

# **Environmental Health Sciences**

## **MS Program (non-GHE students)**

MS students in Environmental Health Sciences have the option to pursue Degree Plan I (thesis) or Degree Plan II (project). Regardless of the Plan, MS students have six semesters in which to complete requirements for their degrees.

**Plan I** requires at least 20 semester units of upper division graduate courses and a thesis. A minimum of 8 of these units must be in graduate courses (200 series) in the major subject. No more than 6 units of the program may be research units (PH 299), unless the chair of the graduate advisors requests special permission and the request is approved by the Dean of the Graduate Division. A minimum of two semesters of academic residence is required. Course units are not granted for the thesis and it must be formatted according to specific stipulations. Information regarding the organization and format of the thesis is available from the Degrees Staff, Office of the Dean of the Graduate Division, 302 Sproul Hall.

**Plan II** requires a minimum of 24 units of upper division graduate courses. At least 12 of these units must be in graduate courses (200 level) in the student's major subject. Additionally, no more than 6 units may be research units (PH 299). Rather than complete a comprehensive exam or file a thesis with the Graduate Division, MS students graduating under Plan II will complete an original research project, such as a full literature review or a research paper utilizing pre-existing data

MS students should discuss the Plan options with their academic advisors during the first semester of academic residency and a final decision should be made by the end of the first academic year. In addition to the requirement of 8-12 units of advanced study in the major field of EHS (the number of units is determined by the Degree Plan as indicated above), MS students are required to take at least two courses outside the graduate group and, preferably, outside the School of Public Health. The academic advisor must approve these courses. Research efforts will begin in the second semester of the first year with Independent Research (PH 299, 2 units) under the supervision of the academic advisor. In addition, students will be exposed to interdisciplinary research issues and approaches through their participation in the toxic substances seminar (PH 298). During the second year, students will take additional units of PH 299 as they conduct their research projects or theses. Students will be encouraged to pursue their research during the summer between years one and two.

In conjunction with the sample MS curriculum below, please refer to the appropriate course requirement checksheet in the appendix to use as a guide in planning your courses. If you have questions about the requirements, contact your faculty advisor or the Program Coordinator.

MS students are not automatically advanced to candidacy; they must make a formal application for advancement to candidacy no later than the end of the fifth week of classes of the semester in which they expect to receive the degree. Applications for Advancement to Candidacy are available in the SPH Student Services Office, 417 University Hall. Students should enter the program for the master's degree on the back of the candidacy form. The chair of graduate advisers must sign the candidacy form for all master's students. In addition, thesis committee chairs must sign applications for students completing a degree under Plan I (the thesis committee consists of three faculty; see the EHS Program Coordinator for details).

### **Sample curriculum for the MS students:**

#### **Year 1 - Fall**

PH 142 Probability & Statistics 4 units  
PH 270A Exposure Assessment & Control 3 units  
PH 292 EHS Masters Seminar 1 unit (**S/U only**)  
PH 250A or B Epidemiologic Methods 3 unit)

#### **Year 2 – Spring**

PH 145 Statistical Analysis of Continuous-Outcome Data 4 units  
PH 270B Advanced Toxicology 3 units  
PH 299 Independent Research 2 units  
Advanced courses/Electives 2 units

#### **Year 2 - Fall**

PH 220C Risk Assessment, Policy & Toxics Regulations 4 units  
PH 299 Independent Research 2 units  
Advanced Courses/Electives 9 units

#### **Year 2 – Spring**

PH 299 Independent Research 2 units  
Advanced courses/Electives 10 units