

ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCE, MASTER OF SCIENCE (0473)

Program Coordinator

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The graduate program in Environmental and Occupational Health Science is designed to provide graduate education for careers focused on the protection of human health and prevention of health hazards in occupational and natural environments. A key component of the program is to understand how exposure to environmental and occupational hazards occurs, and discovering ways to reduce and control the risk of exposure. This interdisciplinary field focuses on environmental hazards to human health, assessment of exposures, mechanisms of environmental response, control of risks associated with environmental hazards, and improving occupational health. Program requirements will provide students a foundation of advanced studies that will increase their skills and knowledge for protecting human health and the environment.

This program is designed for working professionals and students desiring opportunities with industry, consulting firms, government agencies, and other environmental and occupational health science professions.

The Master of Science in Environmental and Occupational Health Science is accredited by the National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council (EHAC). The program is also designated as Qualified Academic Program by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP). This provides graduates the opportunity to apply with BCSP for Graduate Safety Professional (GSP) designation.

Joint Undergraduate Master's Program (JUMP)

The Master of Science (MS) in Environmental and Occupational Health (EOHS) degree offers a Joint Undergraduate Master's Program (JUMP) which provides academically outstanding students the opportunity to complete both an undergraduate and graduate degree in an accelerated timeframe. Contact the graduate program coordinator for additional information.

This JUMP program allows students to start working toward their MS in EOHS (REF: 0473) while completing their Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental and Occupational Health Science (REF: 548), Bachelor of Science in Public Health (REF: 521), and Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences (REF: 564). Undergraduate students admitted into JUMP may take graduate courses that count toward both undergraduate and graduate degrees. Up to 12 credit hours can be double-counted toward both degrees, and up to 15 hours of graduate courses can be taken while a student is completing the undergraduate degree. The key benefit of the JUMP program is that it allows students to earn a bachelor's and a master's degree in an accelerated timeframe.

To be considered for admission to the JUMP program to earn a BS and MS in EOHS in an accelerated timeframe, a student must meet the following requirements: 1) be an undergraduate student in BS in EOHS (Ref: 548), BS in PH (Ref: 521), or BS in HS (Ref: 564), 2) have completed at least 60 hours total, with at least 24 hours earned at WKU, 3) have

15 or more credit hours remaining to complete the bachelor's degree, and 4) have a minimum 3.25 overall GPA. Student must maintain a 3.0 cumulative graduate GPA.

Program Admission

In addition to Graduate Studies admission requirements, admission requires the equivalent of an undergraduate major in environmental health science and occupational health and safety including supporting courses in science and mathematics. Exceptions may be made for students with undergraduate degrees in other disciplines; however, additional courses may be required.

Admission *may be* granted to applicants who fulfill one of the following conditions: 1) Completion of the Occupational Safety and Health graduate certificate with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale; OR 2) Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 or greater on a baccalaureate degree or equivalent international degree; OR 3) Minimum GPA of 3.0 on a degree higher than baccalaureate or equivalent international degree.

Program Requirements (36 hours)

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
EOHS 502	Health Promotion in the Workplace	3
EOHS 550	Principles of Occupational Safety and Health	3
EOHS 560	Environmental Management	3
EOHS 570	Industrial Hygiene	3
EOHS 572	Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology	3
EOHS 577	Environmental Toxicology	3
PH 520	Biostatistics for Public Health	3
PH 584	Principles of Environmental Health	3
Electives		
Select 6 hours (thesis option students) or 9 hours (applied practice experience option students) from the following: ¹		6-9
EOHS Electives		
EOHS 510	Watershed Management and Science	
EOHS 571	Air Quality Management	
EOHS 580	Solid and Hazardous Wastes	
EOHS 595	Public Health Management of Disasters	
PH 501	Research Methods	
PH 530	Selected Topics/Independent Study	
PH 581	Applied Methods in Public Health Practice/Field Epidemiology	
PH 582	Epidemiology	
PH 620	Advanced Biostatistics	
PH 630	Advanced Epidemiology	
Workplace Health Promotion Electives		
EOHS 503	Health Assessment in Workplace	
PH 575	Program Planning in Public Health Practice	
PH 576	Public Health Education and Communication Techniques	
PH 587	Health Behavior Theory	

Culminating Experience		
PH 599	Thesis Research/Writing (6 hrs)	3-6
or EOHS 546	Environmental & Occupational Health Science Internship	
or EOHS 598	Capstone in Environmental and Occupational Health	
Total Hours		36

¹ Courses may be selected from the list above or from other disciplines, given that the course is pertinent to the program of study. The graduate advisor must approve all elective courses.