

# MS in Earth and Environmental Sciences

---

## Admission Requirements

Applicants are considered on an individual basis. In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants should meet the following program requirements:

- **Baccalaureate Field** Earth science, environmental science, other natural or physical sciences, or engineering (also applies to those applicants having an MS degree). Students from other areas are also encouraged to apply if their backgrounds indicate a reasonable chance for success in the program.
- **Prerequisites** Students entering with an MS degree in the sciences can receive up to 32 hours of credit toward the PhD. Highly qualified students lacking in one or more of the prerequisites may be considered for admission under “limited standing” with specific additional prescribed courses. Prerequisites for all applicants are listed below:
  - Baccalaureate degree in Earth and Environmental Sciences, related science or engineering field, or other (in special cases)
  - Chemistry (1 year)
  - Physics (1 year); alternatively, Physics (1 semester) and Biology (1 semester)
  - Calculus (1 year)
- **Grade Point Average** At least 3.00/4.00 for the final 60 semester hours (90 quarter hours) of undergraduate study.
- **Tests Required** None.
- **Minimum English Competency Test Score**
  - **TOEFL** 80, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21 (iBT Test); 60, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Writing 21 (revised Paper-Delivered Test), **OR**,
  - **IELTS** 6.5, with subscores of 6.0 for all four subscores, **OR**,
  - **PTE-Academic** 54, with subscores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.
- **Letters of Recommendation** Three required; preferably from professors familiar with the applicant’s academic work.
- **Personal Statement** Required. Instead of an open-ended personal statement, applicants are asked to answer a set of [guided prompts](#).
- **Deadlines** [Application deadlines](#) for this program are listed on the Graduate College website.

## Degree Requirements

In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, students must meet the following program requirements:

- **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 32.
- **Course Work** Twelve of the 32 hours must be in the student’s major area, as set forth in the departmental graduate handbook. No more than 4 of these hours may be taken in EAES 596. Twelve additional hours must be taken in departmental courses from outside the major area. With departmental consent, 400- or 500-level courses outside the department may be taken to fulfill this requirement. Each course must be taken for a letter grade, not on a credit/no credit basis. At least 9 of the 32 hours must be in 500-level courses, excluding EAES 595, EAES 596, and EAES 598.

- **Comprehensive Examination** None.
- **Thesis, Project, or Course-Work-Only Options** Thesis required. No other options are available.
  - *Thesis:* No more than 8 hours of EAES 598 can be applied to the degree.