

**Department of Environmental Sciences  
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville**

**Graduate Admission and Advising Guidelines for Students Pursuing a Master's  
Degree in the Environmental Sciences Department**

(Revised in September 2019)

**Degree Concentration or Program**

All students pursuing a master's degree in in the Environmental Sciences Department (ENSC) pursue either the MS (Master of Science) or the PSM (Professional Science Master's). For the MS, students select one of five degree concentrations, listed in the table below. The PSM degree concentration is always in Environmental Science Management.

**Graduate Student Advising:**

Upon enrollment in the graduate program, all students are assigned an adviser based on their concentration (see table below). This professor will give guidance on course selection and also can make recommendations for identifying a research mentor. The concentration adviser is only responsible for advising the students who have not identified/found their research mentors. Once the student has identified a faculty member willing to work as their research mentor, the research mentor takes over the role of guiding course selection. The research mentor also mentors the student in development of their Thesis or Research Paper. While Dr. Zhi-Qing Lin is the Graduate Program Director for the Environmental Sciences Department, the following list is for specific advising and mentoring:

<b>Degree Concentration or Program</b>	<b>Concentration Adviser *</b>
MS: Environmental Biology	Chris Theodorakis Zhi-Qing Lin
MS: Environmental Toxicology & Chemistry	Kyong-Sup Yoon (Toxicology); N. Femi Adegboyega (Chemistry)
MS: Environmental Education	Ben Greenfield Sharon Locke
MS: Environmental Policy and Public Administration	Nicholas Guehlstorf
MS: Environmental Technology and Assessment	Adriana Martinez
Professional Science Master's (PSM) in Environmental Science Management	Nicholas Guehlstorf

## Admissions Requirements and Policies

All applicants must complete their on-line application and submit transcripts to the admission office. The applicants should have completed a BS or BA in an appropriate field by the acceptance date. The applicant also needs to submit a personal statement (1 - 2 pages) stating their academic and professional career goals. Applicants with an undergraduate GPA of  $<3.0$  must submit their GRE scores. Applicants with an undergraduate GPA of  $\leq 2.50$  are typically not accepted. The required GPA and GRE scores are listed in the following table:

GPA	GRE (Verbal & Quantitative Combined)
$\geq 3.0$	GRE is not required
2.9	297
2.8	
2.7	
2.6	
2.5	300

Students that meet the Graduate School's admission requirements, but not the ENSC Department requirements may enroll as an "Unclassified" student. To do this, they must contact the ENSC graduate director or the University graduate admission office (618-650-3165) and ask to change degree status. During this time, the student can retake the GRE and/or prove they can succeed in the ENSC graduate program by maintaining a relatively high GPA ( $> 3.0$ ). Note: according to the University policy, no more than 11 units of courses (while unclassified) can be transferred into the Program. The other exception option is that the student must take ten units of 500 level ENSC courses and achieve a GPA of 3.7 or higher. Four of the ten units must include ENSC 505 and ENSC 510. In this case, the unclassified graduate student can apply for a change from the unclassified status to become an ENSC graduate student.

Students with low undergraduate GPAs, but a high GPA when they earned a graduate degree are still subject to the standard admissions policies. Exceptions can be allowed if the student is pursuing a track in which they have a graduate degree (e.g. teaching with MS in Education applying for Environmental Education). They may not need to balance undergraduate GPA/GRE to gain admittance. However, it would be of concern if the BS were not in the area the student is requesting to enroll into.

The Admissions committee has the final authority to make all final decisions regarding exceptions.

### Deadlines for Admission Application

International Students: Fall = June 1; Spring = October 1; Summer = March 1

Domestic Students: Fall = ~July 20; Spring = ~November 15

### Course Requirements of MS in Environmental Sciences:

(X: required course; \*: either course; \*\*: either course, \*\*\*: either course)

	Environ. Biology	Environ. Chem. Toxic.	Environ. Tech. & Assess.	Environ. Education	Environ. Policy & Pub. Admin.
<b>Required Core Courses (10 - 18 credits total)</b>					
<b>ENSC 505</b> (2) Environmental Sciences Seminar	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 506</b> (1) Environmental Sciences Seminar	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 510</b> (3) Advanced Environmental Sciences & Policy	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 575</b> (3) Statistics for Environmental Sciences, or <b>PAPA 412/420</b> (4) SPSS Quantitative Analysis	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 597</b> (1-3) Paper, or <b>ENSC 599</b> (1-6) Thesis	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>Required Track Courses (9 - 10 credits total)</b>					
<b>ENSC 511</b> (3) Environmental Policy					<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 512</b> (3) Environmental Law					<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 520</b> (3) Environmental Sampling	<b>X*</b>	<b>X*</b>	<b>X*</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>ENSC 528/528L</b> (4) Analysis of Environmental Contaminants	<b>X*</b>	<b>X*</b>	<b>X*</b>		
<b>ENSC 525</b> (3) Environmental Chemistry		<b>X**</b>			
<b>ENSC 531</b> (3) Environmental Toxicology		<b>X**</b>			
<b>ENSC 535</b> (3) Ecological Risk Assessment		<b>X***</b>			
<b>ENSC 540</b> (3) Pollution Ecology	<b>X</b>	<b>X***</b>		<b>X*</b>	
<b>ENSC 450</b> (3) Applied Ecology	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 573</b> (3) GIS-Modeling the Natural Environment			<b>X</b>		
<b>ENSC 580</b> (3) Environmental Education				<b>X*</b>	
<b>Electives (9 - 21 credits total)</b>					
As elective courses, MS students may take any <b>ENSC</b> , <b>BIOL</b> (Biological Sciences), <b>CHEM</b> (Chemistry), or <b>GEOG</b> (Geography) courses that are <u>offered for graduate credit</u> . This includes all 500 level courses and some 400 level courses in these departments. <i>All courses above that are not required for your emphasis (including alternates to required courses) may also be substituted as electives.</i>					

The following additional courses are currently offered for graduate credit in ENSC, and available to take as electives:

- ENSC 434** (3) Fundamentals of Aquatic Ecotoxicology
- ENSC 435** (3) Ecological Risk Assessment
- ENSC 436** (3) Environmental Epidemiology
- ENSC 473** (3) Occupational Health
- ENSC 475** (3) Chemical Safety Management
- ENSC 532** (3) Molecular Toxicology & Pharmacology
- ENSC 534** (3) Aquatic Toxicology
- ENSC 595** (1 – 3) Topics in Environmental Science

***Crosslisted Electives:***

- ENSC 411** (3) Hydrology (Same as GEOG 411)
- ENSC 412** (3) Groundwater Hydrology (Same as GEOG 412)

***Additional Electives from other departments:***

- ACCT 524** (3) - Accounting for MBAs
- CE 582** (3) - Water Quality and Treatment (this course has additional prerequisites)
- CMIS 526** (3) - Information System & Technology
- MBA 522** (3) - Decision Making

**Total Units Required to Graduate: Thesis Option - 33; Paper Option - 38**

**Course Requirements of PSM in Environmental Science Management:**

(**X**: required course)

<b>Required Core Courses (33 – 34 credits)</b>	
<b>ENSC 505</b> (2) - Environmental Sciences Seminar (I)	<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 506</b> (1) - Environmental Sciences Seminar (II)	<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 510</b> (3) - Advanced Environmental Sciences & Policy	<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 575</b> (3) - Statistics for Environmental Sciences, or <b>PAPA 412/420</b> (4) - Quantitative Analysis	<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 597</b> (3) - Paper, or <b>ENSC 599</b> (3) - Thesis	<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 511</b> (3) - Environmental Policy	<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 540</b> (3) - Pollution Ecology	<b>X</b>
<b>ENSC 590</b> (6) - Environmental Internship	<b>X</b>
<b>ACCT 524</b> (3) - Accounting for MBAs	<b>X</b>
<b>CMIS 526</b> (3) - Information System & Technology	<b>X</b>
<b>MBA 522</b> (3) - Decision Making	<b>X</b>
<b>Electives (6 credits)</b>	
As elective courses, PSM students may take any <b>ENSC</b> courses that are <u>offered for graduate credit</u> . This includes all 500 level courses and some 400 level courses.	
The following additional courses are currently offered for graduate credit in ENSC, and available to take as electives:	
<b>ENSC 434</b> (3) Fundamentals of Aquatic Ecotoxicology	
<b>ENSC 435</b> (3) Ecological Risk Assessment	
<b>ENSC 436</b> (3) Environmental Epidemiology	

**ENSC 450** (3) Applied Ecology  
**ENSC 473** (3) Occupational Health  
**ENSC 475** (3) Chemical Safety Management  
**ENSC 512** (3) Environmental Law  
**ENSC 516** (3) Environmental Impact Analysis  
**ENSC 520** (3) Environmental Sampling  
**ENSC 525** (3) Environmental Chemistry  
**ENSC 528/528L** (4) Analysis of Environmental Contaminants  
**ENSC 531** (3) Environmental Toxicology  
**ENSC 532** (3) Molecular Toxicology & Pharmacology  
**ENSC 534** (3) Aquatic Toxicology  
**ENSC 535** (3) Ecological Risk Assessment  
**ENSC 573** (3) GIS-Modeling the Natural Environment  
**ENSC 580** (3) Environmental Education  
**ENSC 595** (1 – 3) Topics in Environmental Science  
***Crosslisted Electives:***  
**ENSC 411** (3) Hydrology (Same as GEOG 411)  
**ENSC 412** (3) Groundwater Hydrology (Same as GEOG 412)

**Total Units Required to Graduate: 36**