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

Below you will find the requirements for students in the Geography MA, MSc, or PhD who are completing a collaborative specialization in Environmental Studies. Although this document can provide you with guidance for completing the specialization, note that the School of Graduate Studies Calendar is the authoritative source for degree requirements.

Master of Arts (MA) and Master of Science (MSc)- Thesis Option

MA and MSc students in the Geography thesis option complete a total of 1.5 FCEs. Those enrolled in the Collaborative Specialization in Environmental Studies complete the following requirements:

- GGR1105H (0.5 FCE) for MA students and GGR1200H (0.5 FCE) for MSc students.
- 0.5 FCE elective within Geography. Students are encouraged to enrol in a course that is cross-listed between Geography and the School of the Environment’s collaborative specialization course list. If the geography elective course selected is not cross-listed, an addition elective from the CSES course list is required.
- 0.5 FCE Elective coursework, which must include the following Environmental Studies collaborative specialization course, ENV1001H: Environmental Decision Making.

In addition to the coursework, the MA/MSc thesis should be written on an environmental 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 Arts (MA) and Master of Science (MSc)- Major Research Paper Option

MA and MSc students in Geography major research paper option complete a total of 3.0 FCEs. Those enrolled in the Collaborative Specialization in Environmental Studies complete the following requirements:

- GGR1105H (0.5 FCE) for MA students and GGR1200H (0.5 FCE) for MSc students.
- 1.5 FCE electives within Geography. Students are encouraged to enrol in a course that is cross-listed between Geography and the CSES course list. If the geography elective course selected is not cross-listed, an addition elective from the CSES course list is required.
- 1.0 FCE Elective coursework, which must include the following Environmental Studies collaborative specialization requirements:
  - ENV1001H: Environmental Decision Making (0.5 FCE)
  - ENV4444Y: Internship. Approval from the School of the Environment is required prior to participating in the internship.
In addition to the coursework, the Major Research Paper (GGR1100Y) should be written on an environment topic. A digital copy of the final thesis must be submitted to the School of the Environment prior to convocation.

**Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)- Physical Geography and Natural Systems, Spatial Information Systems**

PhD students complete a total of 1.5 FCE. Those enrolled in the Collaborative Specialization in Environmental Studies complete the following requirements:

- GGR1200H (0.5 FCE)
- 0.5 FCE elective within Geography. *Students are strongly encouraged to enrol in a course that is cross-listed between Geography and the School of the Environment’s collaborative specialization course list. If the geography elective course selected is not cross-listed, an addition elective from the CSES course list is required.*
- 0.5 Elective coursework, which must include the following Environmental Studies collaborative specialization course, ENV1001H: Environmental Decision Making.

In addition, students complete a thesis on an environmental theme. It is recommended that the thesis committee membership will include a supervisor (from the student’s home department who is a member of the CSES core faculty) and at least one other member from a collaborating department. 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 Seminar Series or Research Day, which is held once per year. For the latter, the oral presentation may or may not be done in conjunction with a summary poster, depending on the decided format of the School’s Research Day in any given year.

**Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)- Environmental Geography and Resource Management; Historical/Social/ Cultural Geography; Urban/Economic Geography**

PhD students complete a total of 3.0 FCE. Those enrolled in the Collaborative Specialization in Environmental Studies would complete the following requirements:

- GGR1110H (0.5 FCE)
- 1.0 FCE elective within Geography.
- 1.5 Elective coursework, which must include the following Environmental Studies collaborative specialization course:
  - ENV1001H: Environmental Decision Making (0.5 FCE).
  - One elective (0.5 FCE) from the CSES course list.

In addition, students complete a thesis on an environmental theme. It is recommended that the thesis committee membership will include a supervisor (from the student’s home department who is a member of the CSES core faculty) and at least one other member from a collaborating department. 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 Seminar Series or Research Day, which is held once per year. For the latter, the oral presentation may or may not be done in conjunction with a summary poster, depending on the decided format of the School’s Research Day in any given year.

**Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)- Direct Entry (all fields)**

Direct entry PhD students complete a total of 3.0 FCE. Those enrolled in the Collaborative Specialization in Environmental Studies complete the following requirements:

- Core course, either GGR1200H (0.5 FCE) or GGR1110H (0.5 FCE), depending on the field.
- Coursework within Geography (0.5-1.0 FCEs, depending on the field)
- Elective coursework, which must include the following Environmental Studies collaborative specialization requirements:
  - ENV1001H: Environmental Decision Making
  - One elective (0.5 FCE) from the [CSES course list](#).

In addition, students complete a thesis on an environmental theme. It is recommended that the thesis committee membership will include a supervisor (from the student’s home department who is a member of the CSES core faculty) and at least one other member from a collaborating department. 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 Seminar Series or Research Day, which is held once per year. For the latter, the oral presentation may or may not be done in conjunction with a summary poster, depending on the decided format of the School’s Research Day in any given year.