

THOMPSON RIVERS  UNIVERSITY  
**Course Outline**

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**Master of Science in Environmental Science**

**Faculty of Science**

**ENVS 5990 - 18 credits**

**Master of Science Thesis**

**Calendar Description**

Requires an original research project conducted by graduate students in the Master of Science Program in Environmental Science under the direction of a faculty supervisor and a thesis advisory committee. Students register in this course each semester that they are in the program until all requirements for the thesis have been met.

**Educational Objectives/Outcomes**

The specific goals of any thesis depend largely on the subject and context of the research. However, the overarching objective of all thesis work in this program is to provide the training and experience needed by the students to enter the field as an capable, professional research scientist. To that end, all thesis work must provide the student with:

- Guidance and experience in the proposal, development and ethical conduct of a research project that significantly expands knowledge in the field of study
- Enable the student to master the analytical and writing skills needed to construct a thesis that bears up to peer-review by other scientists and professionals
- Provide the student with the capability to present and defend the conclusions of their research in a public forum.

As a result of their thesis work, the graduate from the MSc program in Environmental Science will

- Possess a deeper knowledge of their chosen field of study and the research tools used in that area.
- Have the capacity to synthesize questions needed to address, constructively criticize and implement effective research programs, and
- Be able to place their work within the broader, holistic context of environmental science and society in general.

**Prerequisites**

Acceptance into the MSc program in Environmental Science

**Co-requisites**

None

**Texts/Materials**

None

**Student Evaluation**

Ongoing, periodic evaluation and feedback provided through regular meeting between the student and their faculty supervisor and thesis advisory committee. Final evaluation is determined by the committee and an external examiner at the time of the thesis defense. Guidelines for the preparation of the thesis and the format of the defense are available from the MSc Program Coordinator.

**Course Topics**

Determined by the thesis supervisor and the thesis advisory committee

**Methods for Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition**

n/a

**Attendance Requirements – Include if different from TRU Policy**

n/a