MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Mission Statement
The Department of Environmental Studies equips students to function, not only in the world of today, but also to adapt to and perform in the world of tomorrow. Each program track in the major contributes to the University’s mission by preparing students to think critically, communicate effectively, and act with reason. The Department aspires to educate students, to help them accept modifications of views, and to discard concepts that have proven to be flawed. The Department seeks truth in science, relying upon the testing of theory by experiment to yield an evolving understanding of environmental phenomena. We stimulate students’ thought processes to encourage the intellectual breadth that will forge them into future leaders.

Student Learning Outcomes
The graduate student in Environmental Science should be able to the following:

Content
- Comprehend and describe the concepts, theories, and frameworks in relevant subfields of the geo-, environmental, or spatial sciences
- Apply knowledge of basic physical processes to predict range of environmental responses

Critical Thinking
- Select appropriate research techniques to solve problems in the environmental sciences
- Use library resources and other information technology to access environmental databases and bibliographies.
- Solve environmental problems through skilled use of theory and methods in the relevant subfields of the geo-, environmental, or spatial sciences.
- Evaluate local environmental issues within the context of global environmental processes
- Create compelling arguments to justify technology and research methods appropriate to environmental projects

Communication
- Demonstrate proficiency in professional writing skills, including use of professional editorial style and organization
- Deliver clear oral presentations about environmental research before a peer audience, such as at a professional meeting
- Integrate geographic information technologies and science into research projects
Integrity/Ethics
- Adhere to the basic principles of the Code of Ethics for Environmental Professionals
- Design ethically-appropriate solutions for complex human-environment interactions
- Articulate how values systems can influence the success of environmental proposals

Project Management
- Organize and execute research projects in a systematic and timely manner, using the scientific method where appropriate
- Capture and integrate project-relevant environmental data from various sources, including written, graphic, digital, and photographic forms
- Collaborate effectively with team members on complex environmental solutions
- Design and prepare a basic grant proposal

Assessment Plan

Job Prospects

For more information about graduate education in Environmental Studies, please see the following website:
http://uwf.edu/environmental/degree/