Overview

The M.Sc is a thesis-based master’s degree with a strong focus on research. This two-year program provides an opportunity for students to specialize and develop skills in research and scientific communication, and prepares students for doctoral studies, or for employment with industry or the government.

Admission Requirements

1. A four year undergraduate degree in a relevant field with a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 out of 4.0 in the last 2 years (approximately 60 credits) of post-secondary study
2. Satisfaction of the English Language Requirement
3. Appropriate academic background in the Undergraduate program:
   Undergraduate course requirements vary for each specialization, and include sufficient background in theory, applications, and tools. Details are available in the REES Graduate Program Handbook (here or https://www.ualberta.ca/agriculture-life-environment-sciences/programs/graduate-programs/current-students under "Graduate Program Manual"), under Minimum Course Requirements: Master of Science (MSc)

Degree Completion Requirements

1. Completing a minimum of six three-credit graduate courses and maintaining the required grade point average
2. Completing and defending a thesis, based on original research in accordance with Departmental and FGSR requirements
3. Successfully completing the Ethics, Professionalism, and Academic Integrity Program
4. Meeting all other departmental and FGSR requirements

CONTACT US

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Specializations

Agricultural and Resource Economics
Agricultural economics is an applied field that typically explores issues related to agriculture, food production, and consumption. Resource economics seeks to understand the supply and demand of natural resources, their role in the economy, and how to manage them for long term sustainability. These fields also make significant contributions to environmental issues. Research in REES has focused on resource, environment, and development economics; agriculture and food markets/policy; production economics and development; agricultural business; international agriculture; international development and trade.

Rural & Environmental Sociology
Rural sociology examines social structure and social change in rural areas, as well as issues such as food and agriculture, forestry, mining and energy development. Researchers in REES examine wide-ranging, interdisciplinary and international issues such as international development, globalization, food security, climate change and gender. Environmental sociology examines societal-environmental interactions, often focusing on environmental problems, environmental risk, environmental values, consumption, waste, and consumer behaviour.

Forest Economics
Forest Economics focuses on public policy and regulatory issues in the forestry sector. It explores the roles of institutions and property rights in regulating the timber supply, and the provision, production, and trading of forest resources and products. Researchers in REES study forest policy and economics.

Risk and Community Resilience (Interdisciplinary)
Risk and Community Resilience examines different aspects of social-ecological relations, challenging us to think about how peoples, locally and globally, see and respond to changes in their environment including those associated with ecological variability, climate change, and natural resource development. Students can focus on themes of greatest interest: community-based resource management, Indigenous knowledge systems, arctic & global climate change, food security, and health & well-being.

NOTE: This brochure provides a simplified overview of program requirements. For comprehensive policies and procedures, see the REES Graduate Program Handbook.