To learn about the environment, get into it.

To become a leader of consequence for the environment, you must understand how the world works. Attending lectures, reading, taking part in discussions and solving theoretical problems are all fundamental to a great education. But let’s face it: There’s no substitute for visiting and witnessing firsthand the places and processes studied in coursework – especially when that coursework is about the environment.

That’s why experiential learning opportunities are an integral part of our program at Duke University’s Nicholas School of the Environment. Each year, we host more than 20 field trips for undergraduate and graduate students, to places as close as the Duke Forest in Durham and the Atlantic Ocean at the Duke Marine Lab – and as far as California, Hawaii, France and Singapore.

Through these trips, students engage in unparalleled learning opportunities: touring the R&D enterprise of a company on the frontier of renewable energy technology; spending time with conservationists dealing with pressing ecological concerns; talking with city managers making difficult decisions about implementing sustainability measures – even enjoying the staggering power and beauty of nature under a waterfall. Unforgettable, often life-changing experiences.

Creating unique and transformational learning experiences is expensive – travel costs for faculty and students aren’t cheap. That’s where you come in – and come along with us.

Several groups of Nicholas School students and faculty have traveled to the Gulf of Mexico to work on a variety of projects to assess, and help mitigate, the devastating environmental and economic impacts of the disastrous oil spill.
SUPPORT EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING THROUGH FIELD TRIPS — AND COME ALONG FOR THE RIDE

While expensive for both the School and participating students, the availability of a wide array of field trips increases the value of our program to students and the desirability of our graduates to potential employers. In fact, many of our students were drawn to Duke by these types of unique learning opportunities, like studying geomorphology in the Mojave Desert, water in the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in California, and human impacts on coastal systems in France’s Brittany region.

The Nicholas School seeks private support to help defray the costs of these field trips.

Through **Urban Tropical Ecology: Singapore Field Trip**, students experience this exotic city-state’s fascinating co-mingling of urban and natural landscapes, and explore how Singapore has worked to maintain and enhance the quality of life of its citizens while radically modifying its environment and – sometimes unintentionally – introducing thousands of invasive species.

**Urban Tropical Ecology: Singapore Field Trip**

"It’s quite interesting being in a place where two far ends of the spectrum, a concrete jungle and a mangrove jungle, are juxtaposed."

— STUDENT ON THE SINGAPORE FIELD TRIP

The annual trip to the energy capital of the world gives students a firsthand look at the energy industry, with visits to oil fields, research laboratories, refineries and manufacturing plants, trading floors and wind farms, and meetings with energy leaders where they work. It’s a real-world look at the oil and gas industries, renewables, power generation and energy trading.

**Hydrocarbons: Houston Field Trip**

During this two-week trip to the world’s largest marine conservation area, students work shoulder-to-shoulder with local scientists and managers on the remote Midway Atoll and experience the daily challenges of managing and conserving biodiversity on these extensive coral reefs.

"Donors who help underwrite Nicholas School field trips benefit by learning along with the students. The field trips I have experienced with students have left me further impassioned to see that more of Duke’s students have this opportunity."

— SALLY KLEBERG, NICHOLAS BOARD MEMBER & DONOR

Help share extraordinary experiences.

- For $30,000 per year (for three or more years), you can sponsor, and take part in, one field trip
- For $500,000, you can sponsor a named field trip in perpetuity
- With a $1,250,000 endowment, you can support, and name, the entire field trip program

For more information – or to contribute – contact Nicholas School of the Environment, Office of External Affairs, at (919) 613-8003 or visit nicholas.duke.edu/giving.