ENVIRONMENTAL TOXICOLOGY

Master of Science
Doctor of Philosophy

These programs are jointly administered with the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Science.

Environmental toxicology is the scientific study of chemical, physical and biological stimuli in environments and the effects of these stimuli on living systems and their external and internal physical, chemical and biological integrity. Emphases include the metabolism of contaminants, their decomposition, fate and effects in aquatic and terrestrial environments. This interdisciplinary program provides a strong background in fundamental environmental toxicology and ecotoxicology. The program is administered jointly with the College of Engineering and Science.

Students with baccalaureate degrees in the basic and life sciences, agriculture, or engineering may be admitted. Strong faculty expertise and areas of student specialization are available in wildlife toxicology, environmental chemistry, biochemical and mechanistic toxicology, ecological modeling, ecological risk assessment and biological control. Each student’s research program is designed to meet his/her professional goals.

Candidates for the MS degree must complete 30 hours of graduate credit, including six hours of research, and write a thesis. Candidates for the PhD degree must complete 18 hours of dissertation research and write a dissertation.

Graduate research programs are conducted in conjunction with the Clemson Institute of Environmental Toxicology, providing a unique and innovative environment for graduate education. Collaborative research opportunities exist nationally and internationally with other universities, state and federal agencies and industrial groups.

POLICY STUDIES

Doctor of Philosophy
Certificate

Clemson University offers graduate studies leading to a PhD degree and a Certificate in Policy Studies. Graduate work in policy studies enables a student to attain a high degree of specialized competence in policy analysis and to secure a mastery of policy research, emphasizing quantitative and economic skills. Government, industry, public policy “think tanks,” and other policy research organizations, nonprofit organizations, and universities offer challenging opportunities in policy analysis, issue development, education, and related areas for persons with advanced training.

The program emphasizes quantitative, economic, and political organization, as well as other social science skills in the analysis and development of policy. Fundamental and rigorous quantitative and analytical skills for effective policy analysis are developed through core courses in political economy for public policy, ethics, statistical methods for policy research, demographic projections and spatial analysis, policy analysis and political choice, organizational theory and management, applied economics, and a policy analysis workshop. PhD students also select a concentration in Agricultural Policy, Environmental and Natural Resource Policy, Rural and Economic Development Policy, or Science and Technology. Flexibility is also achieved through enrichment, electives, leadership development courses, and the selection of a PhD dissertation topic. The program consists of a minimum of 63 credit hours beyond the bachelor’s degree, of which up to 24 credits may be drawn from master’s degree and other postgraduate work. There is no foreign language requirement for the PhD degree in Policy Studies.

The graduate program in Policy Studies also offers students enrolled in related master’s and doctoral programs the opportunity to gain competence in and understanding of policy analysis. Depending on students’ backgrounds and academic preparation, they may supplement their primary master’s coursework with a Certificate in Policy Studies. The Certificate in Policy Studies is designed to equip students with a set of explicit public policy research and analytical skills to augment their preparation in a traditional master’s program. The certificate program involves 12 credit hours of coursework.

The faculty in Policy Studies encourages applications for the PhD program from recipients of a master’s degree who wish to acquire policy research and analytical skills in economic development, agriculture, natural resource allocation, rural development, small town and community development, tourism development, environmental issues, land use, infrastructure, public finance, growth management, and science and technology. Master’s-level students with similar interests are encouraged to enhance their graduate studies with a Certificate in Policy Studies.

The faculty encourages applications from students who have backgrounds that will facilitate an interdisciplinary course of study. In many cases, students may be admitted to full graduate status in the PhD program without prerequisites other than those required of all graduate students.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Master of Public Administration

The Master of Public Administration degree program requires 39.45 credit hours, depending on the student’s background. Students lacking proficiency in American government are required to address the deficiency by taking a prerequisite in this area. Students who do not have substantial administrative experience are required to complete an internship encompassing 480 hours in a public or nonprofit agency engaged in administrative work. All MPA students must complete seven core courses (P ADM 702, 821, 822, 827, 829, 862, PO SC 841). In addition, one level of government course (P ADM 867, 868, or PO SC 860) and five electives must be completed. Finally, all students must demonstrate a proficient knowledge of the field of public administration by passing a comprehensive examination. Students may request to take P ADM 880 in lieu of the comprehensive examination.

Certificate in Public Management

Admission Requirements

Admission will be based on an assessment of the applicant’s educational needs and career objectives. Applicants must hold a bachelor’s degree and should have earned an overall 3.0 grade-point ratio in all undergraduate studies. Each applicant must also furnish a letter of recommendation, an application (available from the MPA program office), transcripts, a statement of career objectives, and a résumé.

Students from any department or discipline may elect to complete the certificate program. Students who are already enrolled in a graduate degree program must obtain written approval from their graduate programs/advisors and the MPA Director. No prerequisites are required of these students.

In addition to the conditions above, international applicants are required to demonstrate that they satisfy the University’s minimum English language proficiency requirements or equivalent.

Students currently pursuing MPA coursework in a non-degree status may apply for the Graduate Certificate in Public Management. The hours earned in a non-degree status may be applied to the certificate program requirements (within four years of completion of the course).

Course Requirements

Courses are determined by the student’s educational needs and career objectives and must be reviewed and approved by the MPA director. Other graduate courses may be substituted in the elective sequence with the approval of the MPA director. Program participants must maintain an overall minimum grade-point ratio of 3.0 in the certificate program.

Certificate courses must be completed within a span of four years.

A graduate certificate will be awarded upon completion of 12 credit hours of study, as outlined below, and submission of a Certificate Portfolio which will consist of a compilation of the cumulative coursework accomplished in the program.

The following coursework is required:

Core Sequence—one course selected from P ADM 821, 822, 827, 829, 862

Elective Sequence—three courses selected from P ADM 867, 868, PO SC 877, 878 (topics differ by section)

Credit earned for a certificate may be applied toward the Master of Public Administration degree with the advice and approval of the MPA Director.