

The School For Resource & Environmental Studies

MASTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

The School is a leading institution in resource and environment-related research and capacity building in Canada and abroad. At the core is an interdisciplinary teaching and research program emphasizing rigorous inquiry and ethical practice as the foundation of responsible environmental and resource management. Efforts are devoted to addressing causes rather than symptoms and learning to predict change.

The School draws its strength from an extended network of faculty, students, research associates, alumni and project partners. It is a dynamic community with diverse skills, interests and experience in natural sciences, social sciences, policy, management, and in seeking innovative and appropriate solutions to critical resource and environmental problems.

Two graduate programs are offered: The Master of Environmental Studies (MES) and the Master of Resource and Environmental Management (MREM). The graduate programs emphasize interactions between social and natural sciences necessary for innovative environmental and resource management solutions. Students are given opportunities to understand and analyze environmental and resource management problems of current concern as they prepare themselves for problems they are likely to face later in his/her scholarly and/or professional lives.

MES program goals are to produce graduates who can confidently and independently undertake interdisciplinary inquiry on a range of natural resource and environmental problems. The MES degree is a research-focused degree supported by a range of courses. Students are expected to achieve a working knowledge of concepts and methods from different disciplines related to their research and potentially spanning the natural and social sciences, law, policy and public administration.

PROGRAM DURATION

The MES is designed as a two-year degree and includes course work and a thesis. Students are expected to finish within 24 months and pay two full years of fees. If thesis work extends beyond the end of the second year, the student can register as a "continuing or thesis-only student" for which lower fees are assessed. Students admitted to a two-year, full-time program must complete the program within five years. In exceptional circumstances, the School can request an extension.

Some students choose to study part-time. The two-year program would then take seven years, during which part-time fees would be paid.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The minimum requirement is eight (8) half-credits and a thesis. The program is designed to broaden a student's perspective on natural resource and environmental issues while strengthening his/her research capabilities. Class work beyond the minimum load may be suggested in consultation with the student's supervisory committee. The eight half credits are made up as follows:

Course Requirements:

- MGMT 5000 — Management Without Borders — a transdisciplinary course taken during the first year of study.
- ENVI 5035 & ENVI 5007 — Research Methods I and II, taken in the first year of study.

- ENVI 5009 — The Graduate Seminar, a two semester course in which all MES students are expected to attend and participate, in fall and winter terms of both years
- ENVI 9000 — Thesis

Elective Courses:

Students can select a minimum of three electives in consultation with faculty advisor/supervisor. Several elective courses at the School are likely to be offered only every second year. Students are encouraged to consult with faculty on course availability.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

SRES students are part of a dynamic academic setting which has an active research and development program. Our academic staff and cross-appointees are involved in many different projects in Canada and abroad, offering students challenging opportunities for research and personal development. Research activities focusing on Canadian issues include terrestrial and marine biodiversity conservation, environmental ethics, the ecology of managed forests, industrial ecology, local-level renewable resource management, public attitudes, food-systems impacts, environmental education, indigenous peoples, and life-cycle impacts of production systems. /in addition, the School has a wide range of linkages with federal and provincial government departments, industry, international agencies and non-governmental organizations. Such partnerships enhance capabilities in resource man-

agement, impact assessment, hazardous substances management, environmental law, ecotoxicology, coastal zone management, conservation and sustainable development.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR MES GRADUATES

MES graduates are well placed to continue on to Ph.D. level research and beyond. Many have gone on to join the professoriate at various institutions across Canada and internationally. Other MES graduates choose to work in a variety of environmentally related positions. Some join government in regulatory, management or research roles. Others work with consulting firms or with public or private sector agencies. Opportunities also exist for employment with non-government organizations or international development agencies.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

As established by the Faculty of Graduate Studies, the entrance requirement is an Honours Bachelor Degree or the equivalent of honours with at least a B average (3.0 GPA) from a university recognized by Dalhousie University Senate. A four-year Baccalaureate degree may be considered the equivalent of honours if there is significant evidence of independent research.

Students enrolled in the program come from a wide range of disciplines. Admission to the School is competitive and an academic level of a B+ (3.3 GPA) or better is generally held by successful applicants.

Applicants are urged to seek external sources of funding for personal support and research. Applicants who wish to use the School name on outside fellowship applications (e.g. NSERC, SSHRC, CIDA) should contact the Academic Program Coordinator.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Students, who plan to enter the program, must provide proof of ability to meet educational and living expenses while in Canada. Funding should be procured by the applicant prior to applying.

International students are urged to file applications for admission by early December in order to determine any missing items in a timely manner.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Applicants whose native tongue is not English must give evidence of proficiency in English unless a degree or diploma is held from a post-secondary institution in which English is the sole medium of instruction and in which they have spent at least two years in full-time on-campus study. Students must have attained a TOEFL score of 580 (minimum paper based score), or 237 (minimum computer based score), MELAB (90 minimum score) or IELTS (7.0 minimum score).

APPLICATION DOCUMENTATION

Application deadline is February 1. Applicants eligible for nomination for Dalhousie scholarships (A-; CGPA 3.7 or higher) are strongly encouraged to submit by mid-January.

Dalhousie graduate applications can be submitted online or by traditional paper copy. Instructions for both methods, and forms required, can be acquired at <http://dalgrad.dal.ca/admissions/> Application packages can also be obtained by contacting the Dalhousie Registrar's Office at <http://www.registrar.dal.ca/>

The following documentation will comprise your application to the MES program.

The first 2 items can be submitted online or mailed to:

The Registrar, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS B3H 4H6

- Part A/B of the Dalhousie Graduate application form.
- Application fee

Direct remaining items to:

SRES, Dalhousie University
Kenneth C. Rowe Bldg.
6100 University Avenue, Suite 5010
Halifax NS B3H 3J5

- Dept. & Graduate Studies copies of Parts A/B of the paper application form.
- A full curriculum vitae (résumé) highlighting personal academics, work history, publications, awards, fellowships, extra-curricular interests.
- Statement of research interests (1-2 page max).
- Statement of career objectives.
- 2 copies of official transcripts.
- 2 academic letters of reference.
- Proof of competence in English, for applicants with English as a second language.
- Proof of funding from international students, required by Faculty of Graduate Studies.

INQUIRIES

School for Resource and Environmental Studies

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