Areas of Specialization

**Ecosystem Science**
- Biogeochemistry
- Ecohydrology
- Ecological restoration
- Ecophysiology
- Global change ecology

**Ecosystem Management**
- Forest, rangeland and wetland management
- Watershed management
- Natural resource economics
- Ecophysiology
- Human dimensions of ecosystem management
- Environmental policy, politics and administration

**Genetics, Systematics, Evolution**
- Biodiversity
- Genomics
- Molecular biology
- Phylogenetics
- Plant population genetics
- Plant systematics and evolution

**Spatial Sciences**
- Geographic Information Science
- Remote sensing
- Spatial analysis and statistics

**DEPARTMENT MISSION**

Our department is recognized as a premier ecosystem science and management program that fosters cutting-edge research, advances environmental stewardship, educates the next generation of students, and extends its knowledge to the general public through outreach activities. We use a combination of discovery and translational research to anticipate and address real-world problems. We prepare students for leadership in the science and stewardship of rangeland, forest, and wetland ecosystems. Our extension, outreach, and continuing education programs promote practical solutions that increase sustainability and economic value and enhance societal appreciation for the benefits of healthy, functional ecosystems.
Programs
ESSM offers graduate degrees at both the master's and doctoral levels. The Ph.D. and thesis-based Master of Science degrees are designed for research or academic careers. Non-thesis master's degrees provide advanced training in natural resource conservation and management for those who seek a professional career outside of research. The Master of Natural Resource Development is a non-thesis program offered in both on-campus and distance format.

Facilities
ESSM research and teaching resources include several state-of-the-art facilities, including the Stable Isotopes for Biosphere Sciences Lab, the Spatial Sciences Lab, the S.M. Tracy Herbarium and a network of field research stations throughout Texas, including the Sonora station pictured below. Students have access to a world-class library system and campus-wide high-speed wireless.

Admissions
Admission is based on your undergraduate record (3.0 GPA minimum), relevant coursework, competitive GRE scores and related experiences.

Financial Support
Competitive departmental fellowships are available for incoming graduate students, amounting to more than $200,000 each year. Other sources of funding include fellowships from Texas A&M, the federal government, or private sources. Students also collaborate with faculty advisors for scholarship and fellowship applications and writing grant proposals. Currently, 81% of all ESSM graduate students receive funding to support their studies.

How to Apply
• Email Madysen Rydeen (contact information below).
• Find an ESSM faculty member who is willing to serve as your committee chair.
• Fill out an online application at www.applytexas.org. Submit all required documents (three letters of recommendation, official transcripts, statement of purpose, etc.).

Application Deadlines
• Fall 2018
  o February 15 (International Applicants)
  o March 15 (US Applicants)
  o All applicants-submit applications by January 15 for eligibility for fellowships
• Spring 2019
  o September 15 (International Applicants)
  o October 15 (U.S. Applicants)

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