

Bethany Woodworth Shares Her Journey Through Environmental Studies

University of New England Professor Bethany Woodworth talks about her many experiences with environmental research.

Quinnly Raducha
University Student
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In March 2025, Bethany Woodworth is currently in her last semester as a professor at UNE and plans to retire in May of this year. Teaching environmental studies classes at UNE fulfilled a passion she had for teaching.

Professor Woodworth started her journey at UNE in the fall of 2007 and has been teaching classes in environmental studies, climate change, biodiversity preservation, and environmental pollution.

“When I was nine, we had our first earth day in 1970, and I had this great awakening of environmental awareness during my youth.” Woodworth added that she always wanted to be able to study the ecology of animals of some kind no matter the species.

Woodworth graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1985 at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where her love of wildlife conservation started. “When I went to college, I took a class in field zoology where we were catching bats. And I said, Wow, this is so cool. So I decided I wanted to conserve wildlife at that point, and I went to work for it, for a land trust for three years after college.” After her journey working for a land trust she decided to go back to graduate school and learn to do the research that informed conservation.