Division of Resource Management

Jerald J. Fletcher, Director  
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Degrees Offered

• Master of Science in Agricultural and Extension Education  
• Master of Science in Agricultural and Resource Economics  
• Master of Landscape Architecture  
• Doctor of Philosophy in Resource Management and Sustainable Development

Area of Emphasis

• Natural Resource Economics  
• Agricultural and Extension Education  
• Resource Management  
• Human and Community Development (offered in cooperation with the Division of Design and Merchandising)

The Division of Resource Management’s primary mission is to prepare leaders, who influence the economic, social, aesthetic, and functional development of communities, states, and nations, dedicated to the improvement of quality of life for all members of society in harmony with the natural environment.

The Division of Resource Management offers curricula in agricultural and extension education, landscape architecture, and agricultural and resource economics. The mission of the agricultural and extension education program is to empower their majors for the choices and challenges of the twenty-first century. The faculty members in this program bring their love of the profession to students in an educational setting.

The graduate program in landscape architecture at WVU provides study opportunities for students entering the program from disciplines other than landscape architecture as well as advanced study opportunities for students who already have a design background. Our students work closely with faculty members and practicing professionals in the field to develop the skills essential to their professions and to examine the underlying theories on which they will ground their practice.

The landscape architecture graduate program provides students with real world experiences and research opportunities. Graduate students are also exposed to faculty who have doctoral or advanced degrees in their field and who work collaboratively with national, state, and community agencies or organizations. Our faculty members are engaged in extensive research and are considered experts in their field of study.

Students in agricultural and resource economics graduate programs benefit from the fifteen faculty members in the division plus the availability of three computer laboratories in our building and by the presence of the Natural Resource Analysis Center (NRAC). NRAC is a multidisciplinary research and teaching facility in the Division of Resource Management that provides research, teaching, and service in environmental and natural resource issues with a geo-spatial context.

Other valuable resources at WVU include the Regional Research Institute along with faculty in the Division of Design & Merchandising and Department of Economics. The RRI sponsors programs and activities that advance our knowledge of processes of regional socio-economic change with an emphasis on lagging regions. Ours are global interests, but we especially encourage research relevant to West Virginia and Appalachia. The RRI is located on the downtown campus of West Virginia University. Founded in 1965, the RRI has an internationally recognized reputation as a center of excellence in regional research.

Faculty members in the Division of Design & Merchandising offer expertise in interior design, business administration, architecture, fashion design and merchandising, and various fields related to Sustainable Design. Economics faculty members teach Ph.D.-level theory and econometrics courses along with coursework for fields in Regional and Public Economics.

A limited number of graduate research assistantships are available to highly qualified students on a competitive basis.
Faculty

Director
• Jerald J. Fletcher - Ph.D. (University of California)

Assistant Director
• Alan R. Collins - Ph.D. (Oregon State University)

Graduate Program Coordinator
• Peter V. Schaeffer - Ph.D. (University of Southern California)

Professors
• Harry N. Boone, Jr. - Ph.D. (Ohio State University)
  Computing Technology, Teaching Methods, Social Science Research
• Alan R. Collins - Ph.D. (Oregon State University)
  Resource Economics
• Michael J. Dougherty - Ph.D. (Virginia Technical)
  Environmental Design and Planning
• Gerard E. D’Souza - Ph.D. (Mississippi State University)
  Production Economics, Finance
• Jerald J. Fletcher - Ph.D. (University of California, Davis)
  Energy, Environmental and Resource Economics
• Stacy A. Gartin - Ph.D. (Ohio State University)
  Communications, Program Planning, Leadership Development, Teaching Methods
• Tesfa Gebremedhin - Ph.D. (Oklahoma State University)
  Farm Management, Agribusiness
• Tim T. Phipps - Ph.D. (University of California)
  Resource Economics, Agricultural Policy
• Peter V. Schaeffer - Ph.D. (University of Southern California)
  Regional Science, Applied Microeconomics
• Dennis K. Smith - Ph.D. (Pennsylvania State University)
  Rural Development, Agribusiness Management

Associate Professor
• Deborah A. Boone - Ph.D. (Ohio State University)
  Extension Education, Leadership Development, Program Evaluation and Development
• Cheryl Brown - Ph.D. (University of California, Berkeley)
  Agricultural Policy, Resource Economics, Agribusiness
• Fonda Holehouse - J.D. (West Virginia University)
  Environmental and Enterprise Development and Law
• Donald J. Lacombe - Ph.D. (Florida State University)
  Spatial Econometrics, Public Choice, and Industrial Organization
• Kerry S. Odell - Ph.D. (Ohio State University)
  Research Methodology, Microcomputer Applications, Teaching Methods
• Mark Sperow - Ph.D. (Colorado State University)
  Production and Resource Economics
• Michael P. Strager - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
  Spatial Analysis, Decision Support
• Charles B. Yuill - M.L.A. (University of Massachusetts)
  Computer Applications, Site Analysis

Assistant Professor
• J. Wesley Burnett - Ph.D. (University of Georgia)
  Resource, Environmental, and Energy Economics
• Peter Butler - M.L.A. (Iowa State)
  Cultural Landscape Planning and Interpretation, Community Design
• Angela Campbell - M.L.A. (University of Michigan)
Natural Stormwater Systems, Landscape Ecology
- Hodjat Ghadimi - Ph.D. (Ohio State University)
  Sustainable Development
- Michael Hasenmyer - M.L.A. (North Carolina State University)
  Virtual Simulation and Design Education
- Ashley Kyber - M.S. (Clemson University), M.F.A. (Cranbrook)
  Community Design Landscape/Public Art, Environmental/Green Design
- Doug LaVergne - Ph.D. (Texas A&M University)
  Diversity and Multiculturalism, Teacher Education, Social Science Research
- Carrie Moore - M.Na (Lincoln University), R.M. (New Zealand), & E.E. (Universitat for Bodenkultur, Austria)
  Environmental Psychology, Natural Resource Management
- Lisa Orr - M.L.A. (University of California, Berkeley)
  Vernacular and Cultural Landscape Analysis and Theory, Landscape Architectural Graphics and Representation
- Doolarie Singh-Knights - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
  Natural Resource Economics
- Kathryn Wittner - M.L.A. (Texas A&M University)
  Urban Design, Site Design, Professional Practice

Professors Emeriti
- Donald R. Armstrong - M.L.A. (Louisiana State)
- Alfred L. Barr - Ph.D. (Oklahoma State University)
- Dale K. Colyer - Ph.D. (University of Wisconsin)
- Gerald V. Eagan - Ph.D. (University of Tennessee)
- Robert Jack - Ph.D. (Pennsylvania State University)
- Walter C. Labys - Ph.D. (University of Nottingham)
- Layle D. Lawrence - Ph.D. (Louisiana State University)
- George W. Longenecker - M.F.A. (University of Illinois)
- Wesley Lynch - M.S. (Michigan State University)
- Steven B. McBride - M.L.A. (University of Massachusetts)
- Kenneth D. McIntosh - Ph.D. (University of Wisconsin)
- Paul E. Nesselroad - Ph.D. (Pennsylvania State University)
- Virgil J. Norton - Ph.D. (Oregon State University)
- Mary E. Templeton - M.S. (West Virginia University)
- Delmar R. Yoder - Ph.D. (University of Wisconsin)

Doctoral Admission Requirements

The following admission and performance standards, in addition to university and college requirements, are normally required to qualify for acceptance as a regular student to the Ph.D. program in Resource Management and Sustainable Development:

- A master’s degree and a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) in graduate courses is normally required for the AGEE, RM, and HCD areas. Applicants for the NRE area that are not prepared to take the Ph.D. sequence in microeconomic theory, mathematical economics, and econometrics will be admitted to the M.S. program in agricultural and resource economics.
- A minimum combined score of 300 for the verbal and quantitative sections of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE).
- Three letters of reference from individuals who can attest to the applicant’s potential for academic success and/or relevant career-related experiences should be sent directly to the graduate program coordinator in Division of Resource Management.
- A current resume or curriculum vita.
- Coursework in intermediate microeconomics theory, statistics, and calculus for those seeking admittance into the RM or NRE areas.
- Four years of career-related experience for those seeking admittance into the AGEE area.
- Other supporting materials you wish to have considered with your application.

Applications are reviewed by the Graduate Admission Committee, the graduate program coordinator, and the Division Director who jointly make the admission decision. Applicants who do not meet the requirements but have special qualifications or circumstances may be admitted as provisional graduate students.
Division of Resource Management Programs that offer Doctoral Degrees

The Ph.D. in Resource Management and Sustainable Development Areas of Emphasis:

• Natural Resource Economics (NRE)
• Agricultural and Extension Education (AGEE)
• Resource Management (RM)
• Human and Community Development (HCD)

The objective of this degree program is to provide doctoral students the opportunity to study and conduct research with faculty in areas of excellence in the Division of Resource Management along with the Division of Design and Merchandising in the Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design. Within these areas of emphasis, specialization is limited only by the range of expertise of the graduate faculty and specific major requirements. Students entering the program will complete a common core consisting of research methods, graduate seminars, and teaching practicum. Beyond the core each of area of emphasis has specific requirements for additional specialization.

Students entering the NRE area of emphasis may focus on natural resource and environmental economics or economic development. The AGEE area prepares students for leadership responsibilities in teacher education, educational administration, program development and evaluation, and research as it pertains to agriculture and extension. The RM and HCD areas both have an interdisciplinary focus. The RM area is designed primarily for students with a master’s degree in the sciences or engineering, consists of an applied economics foundation developed jointly by the student and the graduate advisory committee. Students choosing the HCD area may focus their studies and research in the areas of education and human resources development, social and cultural improvement of the community, governmental issues and policy, economic growth and impact, or areas associated with the students’ professional goals developed in consultation with their graduate advisory committee. HCD area of emphasis is offered in cooperation with the Division of Design and Merchandising.

Degree Requirements

All doctoral students must satisfactorily complete a set of common core courses in research methods, a teaching practicum, and graduate seminars for a total of at least nine credit hours. Course requirements may be waived if the student has received equivalent training in prior coursework. Coursework pertaining to the student’s major and additional specialization will be determined by the student’s graduate advisory committee and the major requirements.

Students take written and oral qualifying examinations after the completion of the core and field courses. Upon satisfactory completion of the qualifying examinations and field of specialization requirements, the student will be eligible for admittance to candidacy for the Ph.D. in Resource Management and Sustainable Development. Each candidate for the Ph.D. degree must meet the following general requirements:

• Successful completion of written and oral qualifying examinations and examinations in a minimum of two fields of specialization. A master’s degree may serve as one field exam, subject to approval by the Graduate Committee.
• Dissertation research on an approved research project leading to the successful completion and oral defense of a dissertation.

The faculty expects that doctoral students present the results of their research at professional meetings and submit articles based on their research to refereed scholarly journals.