

HUMAN DIMENSIONS

Available to both MS and PhD candidates.



Contact Information

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The Human Dimensions specialization seeks to improve the stewardship of ecosystems and natural resources by understanding and affecting people's thought and behavior toward natural and managed environments.

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 upon 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, Psychology, Law, and Community and Regional Planning offer a range of natural resource and social science study, allowing students to design individualized programs.

HUMAN DIMENSIONS

Faculty Advisors

Dr. Mark Burbach | mburbach1@unl.edu

Human dimensions of natural resource management, pro-environmental behavior, environmental leadership

Dr. Chris Chizinski | cchizinski2@unl.edu

Human dimensions of natural resources, wildlife, fisheries, social-ecological systems

Dr. Jenny Dauer | jenny.dauer@unl.edu

Science literacy, systems thinking, student learning about matter and energy, learning progression research, climate change education, teaching and curriculum development, biogeochemistry, ecosystem ecology, nutrient cycling

Dr. Joe Dauer | joseph.dauer@unl.edu

Regional & global climate variations, convection in atmospheric literacy, undergraduate learning in biology, visualizations, cognition, pedagogy, plant ecology, population dynamics

Dr. TJ Fontaine | jfontaine2@unl.edu

Adaptive management, avian migration, avian nesting biology, climate change, habitat selection, human impact biology, life history evolution, K-12 natural resource education

Dr. Cory Forbes | cforbes3@unl.edu

Science literacy, teaching and curriculum development, natural resources education, food, energy, water education, human dimensions of natural resources, science education, STEM education, education research, socio-environmental systems

Dr. Mike Hayes | mhayes2@unl.edu

Drought risk management, natural hazards and disaster management, planning, impacts and vulnerability assessments, climate variability and change, extreme events, adaptation strategies, food and water security

Dr. Cody Knutson | cknutson1@unl.edu

Environmental geography; water scarcity, drought, and climate change; environmental perceptions and collaborative planning; stakeholder engagement and capacity building; international development

Dr. Lisa Pennisi | lpennisi2@unl.edu

Environmental responsibility, human dimensions of wildlife management, natural resource recreation/tourism, visitor studies, environmental education and interpretation