

HUMAN ECOLOGY: HUMAN ECOLOGY, MS

This is a named option in the Human Ecology MS. (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/human-ecology-school-wide/human-ecology-ms/>)

The Master of Science in Human Ecology offers multi-disciplinary coursework that focuses on current theories and strategies for creating, managing, and evaluating settings that promote human and community development. Students are exposed to current research and practice that integrates the promotion of human and family development with perspectives on building effective organizations and sustainable communities. Students create their own “master’s specialization” through elective courses and the completion of a real-world capstone project. Specializations are designed so that students can name their expertise to prospective employees.

This program is intended as a terminal, applied degree. Students interested in a PhD, MFA, or other graduate degrees in the School of Human Ecology (<https://sohe.wisc.edu/graduate-students/>) may apply separately to these programs.

The master’s program is geared toward students who are both new to the field and those who have had some direct practice, applied research, educational or advocacy experience. This MS degree can be completed in three semesters of full-time study or four or more semesters if students are part-time. The program prepares students for careers working in a wide range of settings, including:

- Community-based organizations (family support, youth work, community organizing, social justice, intervention and prevention programs, consumer and financial coaching)
- Intermediary and “backbone” organizations (technical assistance providers, philanthropic foundations, applied research and evaluation organizations, capacity building providers, community-based economic development)
- Government agencies (child and family services, public health, legislative support)
- University outreach (Cooperative Extension, community partnerships and coalitions, public service, multicultural offices, academic support, and education)