

Contacts

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COLUMBUS STATE
UNIVERSITY

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NATURAL SCIENCES ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE TRACK (NON-THESIS)

College of Letters and Sciences



Program Description

Environmental Science is a discipline that explores how human's interact with the natural environment and develops innovative solutions to solve pressing human-created environmental challenges. The Master of Natural Science - Environmental Science is a flexible, interdisciplinary master's degree that prepares students for successful scientific careers. With such a diversity of course offerings and flexible curriculum, each student works with their advisor to design a unique program suited to his or her goals. Students obtain hands-on research experience in the classroom and the field. Internships provide students the real-world problem solving skills that will make them competitive for rewarding careers in the environmental field.

Unique Features

This degree prepares students for careers in environmental consulting, renewable energy, sustainability, natural resource management, species conservation, and regulation and compliance. Careers as environmental scientists and specialists

are expected to grow by 15%, outpacing the rate for the average of all occupations by 4% according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Students are encouraged to design their course of study to satisfy their interests and achieve their career goals.

Program of Study

1. Program Core Required Hours: 3

ENGL 5149 Grant Writing

2. Program Concentration

Required Hours: 30 hours (Non-Thesis Option)

Students must take the following courses unless taken for undergraduate credit (Non-Thesis option)

ENVS 5207 Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis

ENVS 5715 Environmental Science Seminar (repeated twice for credit)

ENVS 6235 Introduction to Geographic Information and Global Positioning Systems

POLS 6106 Environmental Issues and Public Policy

Students must take two courses from Group A and two from Group B; at least one of these courses must include a lab (13-16 hours, non-thesis option)

Group A: Geosciences

ENVS 5165 Introduction to Hydrology

ENVS 5255 Environmental Geology

ENVS 7115 Environmental Chemistry

GEOL 5117 Climate and Global Change

GEOL 5135 Introduction to Oceanography

GEOL 5215 Germorphology

Group B: Natural/Cultural Resources

ANTH 5125 Human Ecology

ENVS 5226 Culture and Environmental

ENVS 5315 Stream Ecology

ENVS 5405 Topics in Conservation

ENVS 6206 Water Resources Management

ENVS 6235 Introduction to Geographic Information and Global Positioning Systems *(for thesis option only)*

Program Electives (1-4 hours Non-Thesis option):

Student may take any 5000+ graduate BIOL, CHEM, ENVS, GEOL, GEOG with advisor approval. May take Environmental Science Seminar for up to 2 additional credits beyond the 2 required semesters. May take Internship (ENVS 6698) for up to 3 additional credits beyond the 3 required.

3. Program Requirements

Non-Thesis Option Internship Required Hours: 3

ENVS 6698 U/G Internship

Total Hours Required: 36

Additional Program Requirements

The maximum course load for a graduate student in a given semester is 12 semester hours. The maximum course load for a student holding a graduate assistantship is 10 semester hours.

Present a scientific seminar evaluating the accomplishments and results of their internship.

Comprehensive written exams covering learning objectives must be satisfactorily completed before graduation.

Admission Requirements

In addition to the Columbus State University Graduate School Admissions requirements, all interested applicants must submit the following materials to be considered for admission for all tracks in the Natural Sciences program.

- Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university, demonstrated excellent preparation in the Biological, Chemical, Environmental and/or Geological Sciences or permission of the program director.
- Undergraduate grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- A minimum combined score of 290 on the verbal and quantitative portions of the Graduate Record Exam. The GRE must have been taken in the last five years.
- A one page statement of experience and interests.
- Two letters of reference. References should come from persons familiar with the applicant's academic or professional experience.

