

# **PROGRAM ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES**



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**ENVIRONMENTAL  
SCIENCE**

**OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE GRADATE PROGRAM**

## INTRODUCTION

The Environmental Science Graduate Program (ESGP) at Oklahoma State University is committed to the development of environmental professionals through the integration of theory and practice. The goal of the program is to produce graduates who are competent not only in core knowledge and skill areas of environmental science, but also in their particular environmental specializations. Our Professional Science Master Degree Program is specifically designed to provide students with both business and science skills and knowledge.

## ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE GRADUATE PROGRAM'S MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

The program defines environmental science as an interdisciplinary field focused on the sustainable management of the systems that lie at the interface of humans and nature in order to improve human quality of life. These systems include ecological systems, social systems, technological systems, economic systems, and governance systems. Competency in environmental science requires interdisciplinary synthesis of the knowledge and skills from several disciplines, as well as novel insights gained from this synthesis.

The faculty supporting our program understand that students are active participants in their interactions with the natural and social environments, both as citizens and budding professionals. Additionally, the faculty recognize that students may need assistance in integrating and synthesizing knowledge and skills across disciplines, focusing these on particular environmental problems, and enhancing their appreciation of the interdependency between quality of life and the health of environmental systems.

### Mission

The Environmental Science Graduate Program provides interdisciplinary understanding and appreciation of the interdependent relationships between human and natural systems. We teach the skills needed to analyze, synthesize, manage, and disseminate knowledge in order to formulate and apply practical solutions to complex environmental problems.

### Vision

The Environmental Science Graduate Program will prepare graduates for successful careers in environmental professions and contribute to the advancement of environmental science. To accomplish this, we will:

- Provide an interdisciplinary, but focused, curriculum that enables students to participate effectively in addressing environmental problems;
- Provide skills necessary to conduct and present environmental research; and
- Collaborate with alumni, employers, internship sponsors, and supporters in the community.

### Core Values

**Excellence:** We seek excellence in all our endeavors and are committed to continuous improvement.

**Intellectual Freedom:** We believe in ethical and scholarly questioning in an environment that respects the rights of all to pursue knowledge freely.

**Integrity:** We are committed to the principles of truth and honesty and we will be equitable, ethical, and professional.

**Service:** We believe that serving others is a noble and worthy endeavor.

**Diversity:** We respect and value diversity of opinion, freedom of expression, and strive to establish a program that respects the diverse background of all participants.

**Resource Stewardship:** We are dedicated to the efficient and effective use of resources. We accept the responsibility of the public's trust and are accountable for our actions.

**Sustainability:** We are committed to promoting societal development that is environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable.

**Interdisciplinary Education and Research:** We recognize that environmental education, research, and service require an interdisciplinary understanding of the interactions and interdependencies between humans and nature. Thus, we seek to incorporate interdisciplinary knowledge in our courses and interdisciplinary collaboration in our research.

## PROGRAM ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

Please mark the appropriate box.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION	STUDENT SURVEY OF THE ESGP		
	Excellent: Program was outstanding	Average: Program was mediocre	Poor: Program did not meet expectations
<p><b>1. Sustainability:</b></p> <p>The program addressed and promoted societal development that is both environmentally and economically sustainable.</p>			
<p><b>2. Interdisciplinary Education and Research:</b></p> <p>The program recognizes that environmental education, research, and service require an interdisciplinary understanding of the interactions and interdependencies between humans and nature.</p>			
<p><b>3. Marketability:</b></p> <p>The program recognizes that our graduates need to be marketable in today's society. Our goal to provide a marketable, interdisciplinary curriculum that will provide our graduates a springboard to full employment.</p>			
<p><b>4. Instructors:</b></p> <p>The program's instructors were knowledgeable, well prepared, and devoted to teaching.</p>			
<p><b>5. Your expectations:</b></p> <p>Did the Environmental Science Graduate Program meet your expectations?</p>			

Please also answer the narrative questions on the next page.

**Semester and Year Graduating:** \_\_\_\_\_

1. What do you like best about the program? In other words, what are its strengths?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What suggestions do you have for improving our program? These could address curriculum, faculty mentorship, program administration, student activities, infrastructure support, or other area.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What are your career and/or educational goals now?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. Are you presently working as an Environmental Professional? Do you have a job lined up? With whom?

**Optional Information:**

**Your ethnicity:**

Asian/ Pacific Islander      Black/ African American      Caucasian/ White  
Hispanic      Latino      Native American      Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I don't know / I prefer not to answer

**Your Gender:**

Male

Female

Other / I prefer not to answer