

# ACADEMIC LEARNING PLAN

## Master of Science in Environmental Science

### Mission Statement

*The Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences equips students to function, not only in the world of today, but also to adapt to and perform in the world of tomorrow. Each program track in the major contributes to the University's mission by preparing students to think critically, communicate effectively, and act with reason. The Department aspires to educate students, to help them accept modifications of views, and to discard concepts that have proven to be flawed. The Department seeks truth in science, relying upon the testing of theory by experiment to yield an evolving understanding of environmental phenomena. We stimulate students' thought processes to encourage the intellectual breadth that will forge them into future leaders.*

### Student Learning Outcomes

UWF graduates in the MS Environmental Science should be able to do the following:

#### Content

Summarize and describe how human activities affect, and are affected by, interactions with the atmosphere, hydrosphere, geosphere, and/or biosphere.

#### Critical Thinking

Synthesize scientific literature to identify gaps in current scientific knowledge for the preparation of original research or a critical review of a scientific concept.

#### Communication

Demonstrate proficiency in professional presentation and writing skills, including use of professional editorial style and organization.

#### Integrity/Values

Demonstrate general scientific principles of integrity in reports, proposals, and other documents.

## Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

The Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences is committed to providing learning opportunities of the highest possible quality. Our faculty members will assess master's students' progress in a number of ways including direct measures such as a thesis defense or comprehensive exam. Project management skills will be assessed in specific courses such as Research Design, Sampling and Analysis in Environmental Science, and Advanced Topics in GIS. Indirect assessment measures include alumni surveys, employer surveys, and feedback from the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences Advisory Board.

## Job Prospects for MS Environmental Science Graduates

Environmental Educator  
Environmental Specialist  
Natural Resource Manager  
GIS Specialist  
GIS Coordinator  
Environmental Manager  
Environmental Planner  
Environmental Remediation Specialist

Coastal Manager  
Coastal Research Specialist  
Hydrology Specialist  
Soils Specialist  
Land-use Planner  
Park Ranger, Conservation Specialist  
Scientific Research Associate

***Find out more about the MS in Environmental Science at UWF:***

<https://uwf.edu/programs/hmcse/environmental-science-ms/>