

Date Submitted: 10/26/22 12:59 pm

Viewing: **10KS0190PHD : Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, PhD**

Last approved: 09/14/22 4:48 pm

Last edit: 02/01/23 7:51 am

Changes proposed by: Piper Hodson

[Natural Resources & Environmental Sciences, PhD](#)

Catalog Pages
Using this
Program

Proposal Type:

In Workflow

1. **U Program Review**
2. **1875 Committee Chair**
3. **1875 Head**
4. **KL Committee Chair**
5. **KL Dean**
6. **University Librarian**
7. **Grad_College**
8. **Provost**
9. **Senate EPC**

10. Senate
11. U Senate Conf
12. Board of Trustees
13. IBHE
14. HLC
15. DOE
16. DMI

Approval Path

1. 10/26/22 1:30 pm
Emily Stuby
(eastuby):
Approved for U
Program Review
2. 10/27/22 8:30 am
James Miller
(jrmillr): Approved
for 1875
Committee Chair
3. 10/27/22 9:11 am
Robert Schooley
(schooley):
Approved for 1875
Head
4. 11/03/22 10:58
am
Brianna Gregg
(bjgray2):
Approved for KL

- Committee Chair
- 5. 11/03/22 1:11 pm
Anna Ball (aball):
Approved for KL
Dean
- 6. 11/03/22 1:27 pm
John Wilkin
(jpwilkin):
Approved for
University
Librarian
- 7. 12/05/22 2:44 pm
Allison McKinney
(agrindly):
Approved for
Grad_College
- 8. 12/14/22 7:43 am
Brooke Newell
(bsnewell):
Approved for
Provost
- 9. 01/31/23 7:55 am
Barbara Lehman
(bjlehman):
Approved for
Senate EPC
- 10. 01/31/23 7:56 am
Barbara Lehman
(bjlehman):
Rollback to Senate
EPC for Senate

History

- 1. Jan 21, 2020 by
Mary Lowry
(lowry)
- 2. Sep 14, 2022 by
Mary Lowry
(lowry)

Major (ex. Special Education)

This proposal is
for a:
Revision

Administration Details

Official Program Name Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, PhD

Diploma Title

Sponsor College Agr, Consumer, & Env Sciences

Sponsor Department Natural Res & Env Science

Sponsor Name [Jeff Matthews](#)

Sponsor Email jmatthew@illinois.edu

College Contact [Brianna Gregg](#) College Contact Email

bjgray2@illinois.edu

College Budget Officer

College Budget Officer Email

List the role for rollbacks (which role will edit the proposal on questions from EPC, e.g., Dept Head or Initiator) and/or any additional stakeholders. Purpose: List here who will do the editing work if proposal needs rolled back. And any other stakeholders.

[Piper Hodson phodson@illinois.edu](mailto:Piper.Hodson@illinois.edu)

Does this program have inter-departmental administration?
No

Proposal Title

Effective Catalog Term Spring 2023

Proposal Title (either Establish/Revise/Eliminate the Degree Name in Program Name in the College of XXXX, i.e., Establish the Bachelor of Science in Entomology in the College of Liberals Art and Sciences, include the Graduate College for Grad Programs)

Revise the Doctor of Philosophy in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences in the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences and the Graduate College

Does this proposal have any related proposals that will also be revised during the next 6 weeks? Consider Majors, Minors, Concentrations & Joint Programs in your department. Please know that this information is used administratively to move related proposals through workflow efficiently. Example: If you are revising the BS proposal and one related concentration within the next 6 weeks, "This BS proposal (key 567) is related to the Concentration A proposal (key 145)."

No

Program Justification

Provide a brief description of what changes are being made to the program. Specifying the requirements for earning the NRES Ph.D. without an M.S.

Did the program content change 25% or more in relation to the total credit hours, since the 2020-2021 catalog. (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/archivedacademiccatalogs/2020-2021/>)

No

Why are these changes necessary?

We occasionally have M.S. student who decide to transfer to the doctoral program without completing the M.S. These changes represent a long practice that needs to be represented in the catalog.

Instructional Resources

Will there be any reduction in other course offerings, programs or concentrations by your department as a result of this new program/proposed change?

No

Does this new program/proposed change result in the replacement of another program?

No

Does the program include other courses/subjects outside of the sponsoring department impacted by the creation/revision of this program?

No

Program Regulation and Assessment

Plan to Assess and Improve Student Learning

Illinois Administrative Code: 1050.30(b)(1)(D) Provision is made for guidance and counseling of students, evaluations of student performance, continuous monitoring of progress of students toward their degree objectives and appropriate academic record keeping.

List the program's student learning outcomes. Each outcome should identify what students are expected to know and/or be able to do upon completing this program.

1. Student has ability to design and implement research that integrates core knowledge related to their discipline.
2. Student can apply the research tools and techniques, data analysis techniques, and professional skills necessary for their subject matter.
3. Student has written and oral communication skills appropriate for their disciplinary field.
4. Student exhibits professionalism through leadership, well-developed problem solving abilities, and ethical thinking.
5. Student has skills necessary for effective college/university teaching and mentoring.

Describe how, when, and where these learning outcomes will be assessed.

Describe here:

- Each student's attainment of the learning objectives will be assessed annually during the Annual Review of Graduate Student Progress and at the following milestones:
1. Research Prospectus in the third semester
 2. Preliminary Examination no later than the sixth semester
 3. Thesis
 4. Final Examination

Identify faculty expectations for students' achievement of each of the stated student learning outcomes. What score, rating, or level of expertise will signify that students have met each outcome? Provide rating rubrics as necessary.

Explain the process that will be implemented to ensure that assessment results are used to improve student learning.

Program

Description and

Requirements

Attach Documents

Is the career/profession for graduates of this program regulated by the State of Illinois?

No

Program of Study

Baccalaureate degree requires at least 120 semester credit hours or 180 quarter credit hours and at least 40 semester credit hours (60 quarter credit hours) in upper division courses" (source: <https://www.ibhe.org/assets/files/PublicAdminRules2017.pdf>). For proposals for new bachelor's degrees, if this minimum is not explicitly met by specifically-required 300- and/or 400-level courses, please provide information on how the upper-division hours requirement will be satisfied.

Revised programs Attach a revised Sample Sequence (for undergraduate program) or college-level forms.

Catalog Page Text - Overview Tab

Description of program for the catalog page. This is not official content, it is used to help build the new catalog page for the program. Can be edited in the catalog by the college or department.

Statement for
Programs of
Study Catalog

Entering with approved M.S./M.A. degree

Course List

Code	Title	Hours
NRES 594	NRES Professional Orientation	1
Graded Coursework (excludes all courses graded satisfactory/unsatisfactory, NRES 500 , 501 , 512 , and other independent study or readings courses)		12
Electives		0-51
<u>Additional coursework (may include graded coursework, courses graded satisfactory/unsatisfactory, NRES 500, 501, 512, and other independent study or readings courses) as determined by advisory committee</u>		<u>0-20</u>
NRES 599	Thesis Research (max applied toward degree)	0-51
<u>Total Hours</u>		<u>64</u>

Other Requirements

Grad Other Degree 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

Entering with B.S./B.A. degree

Course List

Code	Title	Hours
NRES 594	NRES Professional Orientation	<u>1</u>
<u>Graded Coursework (excludes all courses graded satisfactory/unsatisfactory, NRES 501, 512, and other independent study or readings courses))</u>		<u>12</u>
<u>Additional coursework (may include graded coursework, courses graded satisfactory/unsatisfactory, NRES 501, 512, and other independent study or readings courses)</u>		<u>20</u>
NRES 599	Thesis Research (max applied toward degree)	0-63
<u>Total Hours</u>		96

Other Requirements

Grad Other Degree Requirements

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

Corresponding Degree PhD Doctor of Philosophy

Program Features

Academic Level Graduate

Does this major have transcribed concentrations? No

What is the typical time to completion of this program?

6 years

What are the minimum Total Credit Hours required for this program?

64

What is the required GPA? 3.0

CIP Code 030104 - Environmental Science.

Is This a Teacher Certification Program?

No

Will specialized accreditation be sought for this program?

No

Delivery Method

This program is available:

On Campus - Students are required to be on campus, they may take some online courses.

Admission Requirements

Desired Effective Admissions Term

Is this revision a change to the admission status of the program?

No

Provide a brief narrative description of the admission requirements for this program. Where relevant, include information about licensure requirements, student background checks, GRE and TOEFL scores, and admission requirements for transfer students.

Enrollment

Describe how this revision or phase down/elimination will impact enrollment and degrees awarded. If this is an elimination/phase down proposal include the plans for the students left in the program.

We anticipate no impact on enrollment.

Estimated Annual Number of Degrees Awarded

Year One Estimate

5th Year Estimate (or when fully implemented)

What is the matriculation term for this program? Fall

Budget

Are there budgetary implications for this revision? No

Will the program or revision require staffing (faculty, advisors, etc.) beyond what is currently available?

No

Additional Budget Information

Attach File(s)

Financial Resources

How does the unit intend to financially support this proposal?

Will the unit need to seek campus or other external resources?

No

Attach letters of support

What tuition rate do you expect to charge for this program? e.g, Undergraduate Base Tuition, or Engineering Differential, or Social Work Online (no dollar amounts necessary)

Are you seeking a change in the tuition rate or differential for this program?

No

Is this program requesting self-supporting status?

No

Faculty Resources

Please address the impact on faculty resources including any changes in numbers of faculty, class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratios, etc.

Because this revision reflects current practice, we anticipate no impacts.

Library Resources

Describe your proposal's impact on the University Library's resources, collections, and services. If necessary please consult with the appropriate disciplinary specialist within the University Library.

Because this revision reflects current practice, we anticipate no impacts.

EP Documentation

EP Control Number EP.23.025

Attach Rollback/Approval Notices [ep23025_email to and response from sponsor_20230131.pdf](#)

This proposal requires HLC inquiry No

DMI Documentation

Attach Final Approval Notices

Banner/Codebook Name PHD:Nat Res & Envrn Sci -UIUC

Program Code: 10KS0190PHD

Minor Code	Conc Code	Degree Code	PHD	Major Code
0190				

Senate Approval Date

Senate Conference Approval Date

BOT Approval Date

IBHE Approval Date

HLC Approval Date

DOE Approval

Date

Effective Date:

Attached

Document

Justification for
this request

Program Reviewer
Comments

Brooke Newell (bsnewell) (10/19/22 2:55 pm): Rollback: Email sent to Piper and Brianna.

Barbara Lehman (bjlehman) (01/31/23 7:56 am): Rollback: not approved by EP.

Key: 402

From: [Matthews, Jeffrey Wayne](#)
To: [Pahre, Jennie](#)
Cc: [Gregg, Brianna J](#); [Hodson, Piper](#); [Lehman, Barbara J](#)
Subject: RE: EP.23.025 Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Ph.D.
Date: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 4:24:19 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hello Jennie,

Thank you for conveying the information to the subcommittee. In answer to your question, extra earned credits do not count.

Regards,
Jeff

JEFFREY W. MATTHEWS

Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies

Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences
College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES)
S-516 Turner Hall | 1102 S. Goodwin | Urbana, IL 61801
217.244.2168 | jmatthew@illinois.edu



Under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act any written communication to or from university employees regarding university business is a public record and may be subject to public disclosure.

From: Pahre, Jennie <jpahre@illinois.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 2:18 PM
To: Matthews, Jeffrey Wayne <jmatthew@illinois.edu>
Cc: Gregg, Brianna J <bjgray2@illinois.edu>; Hodson, Piper <phodson@illinois.edu>; Lehman, Barbara J <bjlehman@illinois.edu>
Subject: Re: EP.23.025 Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Ph.D.

Dear Jeff,

I hope your week is going very well.

This note reviews our prior exchanges about the Ed Pol proposal you sponsored and also seeks your input with respect to one final question.

To summarize: I presented your proposal at yesterday's Senate Educational Policy meeting. As per our prior exchange, I explained that students can enter the Ph.D. program via one of three

routes:

A) Students enter after having earned an M.S. This is the most common route. These students are not required to pass a Qualifying Exam and would enter the 64-hour program.

B) Students can enter the M.S. program and transfer to the Ph.D. program without completing the M.S. These students would enter the 96-hour program but will have earned credits from their time in the M.S. program.

C) Students occasionally enter the Ph.D. program directly after completing a B.A. or B.S. These students would enter the 96-hour program.

I also explained that these three options represent long-standing practice in the program; however, the 96-hour option was not adequately represented in the catalogue. Hence the need for the proposal.

With respect to the nuts-and-bolts of the proposal, it appears that the main thing that is changing is that, for those entering with just a B.S./B.A., additional thesis credit hours are required. We noted that this makes sense, because the capstone or thesis is a substantial part of the master's degree.

But there was one more question. The Senate Educational Policy committee wondered about the application of any extra credit hours earned by students. We could not tell from the proposal how these hours were to be handled. Do they not count? We know that in some colleges, once a degree is earned, any additional coursework is, essentially, not counted or applied.

This was a matter of interest to the committee, and if you can help with this question, I would appreciate it.

Kind regards,

Jennie

JENNIFER N. PAHRE

Teaching Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies

College of Law

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

202 Law Building | M/C 594

Champaign, IL 61820

217.333.0712 | jpahre@illinois.edu

www.law.illinois.edu



As a land-grant institution, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has a responsibility to acknowledge the historical context in which it exists. We are currently on the lands of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Peankashaw, Wea, Miami, Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Chickasaw Nations. It is necessary for us to acknowledge these Native Nations and for us to work with them as we move forward as an institution.

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From: Matthews, Jeffrey Wayne <jmatthew@illinois.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 4:45 PM

To: Pahre, Jennie <jpahre@illinois.edu>

Cc: Gregg, Brianna J <bjgray2@illinois.edu>; Hodson, Piper <phodson@illinois.edu>

Subject: RE: EP.23.025 Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Ph.D.

Dear Jennie,

In answer to the subcommittee's questions:

1. Students can enter the Ph.D. program via one of three routes: A) Students enter after having earned an M.S. This is the most common route. These students are not required to pass a Qualifying Exam, and would enter the 64-hour program. B) Students can enter the M.S. program and transfer to the Ph.D. program without completing the M.S. These students would enter the 96-hour program, but will have earned credits from their time in the M.S. program. C) Students occasionally enter the Ph.D. program directly after completing a B.A. or B.S. These students would enter the 96-hour program. These three options represent long-standing practice in the program. However, it came to our attention that the 96-hour option was not adequately represented in the catalogue.
2. The 4- to 6-year time frame was included because 6 years represents a reasonable time frame for students entering the program with only a B.A. or B.S.
3. The extra 32 hours of the 96 hour Ph.D. is made up of 20 hours of "additional coursework" and 12 hours of NRES 599 Thesis Research. The 64 hour Ph.D. contains the "additional coursework" section but specifies it as 0-20 hours, because no additional coursework is required if the student enters with a qualifying Master's degree.

Regards,
Jeff

JEFFREY W. MATTHEWS

Associate Professor, Director of Graduate Studies

Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences
College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES)

S-516 Turner Hall | 1102 S. Goodwin | Urbana, IL 61801
217.244.2168 | jmatthew@illinois.edu



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From: Pahre, Jennie <jpahre@illinois.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2023 4:00 PM
To: Matthews, Jeffrey Wayne <jmatthew@illinois.edu>
Cc: Gregg, Brianna J <bjgray2@illinois.edu>
Subject: Re: EP.23.025 Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Ph.D.

Dear Professor Matthews,

I know it's a fiendishly busy time, and I hope you don't mind this follow-up note. I wanted to make sure that my prior email reached you.

Please let me know if you'd like to chat about my subcommittee's questions concerning your pending proposal.

With thanks,

Jennie

JENNIFER N. PAHRE

Teaching Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies
College of Law
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
202 Law Building | M/C 594
Champaign, IL 61820
217.333.0712 | jpahre@illinois.edu
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to work with them as we move forward as an institution.

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From: Pahre, Jennie <jpahre@illinois.edu>

Sent: Friday, January 20, 2023 6:21 PM

To: Matthews, Jeffrey Wayne <jmatthew@illinois.edu>

Subject: EP.23.025 Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Ph.D.

Dear Professor Matthews,

I hope that the new semester is starting well for you.

This year, I am the chair of subcommittee A of the Senate Educational Policy Committee. A proposal you are sponsoring, EP.23.025 (revisions to the Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences Ph.D.), has come to my subcommittee for review.

The members of my subcommittee understand the need to align the statements in the course catalogue with established practices (and we wish all units followed this policy). There are, nonetheless, a few questions from some of my committee members. If you could help me by responding to their questions, I would be grateful. I'd like to present your proposal with all the questions answered in order to facilitate the proposal's swift approval.

The questions are as follows (and I am sending them to you in nearly the same wording that they came to me):

1. The program justification says that the reason for the amendment is "specifying the requirements for earning the NRES Ph.D. without an M.S." The changes are stated as necessary because the department occasionally has "M.S. students who decide to transfer to the doctoral program without completing the M.S. These changes represent a long practice that needs to be represented in the catalogue." This seems to imply that only students who come in through the M.S. program (i.e. with only a B.A. or B.S.) can transfer to the Ph.D. program. Is this what was meant? Isn't this effectively a change to the admission requirements (i.e. an M.S. is no longer required for the Ph.D.)?
2. The typical time to graduation (6 years) seems quite long -- especially for students who are coming in with a master's degree. Or, is the 6 years the timeframe contemplated for students entering with only a B.A. or B.S.?
3. The main change for those entering with a B.S./B.A. is additional thesis credits. This makes some sense, given that a capstone or thesis is a substantial part of the master's degree, but the M.S. in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences also has additional required electives. Why are those not included for PhD students who are coming in with just a B.S./B.A.?

Thank you in advance for your help; I sincerely appreciate it.

All best,

Jennie

JENNIFER N. PAHRE

Teaching Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies

College of Law

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

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