Occupational Safety and Health, Ph.D.

Degree Offered

- Doctor of Philosophy, Occupational Safety and Health (Ph.D.)

Program Educational Objectives

Drawing from the university's mission, the program mission, and the needs of our constituents, the following educational objectives were developed for the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Occupational Safety and Health:

1. Anticipate and recognize hazards and environmental cases requiring the application of safety and health methods in occupational settings.
2. Identify social and epidemiological trends in occupational safety and health issues at the national and international levels.
3. Identify methods of management in application of effective control techniques.
4. To demonstrate understanding of federal, state, and local regulatory agencies as they impact the practice of occupational safety and health.
5. Conduct, disseminate, and publish original research in occupational safety and health.
6. Be qualified to enter the profession as a professor, practitioner, or researcher in occupational safety and health.

Student Outcomes

In order to meet the Program Educational Objectives, students of the Occupational Safety and Health Doctoral program must be able to meet the following educational outcomes at the time of their graduation. Students will have acquired the ability:

1. To construct, manage, and evaluate a comprehensive safety and health program for large industry or government agencies.
2. To participate in the safety and health regulatory process as an individual or part of a corporation or university.
3. To critically evaluate research conducted by other individuals or corporations in occupational safety and health.
4. To provide excellent teaching at the University or corporate levels.
5. To participate in activities such as conferences or seminars for continued professional improvement.
6. To actively participate as a leader in the professional organizations that serve the occupational safety and health fields.
7. To demonstrate the highest possible ethical standards in the field of occupational safety and health.

Doctoral Admissions

Applicants to the doctoral occupational safety and health program are required to provide the following:

- Applicants must have earned a grade point average (GPA) of 3.4 or better (out of a possible 4.0)
- Official transcripts of all previous college course work
- GRE General Test scores
- Three letters of recommendation
- International applicants must meet the WVU requirement of English language proficiency (https://graduateadmissions.wvu.edu/how-to-apply/apply-for-2022-2023/international-graduate-applicant/).

Admission Requirements 2023-2024

The Admission Requirements above will be the same for the 2023-2024 Academic Year.

Major Code: 3071

Curriculum in Doctor of Philosophy – Occupational Safety and Health

A candidate for the Ph.D. degree with a major in occupational safety and health must comply with the rules and regulations as outlined in the WVU Graduate Catalog and the specific requirements of the Statler College and the Industrial and Management Systems Engineering Department.

Program Requirements

The doctor of philosophy degree with a major in occupational safety and health is administered through the college's interdisciplinary Ph.D. program. The research work for the doctoral dissertation must show a high degree of originality on the part of the student and must constitute an original contribution to the art and science of occupational safety and health.

All Ph.D. degree candidates are required to perform research and follow a planned program of study. The student’s research advisor, in conjunction with the student’s Advising and Examining Committee (AEC) will be responsible for determining the plan of study appropriate to the student’s needs. The
underlying principle of the planned program is to provide the students with the necessary support to complete their degree and prepare them for their career.

Required core courses for the Ph.D. program are determined by the student’s area of emphasis. The research work for the doctoral dissertation may entail a fundamental investigation or a broad and comprehensive investigation into an area of specialization.

**Curriculum Requirements**

A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required in all courses

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<th>Course Requirements</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAFM 797 Research</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>Select from the following based on degree path:</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td>Any BIOM, BMEG, CE, CHE, CHEM, CPE, CS, EE, IENG, IH&amp;S, MAE, MATH, MINE, PCOL, PNGE, PHYS, PUBH, SAFM, SENG, or STAT courses 500-795, as approved by the student's AEC</td>
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<th>Examinations</th>
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<tr>
<td>Plan of Study</td>
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<td>Qualifying Exam</td>
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<td>Candidacy Exam</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>Dissertation</td>
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<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>42</td>
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**Examinations**

**QUALIFYING EXAM**

All students must take and pass a written qualifying examination. Normally, the qualifying examination is given no later than one semester after completion of eighteen credit hours toward the doctoral degree. This examination is designed to assess the basic competency of students in the occupational safety and health field to determine whether or not they have sufficient knowledge to undertake independent research.

**CANDIDACY EXAMINATION**

In order to be admitted to candidacy, the student must pass a candidacy exam, which is designed to evaluate the student's overall ability to engage in high-level research.

A student who has successfully completed all coursework, passed the qualifying examination, and successfully defended the research proposal is defined as one who is a candidate for the Ph.D. degree.

**FINAL EXAMINATION**

At the completion of the dissertation research, candidates must prepare a dissertation and pass the final oral examination (defense) administered by their AEC.

In order to complete the Ph.D. requirements, a student must pass a final oral examination on the results embodied in the dissertation. This examination is open to the public and, in order to evaluate critically the student's competency, may include testing on material in related fields, as deemed necessary by the AEC. In addition, since the Ph.D. degree is primarily a research degree that embodies the results of an original research proposal and represents a significant contribution to scientific literature, the student must submit a manuscript on this research to the AEC.

**Suggested Plan of Study**

It is important for students to take courses in the order specified as much as possible; all prerequisites and concurrent requirements must be observed. A typical doctoral degree program that completes degree requirements in three years is as follows.

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<th>First Year</th>
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<td>Fall</td>
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<td>IENG 797</td>
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Second Year

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Fall Hours</th>
<th>Spring Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>IENG 797</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
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Total credit hours: 60

Third Year

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<th>Course</th>
<th>Fall Hours</th>
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<td>IENG 797</td>
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Major Learning Outcomes

**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH**

1. To construct, manage, and evaluate a comprehensive safety and health program for large industry or government agencies.
2. To participate in the safety and health regulatory process as an individual or part of a corporation or university.
3. To critically evaluate research conducted by other individuals or corporations in occupational safety and health.
4. To provide excellent teaching at the University or corporate levels.
5. To participate in activities such as conferences or seminars for continued professional improvement.
6. To actively participate as a leader in the professional organizations that serve the occupational safety and health fields.
7. To demonstrate the highest possible ethical standards in the field of occupational safety and health.

**INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING COURSES**

**IENG 502. Advanced Manufacturing Processes. 3 Hours.**
PR: IENG 302 and IENG 303. Metal cutting economic models, solidification processes, bulk deformation, sheet metal and drawing, joining design, and economics. Overall view of manufacturing systems. Introduction to numerical control programming and projects on numerical control equipment.

**IENG 503. Additive Manufacturing Technology and Materials. 3 Hours.**
This course provides detailed principles, engineering design, theories, materials and applications to advanced additive manufacturing (AM) processes—extrusion, material jetting, photopolymerization, powder bed fusion, binder jetting, sheet lamination, direct energy deposition and the latest state of the art. Problem-based learning (PBL) method will be used to increase student engagement and improve students' critical thinking, collaboration, and leadership skills.

**IENG 505. Computer Integrated Manufacturing. 3 Hours.**
PR: Graduate standing. Several aspects of computerized manufacturing systems will be covered. Emphasis will be placed on computer fundamentals, computer-aided design and manufacturing, numerically-controlled (NC) machine tools, part programming, system devices, and direct digital control. (2 hr. lec., 1 hr. lab.).

**IENG 506. Computer Aided Process Planning. 3 Hours.**
PR: Consent. Computer aided process planning for manufacturing applications; selection of processes and parameters; machining, casting, and forming; development of process plans from design data; and analysis of effect of changes in design on manufacturability in concurrent engineering.

**IENG 507. Robotics and Flexible Automation. 3 Hours.**
PR: Graduate standing. This course will provide an understanding of the principles, capabilities, and limitations of industrial robots and other flexible automation tools. Emphasis will be placed on kinematic analysis, trajectory planning, machine vision, and manufacturing automation. (2 hr. lec., 1 hr. lab.).

**IENG 508. Advanced Problems in Manufacturing Engineering. 1-3 Hours.**
PR: IENG 593 or IENG 502; Graduate standing. Special problems relating to one of the areas of manufacturing engineering, such as manufacturing processes, robotics, CAD/CAM, group technology, and manufacturing systems engineering.

**IENG 514. Design of Industrial Experiments. 3 Hours.**
PR: IENG 314 or Consent. Continuation of IENG 314. More complex experimental design especially useful to engineering and industrial researchers, including factorials and optimum-seeking design. Emphasis on use of existing digital computer routines and interpretation of results.

**IENG 518. Technology Forecasting. 3 Hours.**
PR: IENG 213 or Consent. Various procedures used in forecasting technical developments.

**IENG 542. Advanced Production Control. 3 Hours.**
PR: IENG 350. Different mathematical models useful in the design of effective production control systems. The various models include: static production control models under risk and uncertainty, dynamic models under certainty, and under risk.
IENG 551. Quality and Reliability Engineering. 3 Hours.
PR: Graduate standing. Introduction to quality and reliability engineering. Special emphasis on Taguchi Design and Markov Models for determining system reliability and availability.

IENG 553. Applied Linear Programming. 3 Hours.
PR: IENG 350 or Consent. Application of the assignment, transportation, and simplex algorithms to typical industrial problems. The methods and computational efficiencies of the revised simplex and other algorithms are also studied.

IENG 554. Applied Integer/Heuristic Programs. 3 Hours.
PR: IENG 350 or IENG 553 and knowledge of a computer programming language. Applications of integer and heuristic programming techniques for solving combinatorial optimization problems. Topics include computational complexity, relaxations, branch and bound, cutting planes, simulated annealing, tabu search, and genetic algorithms.

IENG 555. Scheduling and Sequencing Methods. 3 Hours.
PR: IENG 350. Theory and applications of analytical models used in the scheduling models; flow shop models; job shop models; and assembly line balancing methods.

IENG 556. Supply Chain Management. 3 Hours.
PR: IENG 350 or IENG 553. Principles and methods for designing and managing supply chain systems. Topics include: forecasting demand, strategies, aggregate planning, inventory control, outsourcing, transportation networks, and locating facilities within the supply chain network.

IENG 557. Geometric Programming. 3 Hours.
PR: IENG 350 or Consent. Introduction to the primal and dual solution techniques for geometric programming problems. Focus on the development of design relationships for cost optimization or profit maximization problems.

IENG 561. Industrial Hygiene Engineering. 3 Hours.
Introductory course in industrial hygiene with laboratory. Topics include: recognition, evaluation, and control of occupational and environmental contaminants and physical agents; basic IH quantitative analysis; PPE selection and evaluation.

IENG 564. Industrial Ergonomics. 3 Hours.
PR: IENG 360 or Consent. Practical experience in the application of ergonomic principles to industrial problems. Safety and production implications of work physiology, industrial biomechanics, and circadian rhythms, as well as current interest topics.

IENG 577. Advanced Engineering Economy. 3 Hours.
PR: IENG 377 or Consent. Special emphasis on depreciation, engineering and economic aspects of selection and replacement of equipment; relationship of technical economy to income taxation; and effect of borrowed capital and project cost control.

IENG 578. Costing and Estimating. 3 Hours.
PR: IENG 377 or Consent. Analysis of overhead, cost indexes, cost capacity factors; improvement curves; costing for materials with design considerations, conceptual cost estimating; costing for machining, joining, casting and forming; and facility cost estimation.

IENG 593. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

IENG 660. Human Factors System Design. 3 Hours.
PR: IENG 360 or Consent. Theoretical aspects and practical applications of man/machine relationships as they influence future system design. The student will examine human limitations with respect to acceptance of information, decision making, and ability to transmit the result of such decisions to controlled equipment systems to obtain design optimization. (2 hr. lec., 3 hr. lab.).

IENG 662. Systems Safety Engineering. 3 Hours.
PR: IENG 461 or Consent. Analysis of manufacturing methods, processes, and properties of materials from a system safety engineering viewpoint. Emphasis will be on hazard analysis techniques (fault tree, MORT, failure modes, and effects) and machine guarding methods.

IENG 691. Advanced Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of advanced topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

IENG 693. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

IENG 695. Independent Study. 1-9 Hours.
Faculty supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.

IENG 697. Research. 1-9 Hours.
PR: Consent. Research activities leading to thesis, problem report, research paper or equivalent scholarly project, or a dissertation. (Grading may be S/U.).

IENG 698. Thesis or Dissertation. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. This is an optional course for programs that wish to provide formal supervision during the writing of student reports (698), or dissertations (798). Grading is normal.

IENG 754. Inventory Theory. 3 Hours.
PR: IENG 213 and IENG 350 or Consent. Techniques used in optimization of inventory systems. Elements of static, deterministic inventory models, and static, stochastic inventory models. Selected inventory models. Selected topics related to inventory analysis.
IENG 756. Applied Stochastic Processes. 3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Stochastic systems with emphasis on application to inventory and queueing theory. Conditional probability, Poisson processes, renewal processes, Markov chains with discrete and continuous parameters.

IENG 790. Teaching Practicum. 1-3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Supervised practice in college teaching of industrial and management systems engineering. Note: This course is intended to insure that graduate assistants are adequately prepared and supervised when they are given college teaching responsibility. It will also present a mechanism for students not on assistantships to gain teaching experience. (Grading will be S/U.).

IENG 791. Advanced Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of advanced topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

IENG 792. Directed Study. 1-6 Hours.
Directed study, reading, and/or research.

IENG 793. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

IENG 795. Independent Study. 1-9 Hours.
Faculty supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.

IENG 796. Graduate Seminar. 1-3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Each graduate student will present at least one seminar to the assembled faculty and graduate student body of his or her program.

IENG 797. Research. 1-9 Hours.
PR: Consent. Research activities leading to thesis, problem report, research paper or equivalent scholarly project, or a dissertation. (Grading may be S/U.).

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE SAFETY COURSES

IH&S 525. Aerosol Sciences for Industrial Hygienists. 3 Hours.
PR: Graduate standing or consent. This course explores exposure hazards due to airborne aerosols, which present toxicological, flammable and explosive hazards. Evaluating and remediating exposures also covered.

IH&S 689. Professional Experience in Industrial Hygiene. 2 Hours.
PR: Consent. Experiential learning program planned by the student and evaluated for credit by faculty. Involves field experience from an IH or safety job, or shadowing IH or safety personnel. Student must write an acceptable report on his or her experiences and defend it in a verbal presentation.

IH&S 691. Advanced Topics. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. Investigation of advanced topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.

IH&S 692. Directed Study. 1-6 Hours.
Directed study, reading, and/or research.

IH&S 693. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

IH&S 694. Seminar. 1-6 Hours.
Special seminars arranged for advanced graduate students.

IH&S 695. Independent Study. 1-9 Hours.
Faculty supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.

IH&S 696. Graduate Seminar. 1-3 Hours.
PR: Consent. Each graduate student will present at least one seminar to the assembled faculty and graduate student body of his or her program.

IH&S 697. Research. 1-9 Hours.
PR: Consent. Research activities leading to thesis, problem report, research paper or equivalent scholarly project, or a dissertation. (Grading may be S/U.).

IH&S 698. Thesis or Dissertation. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. This is an optional course for programs that wish to provide formal supervision during the writing of student reports (698), or dissertations (798). Grading is normal.

IH&S 699. Graduate Colloquium. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. For graduate students not seeking coursework credit but who wish to meet residency requirements, use the University's facilities, and participate in its academic and cultural programs. Note: Graduate students who are not actively involved in coursework or research are entitled, through enrollment in their department's 699/799 Graduate Colloquium to consult with graduate faculty, participate in both formal and informal academic activities sponsored by their program, and retain all of the rights and privileges of duly enrolled students. Grading is S/U; colloquium credit may not be counted against credit requirements for masters programs. Registration for one credit of 699/799 graduate colloquium satisfies the University requirement of registration in the semester in which graduation occurs.
IH&S 797. Research. 1-9 Hours.
PR: Consent. Research activities leading to thesis, problem report, research paper or equivalent scholarly project, or a dissertation. (Grading may be S/U).

SAFETY MANAGEMENT COURSES

SAFM 501. Safety Management Integration. 3 Hours.
Consideration of integrated arrangements, staff roles, management theory, staff liaison, project improvement, effectiveness, audits, and collaboration needed to assure success of the safety function.

SAFM 502. Controlling Environmental and Personnel Hazards. 3 Hours.
Investigation of hazard control principles relating to environmental facilities and equipment including control procedures recommended by authorities from the fields of engineering, medicine, and public health as well as from the field of safety.

SAFM 505. Safety Legislation and Compliance. 3 Hours.
Comprehensive study and analysis of federal and state legislation which mandates compliance with certain safety conditions and practices related to work performed in occupational and comparable settings.

SAFM 511. General Industry Safety. 3 Hours.
PR: Graduate standing. Focuses on management and planning aspects of general industry safety, including walking working surfaces, confined space, machine guarding, electricity, fire protection, emergency planning, and other compliance aspects of 29 CFR 1910.

SAFM 528. Economic Aspects of Safety. 3 Hours.
PR: Graduate standing. An overview of economic factors that must be considered when justifying the development and implementation of safety initiatives, including examining published research, cost estimating, ROI, risk assessment, benefit-cost analysis, and project planning.

SAFM 533. Disaster Preparedness. 3 Hours.
Major elements involved in disasters and emergencies, preparedness planning, systems utilization, and attention to essential human services, with emphasis on community action.

SAFM 534. Fire Safety Management. 3 Hours.
Analysis of fire services usually provided under safety manager jurisdiction, with special attention to legal bases, organizational structure, services rendered, training needs, and management techniques.

SAFM 539. Security Management. 3 Hours.
Safety manager responsibilities for security of persons and property including organizational patterns, personnel competencies expected, surveillance and monitoring methods, and occupational problems among security personnel.

SAFM 550. Loss Control and Recovery. 3 Hours.
Identifying and elimination areas of loss or recovering from losses of people, property, and efficacy via management practices, insurance and worker's compensation, and other management techniques and resources effective in controlling those losses.

SAFM 552. Safety and Health Training. 3 Hours.
Analysis of safety and health performance discrepancies, developing and conducting training programs to eliminate those discrepancies and the evaluation of program effectiveness in terms of cost effectiveness and organizational impact.

SAFM 578. Substance Abuse in the Workplace. 3 Hours.
The problem, nature, and effects of alcohol and drug use in the workplace; approaches for treatment and avoidance such as EAP's, community programs, and testing; development of management approaches and programs.

SAFM 580. Fundamentals of Environmental Management. 3 Hours.
An introductory but comprehensive overview of topics related to environmental technology as it applies to safety management. Focuses on regulation and technology relative to environmental management. Includes field trip.

SAFM 593. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

SAFM 640. Instrumentation for Safety Managers. 3 Hours.
Anticipation, recognition, and evaluation of industrial hygiene topics encountered by safety managers. Fundamental instrumentation techniques are presented in laboratory and lecture formats. Management-oriented control and remediation programs are developed.

SAFM 641. Leadership Development for Safety Management. 3 Hours.
This course presents concepts in ethics, leadership in crisis and non-crisis modes, experiential training, and creating a values-congruent workplace even under conditions of non-support by upper management.

SAFM 689. Professional Field Experience. 1-18 Hours.
PR: Must have completed 12 hours in SAFM and consent. Prearranged experiential learning program, to be planned, supervised, and evaluated for credit by faculty and field supervisors. Involves temporary placement with public or private enterprise for professional competence development.

SAFM 691. Advanced Topics. 1-6 Hours.
Investigation of advanced topics not covered in regularly scheduled courses.
SAFM 692. Directed Study. 1-6 Hours.
Directed study, reading, and/or research.

SAFM 693. Special Topics. 1-6 Hours.
A study of contemporary topics selected from recent developments in the field.

SAFM 695. Independent Study. 1-9 Hours.
Faculty supervised study of topics not available through regular course offerings.

SAFM 697. Research. 1-9 Hours.
PR: Consent. Research activities leading to thesis, problem report, research paper or equivalent scholarly project, or a dissertation. (Grading will be S/U.).

SAFM 699. Graduate Colloquium. 1-6 Hours.
PR: Consent. For graduate students not seeking coursework credit but who wish to meet residency requirements, use the University's facilities, and participate in its academic and cultural programs. Note: Graduate students who are not actively involved in coursework or research are entitled, through enrollment in their department's 699/799 Graduate Colloquium to consult with graduate faculty, participate in both formal and informal academic activities sponsored by their program, and retain all of the rights and privileges of duly enrolled students. Grading is S/U, colloquium credit may not be counted against credit requirements for masters programs. Registration for one credit of 699/799 graduate colloquium satisfies the University requirement of registration in the semester in which graduation occurs.

SAFM 790. Teaching Practicum. 1-3 Hours.
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