MS in Environment, Natural Resources & Society

Coursework – Plan A Thesis, 32 Credit Hours; Plan B Thesis, 30 Credit Hours

Core (Plan A - 15 Credit Hours; Plan B – 13 Credit Hours)

- Orientation to ENR&S ENR 5001
- Foundations of ENR&S ENR 5100
- ENR Policy in Practice ENR 5900
- Collaborative Practicum (3 credits) ENR 5921
- Thesis Plan A (4 credits) or Plan B (2 credits) ENR 5960

Electives (17 Credit Hours)
Choose electives that inform your Plan A or Plan B thesis. Elective courses must be approved by student's major advisor and graduate committee in the submitted program of study.

Program of Study – additional

Plan A or Plan B Thesis
Students earning the MS in Environment, Natural Resources & Society must complete a Plan A research thesis or a Plan B thesis project. Both Plan A and Plan B theses lead to original thought, synthesis, or integration of relevant elements of scholarship on issues pertinent to environmental and natural resources management or policy. The Plan A thesis will incorporate original research and data analysis on an applied environmental or natural resource management problem. The Plan B thesis project is somewhat more flexible and may take a variety of forms. The content and form of the Plan A and Plan B theses must be negotiated with the student's major advisor and graduate committee.

Team Projects
With the assistance and guidance of Haub School faculty, students may choose to participate in a team-based research track coordinated around a group project. A cohort of 3-5 students will work together on a current, place-based natural resource problem with each student producing an individual thesis (Plan A or B) and program of study.

Applied Practicum
An important learning outcome of the ENR&S degree is to experience critical engagement with community stakeholders and decision makers. Each student will take three credits of applied practicum over the course of their graduate program. Through the practicum, students can engage directly with communities by attending public meetings, interviewing stakeholders, participating in collaborative projects, or other means. Students will work with Haub School faculty member(s) to coordinate their practicum experiences.

Learning Outcomes
The dynamic and rapidly changing environmental and natural resource fields demand professionals to have an integrated understanding across a broad array of disciplines, with one or more areas of significant specialization. Graduates of the MS degree in Environment, Natural Resources & Society will be prepared to become collaborative, interdisciplinary leaders in environmental and natural resource fields such as natural resource management, planning, and administration across sectors including nonprofit, for profit, government, and academic. ENR& S graduates will:

- Develop an interdisciplinary and collaborative mindset
- Experience critical engagement with community stakeholders and decision-makers
- Excel in team-based collaborative environments
- Gain experience in relevant and emergent research methods and practices
- Develop the focused, expansive, and adaptable skillsets required to succeed and lead in a wide variety of ENRS careers
- Demonstrate excellent written, oral, and digital communication across a range of audiences and purposes, including developing expertise in public engagement
- Apply conceptual, critical, and creative thought to relevant environmental and natural resource issues
- Analyze and evaluate complex systems that contribute to inclusive, sound, and well-informed decisions.