



NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COMMITTEE

GRADUATE CURRICULUM

PROPOSAL FOR

NEW PLAN, PLAN CHANGE, OR PLAN DELETION

1. College: **Engineering and Natural Sciences**
2. Department: **Environmental Sciences**
3. Academic Plan: **M.S. in Environmental Sciences and Policy**
4. Term and year when proposal becomes effective (i.e., Spring 2007): **Spring 2007**
5. Plan Proposal is **[please underline]**: New Change Deletion
6. **Plan text as it will appear in the academic catalog.**
New Plan text:

Plan Change text. For plan changes, insert the existing catalog text below. Please copy and paste the text directly from the *current* online catalog.

<http://www4.nau.edu/aio/AcademicCatalog/academiccatalogs.htm>

Include all catalog text that pertains to the plan change.

[Insert EXISTING catalog text immediately below]

M.S. Environmental Sciences

For this 36-unit program, which involves either a thesis or nonthesis option, complete:

- ENV 555 (3 units)
- one course each from two of the following areas (6-8 units):

water resources: BIO 571, 572; CHM 440/ENV 430; FOR 563; and GLG 451, 575, and 670

atmosphere and climate: ENV 580, 595, and 596

land resources: BIO 571, 573; ENV 530, 540, and 544; FOR 625; and GLG 430

- 3 units in environmental laws, regulations, and policy from CENE 440, FOR 605, and POS 658, 659 and 683
- 3 units in quantitative analysis from STA 570/571, BIO 682, MAT 542, 543, and POS 601 and 605
- 13-15 units of specialty courses, chosen in consultation with your committee
- a thesis or professional paper (6 units)

If choosing the thesis option, work closely with your major professor and others to conduct an original research project, which generally requires maintaining close proximity to the NAU-Flagstaff campus. This option also involves the writing and oral defense of your approved thesis. (Please be aware that you can only count 6 units of thesis credit toward your degree. However, you may end up taking more units because you must register for ENV 699 each semester while you are working on your thesis.)

If you are a working professional, you may prefer the nonthesis option, which you can generally complete away from the NAU-Flagstaff campus. For this option, you take 6 units of fieldwork or internship or coursework or a combination of these three, and you present a professional or concept paper at a professional meeting.

Insert the proposed revision to the catalog text below. Please **BOLD** the proposed revision to differentiate it from the existing catalog text.

[Insert proposed Plan Change text immediately below]

M.S. in Environmental Sciences and Policy

For this 36-hour program, which involves the completion of a **thesis**, you **will** complete, **in consultation with your thesis committee:**

ENV 555 (3 hours)

One course from two of the following areas (6-8 hours):

Water resources: BIO 572, FOR **506** and 563, and GLG 451, 575 and 670

Atmosphere and climate: **CHM440/ENV 430**, ENV 580, 595 and 596.

Land resources: **BIO 570 or 573, 660, 663, ENV 530, 540 & 540L, and 544; FOR 580 or 582;** and GLG 430

3 hours in environmental laws, regulations, and policy from **CENE 540, FOR 593, 605 and 633; GGR 574; POS 659.**

3 hours in quantitative analysis from STA 570/571 and **676; BIO 682, GGR 525; MAT 542 and 543, POS 601 and 605**

13-15 hours of specialty courses, chosen in consultation with your committee

A thesis (6 hours)

In completing the thesis requirement, you will work closely with your major professor and others to conduct an original research project, which generally requires maintaining close proximity to the NAU–Flagstaff campus. This option also involves the writing and oral defense of your approved thesis. (Please be aware that you can only count 6 hours of thesis credit toward your degree. However, you may end up taking more hours because you must register for ENV 699 each semester while you are working on your thesis.)

PLEASE NOTE: If the unit totals are incorrect, the Academic Information Office will adjust the units as necessary.

7. Please list here the Learning Outcomes of the Plan/Subplan:

(see <http://www4.nau.edu/assessment/main/degree/degree.htm>)

n/a

8. Justification for proposal. Please indicate how past assessments of student learning prompted proposal.

Various course offerings have changed since this program was initiated. The changes requested here represent updates that improve the scope of courses offered to students.

Our department has voted to drop the “Professional Paper” option because it was not utilized during the program’s first five years, and it proved confusing to students and faculty because the distinction between “thesis” and “professional paper” was not obvious and therefore, unnecessary.

9. If this proposal requires additional faculty, space, or equipment, how will these requirements be satisfied?

10. Will this proposal affect other programs, plans, curricula, or enrollment?

[please underline] Yes No

Letters of support from each unit affected must accompany this form.

11. Will library holdings support this proposal?

[please underline] Yes No

12. Approvals

Department Chair (if appropriate)	Date
Chair of college curriculum committee	Date
Dean of College	Date

For University Graduate Committee use only

Approved: _____

Date