

University of Washington
Department of Earth and Space Sciences
Masters in Applied Geoscience (MESSAGe)

MESSAGe Degree Plan: Standard program (for students beginning Sept. 2015 or later)
18 months, 6 academic quarters, September Year1 – March Year 2

Year 1

Autumn (15 cr):

Field course: ESS 509 Field Methods I	3 credits
Core course: ESS 527 Hillslope Geomorphology	5 cr
Core course: ESS 420 Intro to GIS	5 cr
Seminar: ESS 518 Technical Communication	1 cr
Seminar: ESS 592 Professional Practice	1 cr

Winter (6-11 cr) :

Core course: ESS 547 Engineering Geology	4 cr
Seminar: ESS 518 Technical Communication	1 cr
Seminar: ESS 592 Professional Practice	1 cr
(Elective course)	(3-5 cr)

Spring (6-11 cr):

Core course: ESS 454 Hydrogeology	4 cr
Core course: ESS 526: Fluvial Geomorphology	5 cr
Seminar: ESS 518 Technical Communication	1 cr
Seminar: ESS 592 Professional Practice	1 cr
Capstone: ESS 597 Applied Geosci. Investigation (plan)	0-1 cr

Summer (5 credits):

Field course: ESS 509 Field Methods II	3 cr
Internship	

Year 2

Autumn (5-10 credits):

Capstone: Comprehensive exam (ESS 601c)	1 cr
Capstone: Summer internship report (ESS 601b)	1 cr
Capstone: ESS 597 Applied Geosci. Investigat. (execute)	2-3 cr.
Elective course	1-5 cr
(Second elective)	(1-5 cr)

Winter (2-12 credits):

Capstone: Applied Geosci. Investigation (write)	2-3 cr.
Capstone: Technical report and presentation (ESS 601a)	2 cr
(Elective course)	(1-5 cr)
MESSAGe reception (mid March)	

Completed by end of March.

Other optional events: Washington Geologist Licensing exam, October Year 2
ESS Research Gala, early April Year 2
AEG-WA student presentations, May Year 2
Department/University graduation ceremony June Year 2

Notes:

Course offerings and schedules may change; please confirm current and future offerings. Total number of credits must meet or exceed **50**.

Advantages of the standard program:

Flexibility: take more advantage of elective offerings relative to intensive program. Establish a focus area and special expertise. Take courses at the standard pace for MS study, allowing time to absorb and synthesize course material. Perform better in coursework with less time pressure. Possibilities for extended capstone investigation; more time for data synthesis & writing. Time to prepare for licensing exam. Graduate in time for early summer hiring opportunities.

Substitutions:

If you have coursework or experience in any of the core areas, you may replace the core courses with advanced electives in ESS or other departments in the College of the Environment or Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Focus areas:

We can advise you on selections of courses that fit in various focus areas in applied geosciences (for example, river restoration). Contact us for more information.

University of Washington
Department of Earth and Space Sciences
Masters in Applied Geoscience (MESSAGE)

MESSAGE Degree Plan: Intensive program (for students beginning Sept. 2015 or later)
15 months, 5 academic quarters, September Year 1 – December Year 2

Year 1

Autumn (min 15 cr):

Field course: ESS 509 Field Methods I	3 credits
Core course: ESS 527 Hillslope Geomorphology	5 cr
Core course: ESS 420 Intro to GIS	5 cr
Seminar: ESS 518 Technical Communication	1 cr
Seminar: ESS 592 Professional Practice	1 cr
(Elective course)	(3 cr)

Winter (min 11-12 credits):

Core course: ESS 547 Engineering Geology	4 cr
Seminar: ESS 518 Technical Communication	1 cr
Seminar: ESS 592 Professional Practice	1 cr
Elective course	3-5 cr
(Second elective)	(1-5 cr)

Spring (min 11-12 credits):

Core course: ESS 526 Fluvial Geomorphology	5 cr
Core course: ESS 454 Hydrogeology	4 cr
Seminar: ESS 518 Technical Communication	1 cr
Seminar: ESS 592 Professional Practice	1 cr
Capstone: ESS 597 Applied Geosci. Investigation (plan)	1 cr

Summer (6 credits):

Field course: ESS 509 Field Methods II	3 cr
Capstone: ESS 597 Applied Geosci. Investigat. (execute)	3 cr
Internship	

Year 2

Autumn (6 credits):

Capstone: Comprehensive exam (ESS 601c)	1 cr
Capstone: Summer internship report (ESS 601b)	1 cr
Capstone: ESS 597 Applied Geosci. Investigation (write)	2 cr
Capstone: Technical report and presentation (ESS 601a)	2 cr

Completed by mid December, year 2.

Other optional events: MESSAGE reception (mid March)
Washington Geologist Licensing exam (March or October Year 2)
ESS Research Gala, early April, year 2
AEG-WA student presentations spring year 2
Department/University graduation ceremony June year 2

Notes:

Course offerings and schedules may change; please confirm current and future offerings.

Total number of credits must meet or exceed **50**.

Maximum 18 credits per quarter allowed with full-time registration.

Extra electives are not recommended in Spring Quarter for students enrolled in both Fluvial Geomorphology and Hydrogeology.

You must have an approved investigation topic in place at the start of Spring Quarter to register for ESS 597

Advantages of the intensive program:

Shortest time-to-degree, minimizes tuition. Complete capstone and final requirements remotely if necessary. (You must be on campus for the comprehensive exam, internship report and final presentation.)

Substitutions:

If you have coursework or experience in any of the core areas, you may replace the core courses with advanced electives in ESS or other departments in the College of the Environment or Civil and Environmental Engineering. The intensive program has the least flexibility: If you have no prior coursework in the core areas, you are restricted to the core offerings and two electives.

MESSAGE Degree Plan: Part-time program (for students beginning Sept. 2015 or later)
27 months, September Year 1-December Year 3

Year 1

Autumn (9 cr):

Field course: ESS 509 Field Methods I	3 credits
Core course: ESS 420 Intro to GIS	5 cr
Seminar: ESS 592 Professional Practice	1 cr

Winter (5 cr) :

Core course: ESS 547 Engineering Geology	4 cr
Seminar: ESS 592 Professional Practice	1 cr

Spring (5 cr):

Core course: ESS 454 Hydrogeology	4 cr
Seminar: ESS 592 Professional Practice	1 cr

Year 2

Autumn (6 cr):

Core course: ESS 526 Hillslope Geomorphology	5 cr
Seminar: ESS 518 Technical Communication	1 cr

Winter (4-6 cr) :

Elective course (Winter or Spring)	3-5 cr
Seminar: ESS 518 Technical Communication	1 cr

Spring (6 cr):

Core course: ESS 527 Fluvial Geomorphology	5 cr
Seminar: ESS 518 Technical Communication	1 cr

Summer (5 credits):

Field course: ESS 509 Field Methods II	3 cr
Internship	

Year 3

Autumn (3-7 credits):

Second elective course	1-5 cr
Capstone: ESS 601b&c: comp. exam, internship report	2 cr

Winter (3 cr) :

Capstone: ESS 597 Applied Geosci. Investigation (plan & execute)	2 cr
--	------

Spring (5 cr) :

Capstone: ESS 597 Applied Geosci. Investigation (write)	3 cr
Capstone: ESS 601a: technical report and presentation	2 cr

Other optional events: MESSAGE reception (mid March)
Washington Geologist Licensing exam (March or October years 2 or 3)
ESS Research Gala, early April, Year 3
AEG-WA student presentations, spring, Year 3
Department/University graduation ceremony June, Year 3

Notes:

Total number of credits must meet or exceed **50**.
Course offerings and schedules may change; please confirm current and future offerings.

Advantages of the part-time program:

Take only one course and one seminar at a time. Take state licensing exam when timing is optimal for you.

Substitutions:

If you have coursework or experience in any of the core areas, you may replace the core courses with advanced electives in ESS or other departments in the College of the Environment or Civil and Environmental Engineering.

The part time program has many different permutations. You are encouraged to contact us for more advice.