After Life on a Submarine, a Navy Veteran Takes Earth Science

Michael Klaser, 19, seems to move from one to the next without looking back.

Michael Klaser, a senior majoring in Geology at the Rutgers University, says he was inspired to pursue his career in Earth Sciences after taking a course in Geology 101. Klaser says he was drawn to the subject because of the way it integrates theory and practice, and the opportunity it provides to work with real-world data.

“I love the idea of being able to study something that’s as broad as Earth Science and still be able to make a direct impact on society,” Klaser says. “There’s no limit to what you can do with it.”

Klaser is currently working on a project that involves analyzing data from a recent field trip to the Baikal Basin in Russia. He says the trip was a great opportunity to apply what he learned in the classroom to real-world situations.

“I was able to see how much we’ve learned in the lab and how it all comes together in the field,” Klaser says. “It was really eye-opening.”

Klaser hopes to continue his studies in Earth Sciences after graduation and eventually work as a geologist for a government agency or a private company.

“I want to be able to use my skills to help solve some of the biggest problems facing our planet,” Klaser says. “Whether that’s understanding climate change or finding ways to clean up pollution, I think Earth Science is where it’s at.”

Klaser is excited about the future of Earth Sciences and the impact his work could have on the world.

“I’m looking forward to seeing what kind of impact I can make with my degree in Earth Sciences,” Klaser says. “It’s a great field to be in.”
BLENDER LIT AND MED, A LIBERAL ARTS
GRADUATE FINDS A HEALING COMBINATION

For many years, Rutgers junior Charlene Hatcher,
conceived of a career path in which she could
straddle the worlds of science and writing, calling
it a "blend" of her interests. It was a vision of
something to come, rather than a detailed plan.

"I was thinking about these interests: veterinarian,
and then going off to biology lab. I'd

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