ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Degree: Master of Science
Certificate: Geographic Information Systems
Department: Environmental Studies
Building 13, Room 206
(850) 474-2746
http://uwf.edu/environmental/
environmental@uwf.edu
College: Arts and Sciences

The Department of Environmental Studies offers a program of study leading to the Master of Science in Environmental Science. The program provides advanced research and educational opportunities in the earth (geo) and environmental sciences. Departmental areas of concentration include coastal science, contaminant hydrogeology, geographic information science, hydrogeology, Quaternary geology, and soils science. The program includes both a thesis and non-thesis option, which provide a foundation for employment in the private and public sectors of the environmental fields. In addition, the thesis option prepares students for advanced study leading to the doctoral degree. Contact the department for information regarding the Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

In addition to general University requirements, students seeking the M.S. in Environmental Science must meet the requirements listed below.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants seeking admission to the graduate program in Environmental Science should submit the following to the Office of Admissions:

A. A graduate admission application, along with official transcripts of all college work.

B. A formal letter of interest, background, and professional goals.

C. Three letters of recommendation by individuals in professionally relevant fields.

D. Official scores on the Graduate Record Examination. A minimum score of 1000 (verbal and quantitative combined) is required by the department.

Students seeking admission to the M.S. program must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university (or its foreign equivalent). The bachelor's degree may be in any environmental discipline, and a GPA of 3.0 or higher is desirable.

The completed application will be reviewed by the graduate program committee, and an advisor will be assigned upon admission. Conditional admission may require the student to complete the appropriate foundation courses with grades of "B" or better.

FOUNDATIONAL PROFICIENCIES

GIS	4035/L	Photo Interpretation & Remote Sensing/Lab	4
GIS	4043/L	Geographic Information Systems/Lab	3
STA	4173	Biostatistics	3

Choose two:

BSC	4303	Biogeography	3
GEO	3210/L	Geomorphology/Lab	4
GEO	3250/L	Weather and Climate/Lab	4
GEO	3260/L	Geography of Soils/Lab	4

Students entering the M.S. program from other bachelor's programs should have the equivalents of the above courses. Students not having all the foundational proficiencies may be admitted to the M.S. program on a conditional basis, and the requisite courses will need to be completed during the first year of graduate study.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Students accepted into the M.S. program should select, ideally by the end of their first semester, their graduate advisor and graduate committee members. At least two committee members must be Environmental Studies faculty. Students also need to select the thesis or non-thesis option following consultation with their graduate advisor and committee. Detailed graduate guidelines will be provided to the students by the department.

The thesis option entails 30 sh, of which 15 sh must be at the 6000 level and may include up to 6 sh of thesis. The remaining hours must be at the 5000 level or higher.

The non-thesis option entails 36 sh, of which 15 must be at the 6000 level and may include up to 3 sh of internship. The remaining hours must be at the 5000 level or higher.

As many as three courses may be from outside the department, including two from outside the University. The detailed program of study will be determined by the graduate advisor in consultation with the student and the student's graduate committee.

Environmental Studies Core (9 sh)

EVR	6930	Special Topics in Environmental Sciences	3
GEO	6936	Graduate Seminar	3

Choose one:

EVS	6196C	Sampling and Analysis in Environmental Sciences	3
GIS	6110	Advanced Topics in Geographic Information Science	3

Research Option and Additional Courses (21-27 sh)

Choose one option:

Thesis Option (21 sh)

EVS	6971	Thesis Course offered 1-6 sh per semester	1-6
*Advisor-approved graduate course work			15-20

Non-Thesis Option (27 sh)

GEO	6118	Research Design	3
*Advisor-approved graduate course work			21

Choose 3 sh:

EVS	6940	Internship Course offered 1-3 sh per semester	1-3
GEO	6905	Directed Study Course offered 1-3 sh per semester	1-3

** When selecting courses, students must ensure that they have a minimum of 15 sh of 6000-level courses.*