

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT 509: PRACTICUM (1 CREDIT)

MASTERS OF SCIENCE (MS) /MASTERS OF MANAGEMENT (MEM) /PROFESSIONAL SCIENCE MASTER (PSM)

Fall Quarter 2023

Fridays, 9:00 – 9:50 a.m. | SRTC B1-82 *with occasional Zoom sessions*

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office hours: TBD, and by appointment

Zoom link: <https://pdx.zoom.us/j/84059858603>

Portland State University Land Acknowledgement:

Portland State University is located near the heart of downtown Portland, Oregon in Multnomah County. We honor the Indigenous people whose traditional and ancestral homelands we stand on, the Multnomah, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Tumwater, Watlala bands of the Chinook, the Tualatin Kalapuya and many other Indigenous nations of the Columbia River. In remembering these communities, we honor their legacy, their lives, and their descendants. It is important to acknowledge the ancestors of this place and to recognize that we are here because of the sacrifices forced upon them.

Course Objectives

In the MS program, students conduct a significant research project and write a thesis document typically to be submitted for peer reviewed publication as the culminating experience for the degree. The research and thesis are implemented individually and/or collaboratively with your advisor and potentially other colleagues under research and thesis credits (ESM 503), usually weighted more during the second year of the program. The research and thesis provide an opportunity to integrate coursework, develop skills required to lead a research project from design to publication and develop skills and credentials for a future career in management, research, and professional environmental sciences, and participate in the understanding of a real environmental challenge/question/problem.

In the MEM/PSM program, students conduct a significant project for a community partner which serves as the culminating experience for the degree. The project is implemented either individually or in a group under independent project credits (ESM 506), usually beginning in the spring or summer of the first year and continuing into the student's second year. The project provides an opportunity to integrate coursework, develop skills required to function effectively in a professional setting (e.g., communication, presentation, and project management), and participate in the solution of a real environmental problem.

The purpose of the Practicum class (ESM 509, 1 credit) is to set students up for success in the thesis/project by providing a space for discussing and developing professional skills and project ideas, and drafting a preliminary project prospectus. The prospectus is then further refined into a project/thesis proposal in the winter and spring quarters with the student's faculty advisor and the project partner. In ESM 509, you will craft several quick drafts of your project/thesis plan and workshop them with your classmates, practice your presentation skills, and complete a variety of other short assignments intended to help you grasp the scope of a master's project/thesis and reverse-design your degree work based on your career goals.

Course Format

This course will be conducted in a discussion format. The instructor and guest speakers will present topics to assist the MS/MEM/PSM students with the development of their project/thesis. It is expected that the students will discuss their progress in project/thesis development and present their preliminary project/thesis prospectus.

Tentative Course Outline

Date	Homework (due this day)	Location	Class Activities/Topics Covered
Sep. 29	n/a	SRTC B1-82	Introductions – to be continued next week Course structure, expectations, and assignments
Oct. 6	Read the Grad Handbook; write at least one question	SRTC B1-82	Handbook Q&A Setting degree goals and focusing your interests
Oct. 13	Job announcements activity and worksheet	SRTC B1-82	Report out on job announcements Networking and informational interviewing
Oct. 20	Review at least 3 past project reports/theses; pick one to review in greater depth and describe to the class Schedule an informational interview	SRTC B1-82	Developing a project/thesis proposal and forming a committee Past project/thesis mini-presentations
Oct. 27	Catch up/get ahead week: Schedule/conduct informational interview; begin “Quick Prospectus” 1	SRTC B1-82	Share project/thesis ideas/progress Past project/thesis mini-presentations, cont.
Nov. 3	“Quick Prospectus” 1	SRTC B1-82 unless otherwise announced	Workshop Quick Prospectus 1
Nov. 10	<i>Verteran’s Day – NO CLASS</i>	<i>No class</i>	<i>Verteran’s Day – NO CLASS</i>
Nov. 17	Alumni Panel via Zoom Informational interview reflection due today.	SRTC B1-82	Join us via Zoom for an Alumni Panel
Nov. 24	<i>No class — Thanksgiving</i>	<i>No Class</i>	<i>Have a great holiday!</i>
Dec. 1	Presentations	SRTC B1-82	Prepare your presentation.
Dec. 8			Prospectus due in Canvas by 5 p.m.

All students should review the PSU policies on classroom conduct and academic honesty at, <https://pdx.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2016-2017/Bulletin/Student-Policies-and-Guidelines/Student-Conduct>

Grading

Grades will be based on discussion participation, development of a project/thesis prospectus and oral presentation of the project/thesis prospectus. The required assignments and evaluations are as follows:

Class participation	20 points	
Past project/thesis review/presentation	10 points	
Info. interview/report	10 points	
Other homework assignments	15 points	→ Includes survey, job announcement activity,
Quick prospectuses	15 points	questions for handbook discussion and panel
Project/Thesis Prospectus	15 points	
Final Presentation	<u>15 points</u>	
Total	100 points	

COVID POLICIES

Classroom Requirements for All Students and Faculty Due to Covid-19

The University has established rules and policies to make the return to the classroom as safe as possible. It is required for everyone to follow all the Return to Campus rules and policies. To participate in this class, PSU requires all students to comply with the following.

Vaccination

Be vaccinated against COVID-19 and complete the COVID-19 vaccination attestation form. Those students with medical or nonmedical exemptions or who will not be on campus at all must complete the process described on the “COVID-19 Vaccine Exemption Request Form” to establish those exemptions.

Health Check, Illness, Exposure, or Positive Test for COVID-19

Complete the required self-check for COVID-19 symptoms before coming to campus each day.

If you are feeling sick or have been exposed to COVID-19, do not come to campus. Call The Center for Student Health and Counseling (SHAC) to discuss your symptoms and situation at 503-725-2800. They will advise you on testing, quarantine, and when you can return to campus.

If you test positive for COVID, report your result to SHAC and do not come to campus. SHAC will advise you on quarantine, notification of close contacts, and when you can return to campus.

Please notify me (i.e. your instructor), should you need to miss a class period for any of these reasons so that we can discuss strategies to support your learning during this time.

If I become ill or need to quarantine during the term, either I or the department chair will notify you via PSU email about my absence and how course instruction will continue.

Failure to Comply with Any of these Rules

As the instructor of this course, the University has given me the authority to require your compliance with these policies. If you do not comply with these requirements, I may ask you to leave the classroom, or I may need to cancel the class session entirely.

In addition, failure to comply with these requirements may result in a referral to the Office of the Dean of Student Life to consider charges under PSU's Code of Conduct. A student found to have violated a university rule (or rules) through the due process of student conduct might face disciplinary and educational sanctions (or consequences). For a complete list of sanctions, see Section 14 of the Student Code of Conduct & Responsibility.

Guidance May Change

Please note that the University rules, policies, and guidance may change at any time at the direction of the CDC, State, or County requirements. Please review the University's main COVID-19 Response webpage and look for emails from the University on these topics.

Email: Please allow 48 hrs for me to respond via email. When emailing me about anything, please make clear subject lines including your name, the class, and the reason for your email, and I will respond as soon as reasonable.

Cheating or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: copying work or allowing your work to be copied; use of unauthorized material during quizzes and exams; any communication between students during quizzes and exams, including take-home exams; actively looking at

another student's paper during a quiz or exam. Plagiarism includes copying from or resubmitting homework from a previous semester, whether your own work or that of another, whether previously graded or not. Plagiarism also includes using laboratory data from another person [unless specifically instructed to share data] or from a previous semester. Any occurrence of cheating may be reported to the Office of Student Conduct. Reports of cheating, or suspected cheating, by classmates will be kept strictly confidential and anonymous to every extent possible. Cheating by classmates inflates grades and dilutes the value of ethical hard work. Cheating may incur various consequences, up to and including course failure.

Safety is a top priority in the classroom, lab, and field. Safety protocols will be presented and reviewed as necessary. Safety includes treating each other with respect.

Title IX and Mandatory Reporting Statement:

Portland State is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of prohibited discrimination and sexual harassment (sexual assault, domestic and dating violence, gender or sex-based harassment and stalking). If you have experienced any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or sexual harassment, know that help and support are available. PSU has staff members trained to support survivors in navigating campus life, accessing health and counseling services, providing academic and on-housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more. Information about PSU's support services on campus, including confidential services and reporting options, can be found on PSU's Sexual Misconduct Response website or you may call a Confidential Advocate at 503-894-7982 or by scheduling on-line: psuwrc.youcanbook.me. You may also report any incident of discrimination or discriminatory harassment, including sexual harassment, to the Title IX Coordinator, Office of Equity and Compliance, or the Office of the Dean of Student Life. Please be aware that all PSU faculty members and instructors are required to report information of an incident that may constitute prohibited discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence. This means that if you tell me about a situation of sexual harassment or sexual violence that may have violated university policy or student code of conduct, I have to share the information with the University's Title IX Coordinator or the Office of the Dean of Student Life. Please complete the required student module Understanding Sexual Misconduct and Resources in your D2L, which provides information about PSU policy and resources.

Mandatory reporting notice: The instructor of this course is required to report any instance or suspicion of harassment or discrimination or intimidation, sexual or otherwise, observed first-hand or brought to the instructor's attention by a student. Please feel free, encouraged, and supported to report instances of harassment or discrimination or intimidation to the instructor. Confidentiality will be maintained to the degree possible while following university, state, and federal policies regarding reported behaviors or incidents.

Emergency Notification System: PSU has made an emergency notification system available for faculty, students, and staff, please register at <https://www.pdx.edu/emergency-management/psu-alert-emergency-notification-system>. Please register in Banweb with emergency contact information (cell, email, text, etc.). You may have been prompted to complete emergency contact information when registering for classes in Banweb. In the event of a building evacuation, a map at each classroom entrance shows the evacuation point for each building. Please refer to it. Individual class cancellations may be made at the discretion of the instructor.

General student information:

Please learn about and use the many campus resources available to you via PSU's I Am A Student website: <https://www.pdx.edu/student>. These resources are made possible by your tuition & fees.

Students with documented disabilities who may need accommodations, who have any emergency information the instructor should be aware of, or who need special arrangements in the event of an

evacuation, should make an appointment with the instructor as early as possible, and no later than the first week of the term. Class materials will be made available in an accessible format upon request.

All Students

As a PSU student, you have numerous resources at your disposal. Please take advantage of them while you are here. A small sample is listed below:

Resources:

Don't forget to check out the ESM department and School of Environment webpages:

<http://www.pdx.edu/esm/>

<http://www.pdx.edu/environment/>

Advising & Career Services: <https://www.pdx.edu/careers/> and

<https://www.pdx.edu/careers/what-can-i-do-degree-environmental-studiesenvironmental-sciences>

Library Research Tutorials: <http://guides.library.pdx.edu/home/howto> and

<http://guides.library.pdx.edu/biology>

Safe Campus: If you have not done so already, please complete the [Safe Campus Module in Canvas](#). The module should take approximately 30 to 40 minutes to complete and contains important information and resources. If you are uncomfortable completing the module, please send an email to saveact@pdx.edu to request an exemption. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources at Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response: www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault/. PSU's Student Code of Conduct makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are strictly prohibited and offenses are subject to the full realm of sanctions, up to and including suspension and expulsion. <http://www.pdx.edu/sexual-assault/safe-campus-module>

Learning Center/Free Tutoring: <http://www.pdx.edu/tutoring/> PSU library rm 245

Writing Center: for class assignments, resumes... <http://www.writingcenter.pdx.edu/> Cramer rm 188

Please consult the Purdue OWL regarding *plagiarism* and other writing

issues: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>

Math: <https://www.pdx.edu/math/math-resource-lab>; Department of Mathematics and Statistics provides free tutors for lower division algebra, calculus and statistics: <https://www.pdx.edu/math/resources>

Disability Resource Center: The PSU Disability Resource Center is available to help students with academic accommodations. If you are a student who has need for test-taking, note-taking or other assistance, please visit the DRC and notify the instructor at the beginning of the term.

If you are a student with a documented disability and are registered with the Disability Resource Center, please contact me the first week of classes so that we can arrange the academic accommodations you need.

Veterans: If you are a Veteran and have questions about University services or need assistance with your transition from military to campus life, please contact Chris Goodrich, Coordinator of Veterans Services at the Office of Veterans' Services, SMSU room 425.

Multicultural Centers: <https://www.pdx.edu/dmss/multicultural-student-center> ;

<https://www.pdx.edu/dmss/native-american-student-community-center> ; <https://www.pdx.edu/dmss/la-casa-latina-student-center>

Queer Resource Center: www.pdx.edu/queer