PH.D. IN ECOLOGY, HUMAN-ENVIRONMENT INTERACTIONS SPECIALIZATION

Graduate Degree Program in Ecology
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The Graduate Degree Program in Ecology (GDPE) offers outstanding opportunities for graduate studies ecology, including social-environmental systems. Students can specialize in Human-Environment Interactions as part of their PhD in Ecology degree plan. The HEI program aims to develop students as scientists and policy makers with interdisciplinary problem-solving skills focused particularly on social-environmental approaches to addressing global challenges in the ecological sciences from local to global scales. Students specializing in Human-Environment Interactions engage in independent and collaborative research guided by advisors in the program.

Students interested in graduate work should refer to the Graduate and Professional Bulletin (https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/graduate-bulletin/) or visit the Graduate Degree Program in Ecology (https://ecology.colostate.edu/)website for more information.

Learning Objectives

Students who earn a Ph.D. must demonstrate significant intellectual achievement, scholarly ability, and breadth of knowledge. Successful students in this Ph.D. program demonstrate the following:

1. Mastery of concepts and principles of ecology and working knowledge of relevant basic biology and quantitative and qualitative methods, achieved through required and elective coursework;
2. Ability to critically review and interpret scientific information and originality in integrating that information to design research pertinent to human-ecological issues. This ability is assessed through the research proposal and written and oral components of the Ph.D. preliminary examination;
3. Understanding and practice of research ethics, collaborative approaches, and broader issues related to social responsibility through coursework and research projects;
4. Proficiency in (1) written communication shown in the research proposal, dissertation and, ideally, peer-reviewed research articles, and (2) oral communication shown in presentations at professional conferences or in the classroom, and the dissertation seminar;
5. Understanding of social-ecological systems and how humans interact and influence their environments, and how those environments affect humans, achieved through required and elective coursework;
6. Appreciation of the need to include diverse stakeholder or rightsholder voices in development of solutions that sustain livelihoods and the environment achieved through required and elective coursework.