Earth Sciences
MASc, MSc, PhD

School of the Environment: Collaborative Specialization in Environmental Studies (CSES)

Below you will find the requirements for students in the Earth Sciences MASc, MSc, and PhD who are completing a Collaborative Specialization in Environmental Studies. Although this document will provide you with guidance for completing the specialization, note that the School of Graduate Studies Calendar is the authoritative source for all degree requirements.

Master of Applied Science (MASc)

MASc students enrolled in the Collaborative Specialization in Environmental Studies complete the following requirements:

- ENV1001H: Environmental Decision Making (0.5 FCE)
- One elective (0.5 FCE) from the CSES course list. Students are strongly encouraged to complete a cross-listed elective course such as ESS2303H or ESS2304H.
- Thesis written on an environment related topic. A digital copy of the final thesis must be submitted to the School of the Environment prior to convocation.

It is recommended that each thesis committee will require a supervisor from the student’s home department and at least one other member from another graduate unit, both of whom are also members of graduate faculty in the School of the Environment.

Master of Science (MSc) – Doctoral Stream

MSc Doctoral Stream students in the doctoral stream enrolled in the Collaborative Specialization in Environmental Studies complete the following requirements:

- ENV1001H: Environmental Decision Making (0.5 FCE)
- One elective (0.5 FCE) from the CSES course list. Students are strongly encouraged to complete a cross-listed elective course such as ESS2303H or ESS2304H.
- Research Paper (ESS3601Y) (1.0 FCE) written on an environment related topic. A digital copy of the final paper must be submitted to the School of the Environment prior to convocation.

Master of Science (MSc)- All Course Stream

MSc All Course Stream students complete a total of 5.0 FCEs. Students enrolled in the Collaborative Specialization in Environmental Studies must have at least 30% of their coursework (1.5 FCEs) count towards the CSES and complete the following collaborative specialization requirements:

- 1.5 FCE MSc degree requirements including:
  - ENV 1001H: Environmental Decision Making (0.5 FCE)
  - One elective (0.5 FCE) from the CSES course list.
  - ENV4444H: Internship (0.5 FCE). A letter confirming the completion of the internship must be submitted to the School of the Environment prior to convocation.
ESS3608H: All-Course Research Project (0.5 FCE) which satisfies the CSES research paper requirement, provided there is an environment related component. A copy of the final research paper must be submitted to the School of the Environment prior to convocation.

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

PhD students in Earth Sciences enrolled in the Collaborative Specialization in Environmental Studies complete the following requirements:

- ENV1001H: Environmental Decision Making (0.5 FCE)
- One elective (0.5 FCE) from the CSES course list. Students are strongly encouraged to complete a cross-listed elective course such as ESS2303H or ESS2304H.
- Complete a thesis on an environmental theme. Normally, the thesis committee will include a supervisor from the student’s home department who holds a graduate faculty membership (GFM) in the School of the Environment. If the student's primary thesis supervisor does not hold a GFM in the School of the Environment, the School's Director will either initiate the process of assigning a GFM to the primary supervisor or review the composition of the thesis committee to ensure it has appropriate expertise. A digital copy of the final thesis must be submitted to the School of the Environment prior to convocation.
- All PhD students are required to give an oral presentation of their doctoral research as part of the School’s Environment Research Day, which is held once per year in the Spring.