

WETLAND SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION, CERT

for the Graduate Certificate in Wetland Science and Conservation, CERT (online)

The Wetland Science and Conservation Graduate Certificate provides students with an in-depth understanding of wetland ecosystems by examining their biological, chemical, and physical aspects. Students will explore the impact of U.S. regulations on wetlands, assess the consequences of human activities on wetland ecosystem services, and master techniques for wetland delineation and restoration planning. The curriculum extends its focus beyond national borders, delving into global wetland conservation through exploration of international agreements, non-governmental organizations, and national regulations. Finally, students will gain insight into the diverse stakeholder landscape that influences successful wetland management, enabling them to make informed decisions that balance ecological preservation and human needs.

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Graduation Requirements

Minimum Cumulative GPA: 3.0

Minimum hours required for certificate completion: 12 hours

Students who have successfully completed this certificate may use the certificate courses to satisfy the following degree requirements, provided they apply and are admitted to the degree program:

12 hours of elective coursework requirements of the Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences, MS (non-thesis) degree program

The required courses for this certificate are listed below.

Code	Title	Hours
NRES 417	Principles of Wetland Science and Conservation	4
NRES 517	Advanced Wetland Theory and Techniques	4
NRES 527	Wetland Science and Conservation in Context	4
Total Hours		12

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As a result of this program, students will be able to:

1. Assess the biological, chemical, and physical components of wetlands.
2. Explain how current U.S. laws and regulations govern human impacts to wetlands.
3. Evaluate the impact that human activity has on wetland ecosystem services and functions.
4. Identify wetlands and delineate wetland boundaries based on vegetation, soil, and hydrological indicators.

5. Create a wetland restoration plan capable of restoring/replacing ecosystem services and functions.
6. Apply ecosystem stewardship concepts and technological tools to wetland restoration and conservation.
7. Evaluate the role of national regulations, international agreements, and non-governmental organizations in global wetland conservation.
8. Assess the impact that different stakeholder groups can have on successful wetland management.

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