
MASTERS PROGRAM in ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

COURSE PLAN GUIDELINES

The Environmental Studies Course Plan charts each student's individualized program of study. Students design the Course Plan with the help and approval of their advisors. The ENVS Masters Program has six components: first-year core sequence, second-year capstone course, concentration area course work, electives, thesis/terminal project, and oral defense. A minimum of 57 credits must be completed. The intent of this document is to communicate the expectations for completion of the Master's degree in ENVS. However, due to the interdisciplinary and individualized nature of the program, a student with unusual circumstances should consult with the ENVS Graduate Coordinator for further direction.

ENVS 607 and 610, CORE SEQUENCE (9 credits total)

All ENVS Masters students are required to enroll in ENVS 610 (fall – 4 credits), ENVS 607 (winter – 2 credits), and ENVS 610 (spring – 3 credits) in the first year.

CAPSTONE PROJECT (2nd year - 4 credits)

CONCENTRATION-AREA COURSE WORK (minimum of 24 credits)

Each student will design a Course Plan centered on two concentration areas. Each concentration area will focus on a different theme or subject, and will contain a minimum of 12 credits, utilizing courses from different departments to gain understanding of the central theme.

ELECTIVES (8 credits)

Students will take 8 credits of electives other than their concentration-area coursework. With advisor approval, a 4-credit Internship can be substituted for 4 of these elective credits.

THESIS or TERMINAL PROJECT (minimum of 12 credits)

Each student needs to complete a minimum of 12 credits for either Thesis or Terminal Project. Students cannot take Thesis or Project credits during the first three terms of study. It is appropriate to document preliminary work of this nature under ENVS Research or Reading credits. Please refer to *Guidance for Faculty Advisors* for a discussion of the two final products.

ADDITIONAL USEFUL INFORMATION

The Joint-Campus Program allows graduate students to enroll in classes at both OSU and PSU. A maximum of 15 joint-campus credits may be applied toward a graduate degree. See the ENVS Master's Handbook for further information.

Some students may find it necessary to gain additional background in an area that is integral to their course of study. Undergraduate coursework cannot be counted toward a graduate degree, so cannot be substituted for graduate coursework on your course plan. Students who do enroll for undergraduate credit usually complete several graduate-level ENVS Reading credits, arranged with the instructor, to supplement the undergraduate work.

WHO'S WHO IN ENVS...

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