Forest Resources Science

Degree Offered

- Doctor of Philosophy with a major in Forest Resources Science

AREAS OF EMPHASIS OFFERED

- Forest Resource Management
- Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Resources
- Wildlife and Fisheries Resources
- Wood Science and Technology

The Division of Forestry and Natural Resources also offers a program option leading to the degree of doctor of philosophy in forest resources science. Students who choose this option have the opportunity to choose one of the following as their major field of study: forest resources management; recreation, parks, and tourism resources; wood science and technology; or wildlife and fisheries resources. Within these major fields of study, specialization is limited only by the range of competencies in the graduate faculty.

Admissions

A student seeking admission to work toward the degree of doctor of philosophy in forest resources science in the Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Design may choose as the major field of study forest resources management; recreation, parks, and tourism resources; wood science and technology; or wildlife and fisheries resources. Within these major fields of study, specialization is limited only by the range of competencies in the graduate faculty.

A candidate for the Ph.D. degree in Forest Resources Science must meet all University, College, Division, and Program requirements as outlined in the WVU Graduate catalog.

Program Requirements

All Ph.D. degree candidates are required to follow a planned program of study. The student develops the plan of study during their first year in the program in conjunction with the graduate committee. The plan must be approved by the Director of the Division and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the Davis College.

A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 is required in all courses applied toward degree requirements.

Course Requirements as determined by the Plan of Study

Research

Candidacy Exam

Dissertation

Dissertation Defense

Curriculum requirements for all Ph.D. candidates include a block of graduate courses in the major field, which will constitute a comprehensive review of the significant knowledge in that field and a block of graduate courses in a minor field of study. A minimum of sixty semester hours beyond the bachelor’s degree and exclusive of the dissertation is required.

DISSertation AND FINAL EXAMINATION

The research work for the doctoral dissertation must show a high degree of scholarship and must present an original contribution to the field of forest resources science. In addition to coursework and the dissertation, the candidate is required to pass a qualifying examination and a final examination.

Major Learning Outcomes

FOREST RESOURCES SCIENCE

- Demonstrate mastery of historic and contemporary issues and practices in one of the four emphasis areas (Forest Resource Management; Recreation, Parks and Tourism Resources; Wildlife and Fisheries Resources; or Wood Science and Technology).

- Critique and assess peer-reviewed literature and apply research findings to the resources and management of their emphasis area.

- Conduct and defend independent, original research focused on Forest Resource Management; Recreation, Parks and Tourism Resources; Wildlife and Fisheries Resources; or Wood Science and Technology; that includes project design, collecting, analyzing and interpreting data, publishing results in scientific journals, and presenting results to scientific audiences.