

Contacts

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COLUMBUS STATE
UNIVERSITY

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

College of Letters and Sciences



Program Description

Environmental Science is a vibrant new discipline that explores how human's interact with the natural environment and develops innovative solutions to solve pressing environmental challenges. The Master of Natural Science - Environmental Science thesis track is a research intensive interdisciplinary master's degree that prepares students for successful research-oriented careers or advanced graduate study. With a flexible curriculum, students individualize their course of study to achieve their goals. Students use research skills developed in the classroom and field to complete a research thesis of their choosing. These research skills make thesis track students highly sought after by employers and PhD programs.

Unique Features

This degree prepares students for research oriented 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 conduct advisor guided, independent research addressing critical issues in environmental science.

Program of Study

1. Program Core Required Hours: 3

ENGL 5149 Grant Writing

2. Concentration/Elective Options

Required Hours: 21-25 hours (Thesis Option)

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

ENVS 5207 Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis

ENVS 5715 Environmental Science Seminar (repeated twice for credit)

POLS 6106 Environmental Issues and Public Policy

Students must take one course from Group A and one from Group B; at least one of these courses must include a lab (7-8 hours, 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 Geomorphology

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)

3. Program Electives and Thesis Option Required Hours: 5-8

Students 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.

Thesis Required Hours: 8-12

ENVS 7000 Masters Thesis Defense

ENVS 7999 Research in Environmental Science

Total Hours Required: 36

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.

