

Dive into Success with SEEMS

UTRGV offers degrees to benefit environment

When Rebekah Hernandez chose her major, her family was concerned. She remembers them asking, "Are you sure you want to do this? Do you even have job opportunities with this? What is going to happen with your life?" Hernandez, a UTRGV graduate student in the School of Earth, Environmental, and Marine Sciences (SEEMS), said her father just wanted to make sure she didn't live paycheck to paycheck. But for Hernandez, environmental science was more than just a course of study. It was work that needed to be done.

"I want to be part of what's being done to conserve our waters and conserve what's in our oceans. I'm concerned about habitats that are being degraded, habitats that are being destroyed," she said.

Dr. David Hicks, SEEMS director, said the perception that environmental science careers do not have earning potential may be a contributing factor to an underrepresentation of minorities in the field. "I think it's a matter of them not really knowing there are well-paying, rewarding jobs in the sciences, other than being a physician," he said.

In 2016, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that pay for environmental scientists and specialists ranged from \$41,220 to \$120,320, with a median annual wage of \$68,910. The agency also predicted these jobs will grow faster than the average of all occupations until 2026.

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SEEMS DEGREES AT UTRGV

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science

Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology

Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems

Master of Science in Ocean, Coastal and Earth Sciences

Master of Science in Agricultural, Environmental and Sustainability Sciences



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Congratulations!

Julian Castro, a teacher at Raymondville High School, for staying connected and winning a pizza party for himself and 34 of his students, and a surprise visit by the UTRGV Street Team.



Do you have questions? Contact us!

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