

ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES, DOCTORAL MINOR

Environment and Resources is an interdisciplinary program intended to prepare its graduates to undertake scholarly or professional work that requires a breadth of vision sufficient to encompass the complexity of environmental issues. We seek to strengthen our students' ability to integrate across areas of knowledge so they can create, apply, and transfer world-class data, concepts, and skills about the environment and its sustainability in a flexible, interdisciplinary way to serve the people of the state, region, and world. As a program our learning objectives entail the following. Our students should gain: (1) familiarity with methods and concepts from a range of disciplines relevant to environmental issues and outcomes (interdisciplinarity); (2) a broad understanding of environmental issues and solutions (breadth requirement); (3) knowledge from a coherent and rigorous course of study related to the thesis topic (depth requirement); (4) familiarity with quantitative and qualitative methods and methods of data analysis and presentation appropriate to the study of the environment (measure and analysis requirement); (5) a capacity to integrate knowledge and to make original contributions that improve understanding of environmental problems; (6) the ability to communicate research findings and environmental information generally in writing and orally to a broad audience, including stakeholders and the general public (thesis and defense); and (7) an understanding of professional and ethical responsibility (literature review).

Those minoring in Environment and Resources are expected to present a rationale for how they will use their coursework and related activities to accomplish our objective of strengthening a student's ability to understand and be able to address environmental problems in an integrative, interdisciplinary way.