

## 1: Core Requirements

*All students must take:*

Foundations of Environmental Science (BIOL 5030)  
 Statistics (see options in core course descriptions)  
 Biology Seminar (BIOL 5860)



## 2: Distribution Requirements

*All MS students must take 1 class from 3 of the 5 groups (A – E):*

### A: Ecology & Evolution

Evolution (BIOL 5260)  
 Ecosystem Science (GEOG 5960)  
 Community Ecology (BIOL 5051)  
 Foundations of Eco. Theory (BIOL 5050)

### B: Physical & Chemical Science

Global Environmental Change (GEOG 5700)  
 Environmental Modeling (GEOG 5400)  
 Environmental Chemistry (BIOL 5120)  
 Techniques in Env. Analysis (BIOL 6390)

### C: Environmental Health

General Toxicology (BIOL 5370)  
 Computational Epidemiology (CSCE 5820)  
 Medical Geography (GEOG 5140)  
 Health GIS (GEOG 5960)

### D: Social Science

Teaching Life Science (BIOL 5045)  
 Environmental Ethics (PHIL 5000)  
 Env Impact Assessment (BIOL 5100)  
 Ecological Risk Assessment (BIOL 6400)  
 Philosophy of Ecology (PHIL 5010)

### E: Organismal Biology

Insect Biology (BIOL 5070)  
 Comparative Animal Physiology (BIOL 5505)  
 Plant Physiology (BIOL 5503)  
 Ornithology (BIOL 5800)  
 Ichthyology (BIOL 5005)  
 Mammalogy (BIOL 5005)

\* By instructor consent only.



## 3: Electives

*All students must take:*

2 organized elective courses required (6 credit hours)  
 Students must take 4 PLUS courses (12 credit hours)



## 4: Internship

*Required 4 Hour Internship*

Taken as a special problems w/ major professor  
 Internship: requires written proposal, period of work, and final reports



## 5: Oral Exam

*All students must take:*

Oral comprehensive exam administered by major professor and advising committee.

## Hour Requirements

*Professional Science Master's Degree = 36 hours*

## **The Environmental Science PSM Curriculum**

We have divided up the Environmental Science (ES) PSM curriculum into five components, which are the core requirements, the distribution requirements, electives and PLUS courses, the internship, and the comprehensive exam.

### *Core Requirements*

Although ES is inherently broad because of its interdisciplinary perspective on solving environmental problems, there are some experiences that all ES graduate students must have during their time at UNT. These include a Foundations of Environmental Science course, and graduate level statistics course, and participation in the biology research seminar series.

### *Distribution Requirements*

What makes ES different from its parent disciplines is its interdisciplinarity. Our curriculum guarantees breadth through its distribution requirements. The program is distributed across five thematic groups: Ecology and Evolution, Physical and Chemical Sciences, Environmental Health Sciences, Social Sciences, and Organismal Biology. PSM students must take three distribution courses from three different theme groups.

### *Electives & PLUS Courses*

To round the ES curriculum, students design their degree plan through consultation with their major professor and their advisory committee with two additional organized courses in environmental science, which tend to be environment focused courses in biology, geography, chemistry, and/or philosophy. In addition, the PSM requires twelve credit hours of PLUS courses outside of environmental science. Courses may be taken in a variety of areas from business, communications, to education, and other elective areas. Students may suggest a PLUS course that is not listed; the PLUS courses to be taken must be approved by the major professor and the advising committee.

The final degree plan must be signed by all committee members, and approved by the ES Graduate Coordinator, the Chair of Biological Sciences, and the Dean of the Toulouse Graduate School.

### *Internship*

An integral part of the PSM is the internship, which is with a non-UNT organization, such as a local municipality, a consulting firm, a local school, or other organization with an environmental research or education focus. Students must facilitate their own internship opportunity, which can be volunteer or for pay. The student must locate an intern supervisor at the organization and provide the major professor and intern supervisor with a proposal for the internship that states the goals and projected outcomes of the proposed work. The proposal must be approved by the major professor and intern supervisor prior to the start of the internship period. Internships typically last for one semester with a time commitment that is agreed upon with the major professor and intern supervisor. The internship concludes with a final report that is approved by the major professor. Structure and scope of the proposal and the final report will be decided upon by the major professor.

### *Final Comprehensive Exam*

This is a comprehensive exam on environmental science that centers on the coursework taken during the program. The exam is administered by the three member advising committee and is organized by the major professor. Students must schedule the exam with her/his committee. The exam is graded as either pass or fail and is the final commitment of the PSM degree.