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

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.

Why study Occupational Environmental Hygiene 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 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).

Contact Us

spph.ubc.ca/programs/msc-oeh
spph.msc-oeh@ubc.ca
604-822-2827
“It’s like an applied science— you can directly apply it to peoples’ safety and health.”

The MSc OEH shows employers you possess high critical thinking skills and research abilities, 2015 graduate Jasper Tam says. His classmates were one of the best parts of the degree, with great camaraderie and collaboration.

“I use the foundational skills that I obtained during my MSc OEH in my research studies daily.”

Senior investigator with the National Cancer Institute Melissa Friesen works with an interdisciplinary team to help identify occupational risk factors for cancer in order to prevent future cancer cases from these exposures.

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.
- Quantitative skills are required for success in the program. These skills can be demonstrated by having taken college or university level courses which include the use of math or statistics, or by submitting scores from a Graduate Record Exam (GRE). The GRE is not required to be considered for admission, but helps us to evaluate applicants holding non-Canadian-issued degrees.
  - 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

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 20 months, and consists of:

- 42 credits consisting of required courses, electives, and a thesis or project
- Completion of a summer co-op placement & Capstone Course (project option only)
- Thesis defense (thesis option only)

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How do I apply?

The program has one Fall (September) intake. Applications open in October each year, with closing on February 1st. All documents, transcripts and the Online application are due by February 1st deadline. To Apply, visit https://www.grad.ubc.ca/prospective-students/application-admission/apply-online.