



Great Lakes Water Studies Institute

Northwestern Michigan College



**Boundless
MOMENTUM.**
Drive Progress.



Your Pathway to a **Successful** career.

The Great Lakes Water Studies Institute offers three dynamic degree pathways:

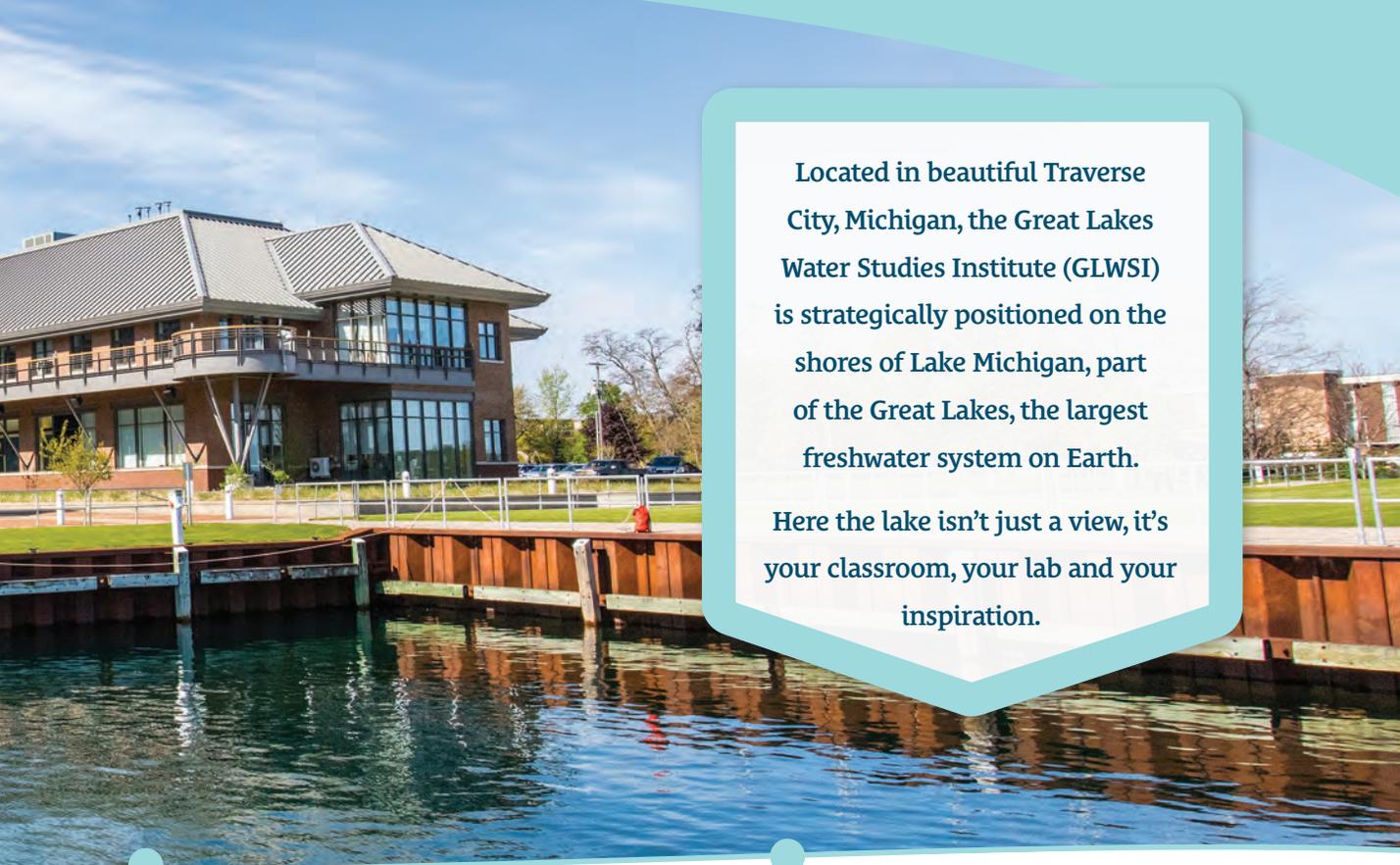
- ▶ Marine Technology
- ▶ Freshwater Studies
- ▶ Water Quality & Environmental Technology



NMC's research vessel *Northwestern*



These programs prepare you for rewarding careers, jobs in water research, data collection, environmental remediation, site assessment, water quality analysis, resource management, and more.



Located in beautiful Traverse City, Michigan, the Great Lakes Water Studies Institute (GLWSI) is strategically positioned on the shores of Lake Michigan, part of the Great Lakes, the largest freshwater system on Earth.

Here the lake isn't just a view, it's your classroom, your lab and your inspiration.

EXPERT TRAINING

Master industry-standard equipment in real-world scenarios.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Build expertise in data analysis and project management.



“

It's an absolute dream...

I want to be able to go to these uncharted depths and see and learn things people have never known before.

- Sarah Sergent, 2022 Marine Technology student and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution intern



Data-driven careers.

MARINE TECHNOLOGY

NMC OFFERS:

- Bachelor of Science degree - first of its kind
- Associate in Applied Science degree

NMC's Marine Technology program bridges the gap between education and industry. The bachelor's degree is the first of its kind in the nation and most graduates receive multiple job offers. You'll learn marine-related technical competencies along with project management skills necessary to work both on- and off-shore.



HANDS-ON TRAINING

Aboard NMC's research vessel in Lake Michigan, in NMC's Great Lakes campus harbor and in multiple campus labs.

WATER QUALITY & ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY

NMC OFFERS:

- Associate in Applied Science degree

The Water Quality and Environmental Technology program teaches you the skills needed to restore and remediate environmentally contaminated groundwater sites across Michigan, the Great Lakes region, and beyond.

Industry-Driven Curriculum

Our curriculum is designed specifically to meet the needs of today's environmental workforce.

Advantage of Practical Experience

An internship is integrated into the program, providing valuable real-world experience and professional connections.



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Capstone project, internships, independent study



INDUSTRY-STANDARD EQUIPMENT

60,000-gallon indoor water tank
ROVs (remotely operated vehicles)
Multiple types of acoustic technology



FRESHWATER STUDIES

NMC OFFERS:

- Associate in Science and Arts degree

NMC’s Freshwater Studies degree was the first associate degree in Freshwater Studies in the U.S.

This NMC transfer degree offers multiple pathways for bachelor’s degree completion, supported by the Michigan Transfer Agreement. For example, you can seamlessly transfer your credits to LSSU for bachelor’s degrees in Conservation Biology or Fisheries and Wildlife Management.

MARINE CENTER

Professional Development Platform

Comprehensive training solutions for the marine, surveying and remote sensing industries.



There is a huge job market that comes with this associate degree.

There are jobs available for me once I graduate.

- Jacob Holcomb, Water Quality and Environmental Technology program student.

Supportive community.

LIFESTYLE

- On-campus housing
- Four seasons of recreation fun just beyond campus
- Student Groups: NMC has an active chapter of the Marine Technology Society, the national professional group for marine technology. It offers social events, networking opportunities, scholarships and professional development.

FOLLOW YOUR OWN PATH

- Full-time advisors guiding you from course selection to job placement
- Small classes, personal, supportive faculty and staff
- Bachelor's degree partnerships in Traverse City with Davenport, FSU and GVSU
- Career placement and industry partnerships



FUNDING YOUR FUTURE

- Access to student loans and grants to help fund your training
- Michigan Community College Guarantee scholarship (free tuition* for recent high school graduates)
- Michigan Reconnect scholarship (free tuition* for 25+ without a degree)
- Automatic matching to other scholarships
- Flexible options to fit your lifestyle and budget.

*free for Grand Traverse County residents, reduced for others

Join
3,414

Students enrolled at NMC FALL 2025





The Great Lakes contain **21%** of the world's surface freshwater, **84%** of North America's

Ideas to Innovation.

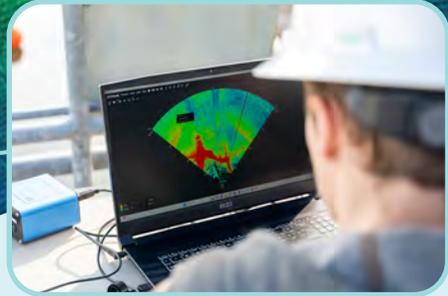
Opening spring 2027 in the heart of the Great Lakes, the Freshwater Research and Innovation Center (FRIC) is a shared physical space and community. At FRIC, ideas become solutions, technologies become ventures, and opportunities become careers. This state-of-the-art facility will accelerate smart collaboration so water education, research, and innovation translate directly into BlueTech-sector jobs and new businesses.

As a founding partner in the creation of the FRIC, NMC gains space to move and grow GLWSI programs both indoors and outdoors. Dock space will accommodate research vessels, equipment cranes and an outdoor classroom. The 40,000-square-foot facility will house customizable labs, technical makerspace, a seminar and classroom, office space, and BlueTech exhibit space open to the public.



Freshwater Research & Innovation Center





“ I moved from the West Coast to join this **one-of-a-kind program**. I'm only in my second year, but I've already had two top-flight internships and multiple job offers.

- Tyler Smith, Marine Tech AAS graduate, 2023



**GREAT LAKES
WATER STUDIES
INSTITUTE**

Office locations:
Great Lakes Campus
Aero Park Campus



Northwestern Michigan College
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Traverse City, MI

GLWSI: (231) 995-3333
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NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY NOTICE

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