Professional Science Masters in Environmental Assessment

The Professional Science Masters professional graduate degree is designed for graduates of bachelor’s programs in physical/natural sciences, environmental studies, civil/environmental engineering or related fields who are currently employed in private firms, public agencies, and not-for-profit organizations that address a range of environmental issues. Key foci in the science curriculum of this program are environmental impact assessment; soils, water, and ecosystems science; geospatial analysis; environmental health and policy; and an understanding of environmental law and policy and the regulatory environment.

The Professional Science Master’s (PSM) is a relatively new interdisciplinary graduate degree that combines advanced coursework in science with a set of professional skills courses (project management, technical writing/communications, financial management), and a capstone/internship experience.

Admission to Graduate Studies

An applicant seeking to pursue graduate study in the College may be admitted as either a degree-seeking or non-degree seeking student. Policies and procedures of Graduate Studies govern the process of Graduate admission. These may be found in the Graduate Studies (http://catalog.ku.edu/graduate-studies) section of the online catalog.

Please consult the Departments & Programs (http://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences) section of the online catalog for information regarding program-specific admissions criteria and requirements. Special admissions requirements pertain to Interdisciplinary Studies degrees, which may be found in the Graduate Studies section of the online catalog.

Entering students are expected to have a B.S. degree in geography or in related physical science, earth science, mathematics, or engineering disciplines. Applicants should have a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Applicants with a GPA of less than 3.0 may be considered for admission on a probationary or provisional status. Entering students will be expected to have studied quantitative methods. Graduate Record Examination scores (verbal, quantitative and analytical) are required of all applicants.

The admissions requirements for the Professional Science Masters with a concentration in Environmental Assessment are as follows:

1. A 3.0 or higher grade point average (on a 4.0 scale)
2. GRE scores on the verbal and quantitative sections if G.P.A. is below 3.0.
3. Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution
4. Submission of a letter of interest and at least two letters of recommendation
5. The student must have an undergraduate background of at least 20 semester hours in the natural and applied sciences
6. International students must also meet the English proficiency, visa/I20, and financial support requirements

All PSMs must include a core of business, communication, and project management skills.

P.S.M. Core (12)
- ENTR 701 Entrepreneurship 3
- PMGT 833 Management of Internal Projects for Scientists and Technical Professionals 3
- COMS 730 Writing and Speaking for Decision Makers 3
- ACCT 708 Accounting and Finance for Professionals 3

Concentration (12)
- EVRN 616 Environmental Impact Assessment 3
- EVRN 721 Environmental Regulation and Policy 3

Select two from:
- EVRN 611 Water Quality, Land Use, and Watershed Ecosystems 3
- EVRN 740 Soil Science for Environmental Assessment 3
- EVRN 750 Environmental Air Quality Assessment 3

Related Electives (6)
Choose 2 courses
- EVRN 510 Advanced Environmental Applications in Geospatial Techniques 3
- EVRN 535 Soil Geography 3
- EVRN 656 Ecosystem Ecology 3
- EVRN 730 Environmental Toxicology 3
- EVRN 745 Environmental Data Analysis and Statistics 3

Capstone (3)
- EVRN 815 Professional Science Masters Capstone 3

Total Hours 33

1 Elective courses will be determined by advisor and student