

Admission Requirements

Admission to graduate study is based on the individual merits and interests of the applicant, fulfillment of the general admission requirements of the Graduate School, and acceptance by a faculty advisor. Because of this latter requirement, applicants should write directly to one or more faculty members whose research interests are most similar to their own (see faculty listings).

Master of Science (M.S.) Program

The M.S. program in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences is designed to (a) train graduate students for entry-level, professional positions in areas of fisheries biology, aquatic resource management, and/or aquaculture and (b) provide a solid, scientific foundation for further graduate work leading to the Ph.D. degree. Graduates of the Department's M.S. program have readily found employment with the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (formerly Natural Resources), Florida Water Management Districts, US Fish and Wildlife Service, other government agencies and the private sector. Other students have continued their education in Ph.D. or other advanced degree programs.

Admission requirements:

1. An earned Bachelor's degree;
2. An upper division undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher, or the equivalent GPA from institutions where a scale other than 4.0 grade point scale is used;
3. Combined Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores for Verbal and Quantitative of 1100 or higher.
4. If English is not the native language, a score of 550 or more on the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) if the earned Bachelor's degree is from a non-English-speaking institution;
5. Three appropriate letters of recommendation; and
6. Written agreement by a faculty member in the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Science to serve as a major professor and Chair of the Supervisory Committee.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Program

The Doctor of Philosophy program in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences is designed to train graduate students in a fundamental science and in its application to fishery and aquatic resource problems. Students entering a Ph.D. program normally desire careers as scientific researchers or teachers with academic institutions, government agencies or the private sector.

Admission requirements:

Requirements 1-6 of the Master of Science Program;

An earned Master's degree or other advanced degree (e.g., D.V.M). This requirement can be waived by the Graduate Program Committee of the Department following petition by the prospective major professor.

Master of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences (M.F.A.S.) Program

The M.F.A.S. program is a non-thesis program designed to train students in the technical aspects of fisheries and aquatic resource management emphasizing written and oral communication of scientific information. This non-thesis program is intended for graduate students desiring advanced training beyond the Bachelor's degree but whose career goals do not involve scientific research. Students in this program often desire careers in journalism, environmental education, public relations or other non-science disciplines. This program also provides one avenue of study for those desiring careers in environmental law but who may lack the prerequisite technical knowledge prior to entering law school. Admission requirements are identical to those for the Master of Science Program.

Admission requirements:

1. An earned Bachelor's degree;
2. An upper division undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher, or the equivalent GPA from institutions where a scale other than 4.0 grade point scale is used;
3. Combined Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores for Verbal and Quantitative of 1100 or higher.
4. If English is not the native language, a score of 550 or more on the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) if the earned Bachelor's degree from a non-English-speaking institution;

5. Three appropriate letters of recommendation;
6. Written agreement by a faculty member in the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences to serve as a major professor and Chair of the supervisory committee.