Environmental Engineering (Ph.D.)

Protect the environment while building the economy: Study at North Dakota's Energy University.

North Dakota's vast energy resources can play a critical role in easing the nation's energy dependence - and graduates of UND's doctoral program in Environmental Engineering will play just as big a part in ensuring these resources are acquired responsibly and sustainably.

Program Snapshot

Program type: Doctoral Degree
Format: On-campus or online
Est. time to complete: Up to 7 years
Credit hours: 90

Why Earn a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering at UND?

Protecting the environment is a challenge that spans industries and disciplines. UND's Environmental Engineering program is linked to other programs in the College of Engineering & Mines, including our Chemical, Civil, Mechanical, Petroleum, Geological Engineering & Energy Engineering programs. In addition, we work closely with industry, businesses and communities to develop new technologies, solve infrastructure-related problems and develop new technologies.

You'll become a proficient researcher, working with talented faculty whose research interests include air quality; greenhouse gas capture and sequestration; ground water; flaring of stranded gas and in general, the responsible and economical use of natural resources.

As a Ph.D. candidate, you'll complete an oral exam, present an annual progress report outlining your research, and defend a dissertation.

Application Deadlines

FALL: FEB 28* | AUG 1
SPRING: SEPT 15* | DEC 1
*DESIGNATES PRIORITY DEADLINE

Ph.D. Program Highlights

- The Ph.D. program is offered through UND's Institute for Energy Studies (IES). This multidisciplinary institute is focused on training a generation of energy experts who will develop energy technologies that are economically competitive, reliable, sustainable and politically and environmentally acceptable.
- Faculty relationships with a wide variety of industries, municipalities, consulting firms, government agencies and research-funding organizations provide opportunities for your own research and collaboration.
- Participate in ongoing research opportunities at the Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC), which work with state, federal and industry clients to solve energy and environmental needs.
- Gain access to on-campus laboratory facilities including the multi-disciplinary Environmental Analytical Research Laboratory (Leonard Hall), Civil Engineering Environmental and Hydraulics Laboratories, and Chemical Engineering Laboratories.
- Flexible research options allow online students to choose projects relevant to their current job.

Careers in Environmental Engineering
2016 median salary for an environmental engineer*

1st
Rank of "environmental engineer" on list of best engineering jobs in 2017, based on factors including salary, employment demand, work-life balance and more**

*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
**U.S. News & World Report

Environmental engineers play a key role in protecting air, water and soil quality and providing solutions to remediate impacts from emissions sources. Ph.D. graduates will be prepared for careers in government, academia, or industries including:

- Recycling
- Waste disposal
- Water and air pollution control
- Pipeline operations
- Data science
- Consulting