Duluth Campus

Water Resources Science Minor

Swenson College of Science & Engineering
University of Minnesota Duluth

Link to a list of faculty for this program.

Contact Information:
Water Resources Science, 173 McNeal Hall, 1985 Buford Avenue, St. Paul MN 55108 (612-624-7456; fax: 612-625-1263)
Email: wrs@umn.edu
Website: http://wrs.umn.edu/degrees-courses/degree-requirements

- Program Type: Graduate minor related to major
- Requirements for this program are current for Spring 2018
- Length of program in credits (Masters): 9
- Length of program in credits (Doctorate): 12
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the General Information section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

This cross-campus interdisciplinary program provides comprehensive training in water resources science, with integration across scientific disciplines. A structured interdisciplinary graduate curriculum is offered. The program includes a set of core courses plus electives in the following areas of emphasis at the M.S. and Ph.D. levels: aquatic biology, environmental chemistry, hydrologic science, limnology, water management technology, water policy, water quality, and watershed science and management. Approximately 80 courses offered within 15 other graduate programs are available to students majoring in water resources science.

The goal of the program is to produce scientists with strong technical skills in disciplines relevant to water resources and a broad understanding of 1) the hydrologic cycle and associated ecosystems, 2) the interconnectedness of the sciences involved in managing aquatic resources, and 3) the interplay between the biophysical sciences and social sciences in developing and implementing public policies related to water.

Students in the program develop the breadth of scientific knowledge appropriate to understand the complicated aquatic ecosystems and watersheds on which they will work, as well as social dimensions of the topic, including the public policy and legal frameworks in which water resources are protected and managed.

The program involves faculty from the following departments on the Twin Cities campus: Applied Economics; Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering; Civil Engineering; Earth Sciences; Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior; Entomology; Environmental and Occupational Health; Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology; Forest Resources; Geography; Horticultural Science; Microbiology, Plant Biology; Soil, Water, and Climate; and the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. It also involves faculty from the following departments on the Duluth campus: Biology; Chemical Engineering; Chemistry; Civil Engineering; Geography; Geological Sciences; Physics; and Political Science; as well as the Large Lakes Observatory and the Natural Resources Research Institute in Duluth.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Prerequisites for Admission

The preferred undergraduate GPA for admittance to the program is 3.00.

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the General Information section of the catalog website.

Program Requirements

Use of 4xxx courses towards program requirements is not permitted.

Required Course (3 cr)
WRS 5101 - Water Policy (3.0 cr)

Minor for Masters or Ph.D.

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Information current as of March 29, 2024

Minor for Masters

Take 6 or more credit(s) from the following:

- BIOL 5833 - Stream Ecology (3.0 cr)
- BIOL 5861 - Lake Ecology (3.0 cr)
- GEOL 5240 *{Inactive}*(4.0 cr)
- EES 5250 - Hydrogeology (4.0 cr)
- LIM 5101 - Physical Limnology (3.0 cr)
- LIM 5102 - Chemical Limnology (3.0 cr)
- LIM 5103 - Geological Paleolimnology (3.0 cr)

or **Minor for Ph.D.**

Take 1 or more course(s) from the following:

- BIOL 5833 - Stream Ecology (3.0 cr)
- BIOL 5861 - Lake Ecology (3.0 cr)
- EES 5250 - Hydrogeology (4.0 cr)
- LIM 5101 - Physical Limnology (3.0 cr)
- LIM 5102 - Chemical Limnology (3.0 cr)
- LIM 5103 - Geological Paleolimnology (3.0 cr)

Take 2 or more course(s) from the following:

- BIOL 5777 *{Inactive}*(2.0 cr)
- BIOL 5801 - Microbial Ecology (2.0 cr)
- BIOL 5802 *{Inactive}*(2.0 cr)
- BIOL 5805 - Fisheries Ecology and Management (3.0 cr)
- BIOL 5833 - Stream Ecology (3.0 cr)
- BIOL 4839 - Coral Reef Field Studies [GLOBAL PER] (3.0 cr)
- BIOL 5861 - Lake Ecology (3.0 cr)
- BIOL 5862 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
- BIOL 5863 - Ecosystems Ecology (3.0 cr)
- BIOL 5868 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
- BIOL 5869 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
- BIOL 5870 - Wetland Ecology (3.0 cr)
- EES 5210 - Glacial and Quaternary Geology (4.0 cr)
- GEOL 5215 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
- EES 5220 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
- GEOL 5240 *{Inactive}*(4.0 cr)
- EES 5250 - Hydrogeology (4.0 cr)
- EES 5260 - Fluvial Geomorphology (3.0 cr)
- LIM 5004 *{Inactive}*(2.0 cr)
- LIM 5101 - Physical Limnology (3.0 cr)
- LIM 5102 - Chemical Limnology (3.0 cr)
- LIM 5103 - Geological Paleolimnology (3.0 cr)
- WRS 5050 *{Inactive}*(1.0 - 3.0 cr)

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