



## School of Natural Resources M.S. & Ph.D. Specialization in Human Dimensions of Natural Resources

### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION – THEORY AND REAL WORLD APPLICATIONS**

The Human Dimensions program builds a strong scientific base for understanding and affecting people’s thought and behavior toward natural and managed environments, with the goal of improving stewardship of ecosystems and natural resources. Environmental managers and researchers increasingly need to understand the human element – human behaviors, attitudes and needs – and incorporate these into natural resources planning. They also may be called on to facilitate collaboration between groups, help resolve conflicts, create policies, serve as educators and advocate for environmental issues. This specialization offers both natural resources and social science courses to provide a well-rounded curriculum focused on human-environment interactions.

Participating faculty in other units, such as Agricultural Economics, Anthropology and Geography, Community and Regional Planning, Psychology, and Law, offer a range of natural resource and social science study, allowing students to design individualized programs.

### **STATE OF THE ART FACILITIES AND RESOURCES PLUS VALUABLE RESEARCH AND WORK OPPORTUNITIES**

The School of Natural Resources is housed in the newly renovated Hardin Hall on UNL’s beautiful East Campus. The new building has excellent laboratory, office, and classroom facilities to support research, teaching and outreach regarding the human dimensions of natural resources. The University of Nebraska is also home to several centers that provide students opportunities to gain practical experience in a variety of climate, water and other natural resource subjects:

- National Drought Mitigation Center
- High Plains Regional Climate Center
- Great Plains Regional Center for Global Environmental Change
- Center for Advanced Land Management Information Technologies
- Water Center
- Public Policy Center

### **FACULTY – A WIDE RANGE OF EXPERTISE AND COURSES**

#### **Advising**

Jim Brandle	Agroforestry / Shelterbelt Ecology
Mark Burbach	Leadership Development / Management in Governmental Organizations
Ken Dewey	Climate Variations
Michael J. Hayes	Drought Mitigation / Impacts
Qi (Steve) Hu	Global/Regional Climate Variations
Mike Jess	Water Policy and Hydrology
Cody Knutson	Local Drought Planning & Mitigation / Social Science



Karl J. Reinhard	Environmental Anthropology
Drew Tyre	Statistical Ecology / Population Dynamics / Simulation Modeling
Brian Wardlow	Remote Sensing and GIS / Drought Monitoring / Decision Support Systems
Donald A. Wilhite	Drought Management, Planning and Policy

***Collaborating***

J. David Aiken	Water Law / Environmental Law
Gary D. Lynne	Ecological Economics & Behavior / Conservation / Climate / Water
Gordon Scholz	Parks and Recreation Planning / Tourism / Planning Ethics
Ray Suppala	Irrigation / Water Quality & Policy / Sustainable Agriculture
Alan Tomkins	Mental Health Policy / Community Health / Stakeholder Input
Sandra Zelmer	Natural Resources / Water Conservation / Environmental Law

**AREAS OF STUDY**

Agroecology	Environmental and Natural Resources Policy
Climate Variability & Change	Forest Ecology
Community and Regional Planning	Fisheries and Wildlife
Drought Planning and Management	Natural Resources and Environmental Law
Environmental and Ecological Economics	Recreation and Park Planning
Environmental Leadership	

**ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

There are no specific requirements beyond those necessary for admission into the School of Natural Resources graduate program. Once admitted, students are eligible for competitive graduate research and teaching assistantships. Fellowships can help offset the cost of out-of-state tuition. Several UNL centers offer employment opportunities for graduate students.

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

A greater emphasis on interdisciplinary and integrated research and the importance of understanding human behavior in the conservation, management and restoration of natural resources, ecosystems and the environment is leading to increased opportunities in business, government and non-governmental organizations at all levels.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

***Program details:***

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 Web site: [snr.unl.edu/degrees/grad\\_Human\\_Dimensions.asp](http://snr.unl.edu/degrees/grad_Human_Dimensions.asp)

***Brochures and applications:***

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<p>The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is an equal opportunity educator and employer with a comprehensive plan for diversity.</p>
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