Overview
The Professional Science Master’s (PSM) Program of the College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences of the University of the District of Columbia allows working professionals to pursue advanced skills in Water Resources Management, Urban Agriculture and Urban Sustainability. Using a combination of application and theory, the three PSM degrees allow students to gain hands-on experience through project design, implementation, case studies, internship programs and applied research.

With STEM programs in high demand, our PSM programs allow students to tackle the challenges of building the sustainable urban communities of the future through a strong focus on food security, food and water safety, resource management, and energy efficiency.
The Water Resources Management program is an interdisciplinary and practical graduate program that prepares graduates for effective science communication and problem solving skills, entrepreneurship and technical innovation, in order to address the global challenges of water availability, quality and sustainability.

The Urban Agriculture program connects the dots between locally grown food, nutritional health, and economic empowerment to make urban farming a successful business. The program offers students a chance to see sustainable research techniques applied in action, whether it be at the 143-acre Firebird Farm in Beltsville, Maryland, our 3-acre innovative mobile urban farm in Ward 7 of the District, or the 20,000 sq. ft. rooftop farm right here on the Van Ness campus.

The Urban Sustainability program prepares students for a wide range of urban sustainability careers and rapid advancement in business, government, and non-profit organizations by providing students with hands-on experience with sustainable projects, implementation, and maintenance. Students will learn how to create solutions for current urban sustainability challenges through case studies and internship programs. The Urban Sustainability PSM will be offered on-line.

Learning Objectives

- Demonstrate effective critical and problem solving skills by applying both qualitative and quantitative approaches.
- Apply advanced statistical and geospatial analytical tools to make informed decisions.
- Demonstrate professionalism with good oral and written communication skills.
- Apply basic and state-of-the art analytical technologies in determining the quality and sustainability of natural or built environments.
- Apply project management and sustainability concept to plan, execute, monitor and control a project.
- Monitor and assess the impact of urban development on ecosystem health and services.

Curriculum

Individuals with a bachelor’s degree and a background in business, economics, planning, mathematics, science, or engineering are encouraged to apply to any of the PSM programs. In order to graduate, students must complete a minimum of 35 credit hours, which can be completed in one and a half years of full-time studies, depending on the concentration.

All three PSM degrees are applied and allow working professional to bring their own professional experience into the program to advance or to re-tool.

Each PSM may be completed as a certificate. When combined with the required core and professional courses students receive a PSM degree.

Contact info:
Dr. Tolessa Dekisssa, Program Director
Dr. Dwane Jones, Urban Sustainability Concentration Coordinator;
Dr. Matthew Richardson, Urban Agriculture Concentration Coordinator
psmwrm@udc.edu | 202.274.5273