Illinois
- 5% California
- 5% Colorado
- 47% Other

“Even if you don’t enter a career in AOS after completing your degree at UW-Madison, you will use your communication skills with your colleagues or the public. Additionally, your strong computer programming and mathematics skills will make you marketable after school.”

Zachary Handlos, 2010
Senior Academic Professional, School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, GA

Career Communities for Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences Majors

SuccessWorks has eight Career Communities to connect you with career advising, resources and programs. Here are a few suggestions on where Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences majors can start.

Not inspired by these options? Visit SuccessWorks to explore more widely.

successworks.wisc.edu