



# Master of Science in Occupational and Environmental Hygiene at the University of British Columbia

Become a leader in safety, hygiene, hazards, environment, and health exposures in work places



"I graduated in 1995 and have worked in the safety/health department of a flight attendant union since 1999. My job tasks range from the micro (such as educating workers/union representatives about workplace hazards and assisting injured workers with compensation claims) to the macro (such as drafting language and debating on standard-setting committees, raising the workers' perspective on global safety and health issues, and commenting on proposed changes to regulations), and everything in between.

My education at UBC has given me the tools and credibility to speak out on behalf of the people I represent. I find a sense of purpose in union work: I believe, in my bones, that nobody should have to compromise either their health or their safety to hold down a job. I believe that people should go home at night with the health – and the numbers of fingers and toes – that they had when they woke up. Anyone who thinks that IH is some dry and dull discipline should think again."

Judith Murawski, MSc  
Industrial Hygienist,  
Association of Flight Attendants – CWA, AFL-CIO  
Graduated 1995

## MSc OEH Program

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This Occupational and Environmental program leads to professional or research careers that make a difference to community and work environments and to people's health.

The "occupational and environmental hygiene" field refers to recognition, evaluation and control of chemical, physical and biological hazards in workplaces and the community. The MSc OEH program teaches the sciences of exposure measurement, exposure control, and assessment of health effects of occupational and environmental exposures.

## The ideal student

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Students come to the program from diverse undergraduate backgrounds, including biology, chemistry, engineering, geography, kinesiology, laboratory science, microbiology, nursing, medicine, physics, psychology, and resource management. This diversity provides a stimulating and creative learning environment as each student brings their specialized knowledge to bear on problem solving.



## Why study OEH at UBC?

- The MSc OEH Program at UBC is the only graduate program in this field in western Canada.
- Our program offers a collegial multidisciplinary setting. Graduate students are offered excellent opportunities to be involved in research, policy papers, monitoring, and other projects. Students are often key members of project teams from the development stages through to field work, analysis, and report writing.
- Graduates of this program often become certified professionals after writing the exams offered by either the Canadian Registration Board of Occupational Hygienists or the American Board of Industrial Hygiene.
- Our program offers two options: project (professionally oriented) and thesis (research oriented).

## How long will it take and what is involved?

The MSc OEH program is delivered in a traditional in class format at UBC Point Grey campus. The program can be completed in 18 - 24 months, and consists of:

- 42 credits consisting of core courses, electives, and a thesis or project
- Completion of a summer co-op placement (project option only)
- Comprehensive exam (project option only)
- Thesis defence (thesis option only)
- Completion of three short courses

## What are the admissions criteria?

Admission to the MSc OEH program is competitive and applicants are required to meet, at a minimum, the following criteria:

- Four-year undergraduate degree from an accredited university, with an average of B+ (at UBC, 76%).
- Although there is no specific requirement for a particular degree or courses, preference for a degree in the physical or health sciences, engineering degrees or courses in biology, chemistry, physics, calculus, and statistics, have been valuable for success in this program.
- Demonstration of proficiency in quantitative skills; either a score of 76% (B+) or higher in an undergraduate mathematics or statistics course, or completion of the GRE exam

In addition, applicants are required to submit:

- A statement of objectives and current CV
- Official transcripts
- Three reference letters (academic and professional accepted)
- TOEFL or IELTS English exams (if international students)

For further criteria visit [www.msc-oeh.spph.ubc.ca](http://www.msc-oeh.spph.ubc.ca)

## What does it cost?

The graduate program fees for domestic and international students vary, and are subject to change. Please consult [www.calendar.ubc.ca](http://www.calendar.ubc.ca) for the most up to date fees.

All fees are payable in three installments per year at the beginning of each semester in September, January and June.

Total program costs are difficult to estimate as installments are dependant on time taken to complete the program (18-24 months)

## How do I apply?

The program one Fall (September) intake. Applications open in October each year, with applications closing on January 15th each year.

All documents, transcripts and the online application are due by the January 15th deadline.

All applications are submitted using the online application form at [www.grad.ubc.ca](http://www.grad.ubc.ca).

For more information visit [www.msc-oeh.spph.ubc.ca](http://www.msc-oeh.spph.ubc.ca) or contact the Program Coordinator at (604) 822 2827 or email [spph.msc-oeh@ubc.ca](mailto:spph.msc-oeh@ubc.ca)