PhD in Environmental Management

Program At a Glance
Admission

ONLINE process

http://www.montclair.edu/graduate/prospective-students/application-requirements-and-deadlines/

1. Graduate Admission Application
2. Statement of Purpose + Statement of Research Interest
3. Official transcripts of Undergraduate and Graduate work
   (Foreign credentials need to be evaluated by a NACES member organization www.naces.org)
4. Official GRE scores; TOEFL scores if necessary
5. Letters of Recommendation (3)
6. Application Fee

Students will be accepted into the program from a wide range of graduate majors in the natural and social sciences, although outstanding students with a relevant bachelors degree are also eligible to apply.

Only candidates with faculty sponsors are admitted to the program, i.e., a Core Doctoral Faculty member has to agree to advise the applicant if admitted. Students are encouraged to contact the Program Director, Dr. Brachfeld prior to submitting their applications.

Deadlines: March 15 for Fall semester; October 15 for Spring Semester
Financial Aid

- Only full-time PhD students are eligible for financial support from the program.

- All full-time applicants are automatically considered for available financial support, unless otherwise indicated in the application.

- More than 70% of full-time PhD students are supported by Doctoral Assistantships, valued at $15,000 per academic year, plus tuition.

- The remaining full-time students are funded from a variety of sources, including research assistantships (sponsored by the major professor), doctoral teaching assistantships, departmental teaching assistantships, tuition-only/stipend-only scholarships, university fellowships, etc. (http://www.montclair.edu/graduate/prospective-students/financial-information/scholarships/)

- Full-time students on assistantships are not allowed to hold any other on-campus or off-campus employment.
**Degree Requirement and Program Timeline**  
**Full Time Students**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1\textsuperscript{st}</td>
<td>Finalization of Dissertation Committee Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>2\textsuperscript{nd}</td>
<td>Identification &amp; Approval of Dissertation Committee Completion of Research Course Sequence, Completion of Core Courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>3\textsuperscript{rd}</td>
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<td>Defense of Dissertation proposal</td>
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<td>Enrollment in Dissertation courses</td>
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<td>6\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Completion of Perspective and Elective courses; Admission to Candidacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>7\textsuperscript{th} – 8\textsuperscript{th}</td>
<td>Submission and acceptance of at least 1 manuscript for publication; Dissertation Defense &amp; approval</td>
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<tr>
<td>All</td>
<td>Enrollment in the Sustainability Seminar Series (except when in Dissertation Extension Mode, or in an approved Leave of Absence)</td>
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"Semester" indicates Fall or Spring, not Summer
# Degree Requirement and Program Timeline

## Part Time Students

<table>
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<tr>
<td>10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; – 12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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Credit Requirement

Students entering with a masters degree will need to complete a minimum of 72 semester hours. Students entering with a bachelors degree should take an additional 18 hours of course work.

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<tr>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Core Courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Perspective Courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Elective Courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Research Preparation Courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 (minimum)</td>
<td>Research Colloquium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 (minimum)</td>
<td>Dissertation Research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Up to 6 credits of previous graduate work may be applied towards the program when appropriate. This will be determined by the program director with final approval from the Graduate Dean.

Dissertation Committee

- Committee will comprise of at least 4 members, 3 of whom must be from Montclair State University (or Adjunct), and 1 external.

- Dissertation Committee Chair must be a Core Doctoral Faculty member in the program. Adjunct and Affiliated Faculty members can serve as committee members, but not as chairs.

- Committee will be chosen by the student in consultation with the Dissertation Committee Chair and the Program Director in a way to reflect the transdisciplinary nature of research.

- External committee member must be from outside academia (e.g., industry, regulatory agency, etc.)
Research Clusters

- Environmental Quality & Remediation
- Environmental & Urban Ecology
- Earth Systems & Climate Change
- Geodynamics
- Environmental Modeling & Visualization
- Environmental Forensics
- Environmental Policy, Social, & Management Impacts

Program Faculty

• **CORE DOCTORAL FACULTY**
  • ONLY the Core faculty members are eligible to chair a PhD student’s dissertation committee.

• **AFFILIATED FACULTY**
  • Affiliated faculty members are eligible to serve as members of a PhD student’s dissertation committee. They, however, cannot chair a committee without prior administrative approval.

• **ADJUNCT RESEARCHERS**
  • Adjunct researchers have prior approval of The Graduate School to serve as members of a PhD student’s dissertation committee. They cannot chair a committee.

• **INDUSTRY AFFILIATES**
  • Industry affiliates have prior approval of The Graduate School to serve as members of a PhD student’s dissertation committee. They cannot chair a committee.
Qualifying Examination

Developed, formatted and graded by dissertation committee

- Closed Book, Open Book, In Class, Take Home – written exam format decided by individual committee members in consultation with the chair.

- Each committee member must give one exam to the student.

- Student must pass all written exams with a minimum acceptable grade of “B” to qualify for the oral exam.

- If the student gets a grade less than “B” in any one of the exams, the entire written exam will have to be repeated. The exam can be repeated only one time. The student’s program will be terminated if s/he fails the second time.

- Dissertation committee chair should submit a detailed report of the qualifying exam to the Program Director within a week of completion of the oral exam.
Dissertation Proposal

Proposal Requirements:
• Statement of the problem/inquiry
• Justification of proposed research
• Relevant prior research
• Procedures and methods of research/inquiry
• Potential outcomes
• Environmental Management implications of research
• Reference list and other data sources

Proposal Defense Requirements:
• Committee members should have at least one month to review the proposal prior to the defense date
• All committee members need to be present either physically, or via internet (e.g., Skype) during proposal defense.
• Student will revise proposal based on committee members input.
• Committee-approved proposal should be submitted to the Program Director and the Graduate School within two months of proposal defense.
The Dissertation

Must be an original work demonstrating comprehensive knowledge and mastery of theoretical, methodological, historical, and empirical issues relevant to the chosen research topic in an area of environmental management

- Student must receive approval from the Institutional Review Board (IRB) before any research is conducted that involves human or animal subjects (e.g., surveys, lab studies with vertebrates, etc.).

- Dissertation chapters will be developed in appropriate manuscript format for submission in leading peer-reviewed journals within the discipline. A typical dissertation will have an Introduction chapter describing the scope and purpose of the research, and organization of the dissertation, followed by three or more manuscript-style chapters, and a comprehensive appendix with all the raw data.

- Submission and acceptance of at least one substantive manuscript from the dissertation with the student as first author (typically, one of the dissertation chapters) in a reputed peer reviewed journal is required prior to dissertation defense.
# Dissertation Defense

## Submission Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Request for Dissertation Date</th>
<th>Dissertation Defense Date</th>
<th>Final Submission via e-mail of dissertation to The Graduate School for approval (no later that 4 weeks from degree conferral)</th>
<th>Electronic Submission of APPROVED document to <a href="http://www.etdadmin.edu">www.etdadmin.edu</a> (please see page 32 of this document for instructions.)</th>
<th>Degree Conferral</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Approximately April 1</td>
<td>April 23</td>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Only by approval of Dissertation Chair</td>
<td>July 28</td>
<td>August 18</td>
<td>August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>Approximately December 1</td>
<td>December 23</td>
<td>January 13</td>
<td>January</td>
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Expectations from Students

• Maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.3 (out of 4.0). Obtaining two Cs or an F will automatically result in academic probation. Students cannot hold assistantships while in academic probation.

• Know, understand and follow the policies and procedures outlined in the Students’ Rights and Responsibility section of the Student Handbook. Doctoral Assistants should get a copy of the DA Manual from the Program Director, read, understand, and follow the policies.

• Be in continuous communication with their dissertation chair, dissertation committee members, and the Program Director.

• Submission of the required forms to The Graduate School with all signatures after each program requirement is fulfilled. Consult the Program Assistant regarding the forms.

• Submission of a progress report to the Program Director every year in April.
FOR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT

Program Director:
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flatleyp@mail.montclair.edu

http://www.montclair.edu/csam/doctoral-environment-management/