

# NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES, PHD

for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences

The Ph.D. program prepares students to be an expert in their fields. Earning a Ph.D. involves mastering a field of study and increasing the knowledge and understanding in that field through the completion of a dissertation that makes a contribution to existing research. Students working toward the Ph.D. degree are required demonstrate competency in at least three content areas by passing a general examination (the preliminary examination) before admission to candidacy for the doctoral degree. Students consult with their advisers to identify their competency content areas and the courses they will take, which are recorded on the Doctoral Plan of Study. The NRES Ph.D. program requires students to register for NRES Seminar (500) each semester, minus two, that the student is enrolled. To earn the doctorate, students must successfully complete a final oral examination (thesis defense). In most cases, students earn a M.S. before starting work on a Ph.D. However, in certain cases, it is possible to take the coursework required for the M.S. as part of a Ph.D. program. Details of the B.S. to Ph.D. program are available from the graduate coordinator.

For additional details and requirements refer to the department's Graduate Handbook (<http://nres.illinois.edu/graduate/handbook/>) and the Graduate College Handbook (<http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/>).

Code	Title	Hours
NRES 594	NRES Professional Orientation (need not be repeated if taken as an NRES M.S. student)	1
Graded Coursework (not including NRES 501, 512 or other independent study or readings course)		12
Electives		0-51
NRES 599	Thesis Research (max applied toward degree)	0-51
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>64</b>

## Other Requirements

Requirement	Description
Other requirements may overlap	
Minimum GPA:	3.0
Masters Degree Required for Admission to PhD?	Yes
Qualifying Exam Required	No
Preliminary Exam Required	Yes
Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required	Yes
Dissertation Deposit Required	Yes