

Science Student Profile: Why I Picked University of Colorado—Boulder

A doctoral candidate in environmental studies explains why he chose the University of Colorado—Boulder.

By U.S. News Staff
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David Cherney is a 31-year-old student at the [University of Colorado—Boulder](#). Here, in his own words, he tells U.S. News why he chose to attend the school to pursue his Ph.D. in environmental studies:

Nestled in the foothills of the Northern Rockies, the University of Colorado's Environmental Studies Program is an exceptional place to attend graduate school. I was attracted to the university by the program's excellent reputation for teaching students to solve real-world problems through interdisciplinary methods.

The University of Colorado is routinely among the nation's most highly ranked public universities in conducting and publishing federally funded environmental research. Students in our program are engaged in cutting-edge environmental science in conjunction with a number of internationally recognized research agencies, including the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, the National Center for Atmospheric Research, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the United States Geological Survey.

I am grateful that my professors not only are renowned experts in their fields, but they genuinely care about their students' education. They have encouraged me to pursue my doctoral dissertation on a topic about which I am highly passionate—conservation in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. They are true mentors in my educational journey, helping me to sharpen my critical thinking and practical problem-solving abilities.

Besides an extraordinary learning environment, the university also affords students the opportunity to enjoy immediate access to world-class hiking, mountain biking, and climbing. Colorado's premier ski resorts are just a two-hour drive away. In sum, the student body is typified by a "work hard, play hard" philosophy. I cannot imagine another university where hiking a 14,000-foot mountain peak while engaging in academic debate with your fellow students is the norm!

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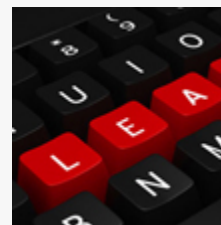
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