



COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY

HONORS PROGRAM



Cameron McLaughlin

Ecosystem Science & Sustainability Major

Spanish & Sustainable Energy Minor(s)

University Honors Scholar

The University Honors Scholar Enrichment Award has provided me with an amazing opportunity to participate in a Graduate-Level Snow Hydrology Field Methods course under the Watershed Science Department. This course, although only consisting of 1 credit, has ultimately allowed me to explore my interests in Watershed Science and further develop my confidence in my interests and future career path.

Made possible by the Enrichment Award, I was able to attend important fieldwork outings guided by Dr. Fassnacht. Some of the work included in these outings was spatial variability assessments, snowpack density, and variability testing, metamorphose analyses, as well as highly beneficial networking experiences with multiple agencies while looking at varied methods of remote automated sensing stations. The locations of these field days included Southern Wyoming snow fences, the Joe Wright Telemetry station on Highway 14, as well as the multiple-day field work venture to Dry Lake and Rabbit Ears Pass out of Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

During this course, my academics in Ecosystem Science and Sustainability were supplemented, allowing further experience with the Watershed Science topics that are touched on within my program. After participating in this course, I was able to commit to my minor in Watershed Science, further broadening my horizons and possible career paths within my future career as an Ecologist and Watershed Scientist.

Initially, I found some wariness enrolling in Dr. Fassnacht's graduate-level field course as I believe it may be too advanced or challenging, but the support of the Honors College instilled confidence in me that experiences such as these are important to a student's growth. In the future, I will draw upon this experience not only for the skills I learned and my increased interest in Watershed Science but for confidence as an Undergraduate that I am capable of challenging Professional Development experiences. I am forever grateful to the University Honors Program for enriching my academic program and experience during my short time here at CSU.



