

Why earn an MA in Environmental Studies?

The Environmental Studies Masters Program prepares graduates students for careers and leadership positions in a variety of fields. Graduates will have advanced education that opens the doors to a wide range of career possibilities in organizations such as:

- Environmental agencies of local, state, and federal government.
- Consulting firms who work with those agencies in assessing environmental programs, and with private firms who want to be good stewards toward the environment or want to evaluate their environmental impacts.
- Non-government organizations dedicated to protecting the environment, who need skills in assessing environmental systems, designing programs for environmental protection, and critical analysis of public policies.

Environmental Studies leads people into a growing and urgently needed field, with needs in the State of Florida and nationally. The program is an effective terminal degree for seeking entry to these fields at a high career level. It also is an opportunity for advanced training to enhance the skills – and boost the careers – of current professionals. And, it is designed to serve as an entry-level research degree for those who wish to pursue studies at the doctoral level.

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Florida Gulf Coast University

Master of Arts in

Environmental Studies



What is an MA in Env. Studies?

The MA Environmental Studies has an interdisciplinary focus encompassing the natural and social sciences. This foundation is necessary for understanding the complex, *cross-disciplinary* problems faced today by environmental policy decision-makers. Students gain a thorough grounding in methods, applications, and natural sciences, in addition to a core of courses in common to the field. Students may choose a particular emphasis such as: human populations and their interactions with the environment; effectiveness of environmental analysis and protection agencies; analysis and resolution of pressing environmental issues faced by modern society; and others.

FGCU specializes in educating students in the application of scientific information to policy analysis and management decision-making. The MA in Environmental Studies finds a productive complement in the University's MS in Environmental Science, a sibling degree program that emphasizes scientific research of the natural world. Environmental Studies students choose to partake of the same science-based courses taught by our experts in ecology, marine science, environmental biology and environmental education.

How can I get an MA in Environmental Studies?

The MA in Environmental Studies program is intended for those working in the environmental field, translating scientific results to best practices in management, policy, and education. It is designed to accommodate those already employed in the field, those recently completing an undergraduate degree, or anyone desiring new or enriched training in environmental management, environmental policy, or environmental education.

The program emulates a professional science masters (PSM), providing students with professional experience while acquiring a graduate degree. Students are required to complete a professional internship with a local agency or environmental organization. That experience culminates with the production of a capstone scholarly document customized for the specific internship experience and not a thesis. Already employed environmental professionals are able to adopt their current professional responsibilities into their internship.

The curriculum and professional internship are very manageable through a 2-year, full-time commitment, or longer for part-time students.



How do I apply?

Applications for admission in the Fall 2017 semester are due February 15, 2017.

Applications and other information about graduate programs at FGCU can be found on the Office of Research and Graduate Studies website at

<http://www.fgcu.edu/ORGs/index.html>

Information on financial aid, graduate assistantships, and grants can be found at

<http://www.fgcu.edu/Graduate/Financing-graduate-studies.html>

For more information on admission to the MA in Environmental Studies program visit:

<http://www.fgcu.edu/CAS/EnvStudiesMA/admissions.asp>