Professional Science Master’s in Environmental Science (PSM)

Program Handbook

2014-2015
# The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

## Table of Contents

- CONTACT INFORMATION ........................................................................................................ 3
- THE FACULTY .......................................................................................................................... 3
- EMERGENCY CLOSINGS ......................................................................................................... 6
- PROGRAM OBJECTIVES ......................................................................................................... 6
- PROGRAM COMPLETION TIMELINE ....................................................................................... 6
- CAPSTONE PROJECT .............................................................................................................. 6
- ACADEMIC HONESTY ........................................................................................................... 7
- ATTENDANCE .......................................................................................................................... 7
- LEAVE OF ABSENCE ............................................................................................................. 7
- AWARDS AT GRADUATION ..................................................................................................... 7
- GRADUATE ASSISTANTS .......................................................................................................... 8
- ACADEMIC PROGRESS/DISMISSAL ....................................................................................... 8
CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address:

Director, Professional Science Master’s
School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (NAMS)
101 Vera King Farris Drive
Galloway, NJ 08205

Dean of the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics:

Dennis Weiss, Ph.D. Office:
B-108
(609) 652-4546
Dennis.Weiss@stockton.edu

Dean of the School of Graduate and Continuing Studies:

Lewis Leitner, Ph.D. Office:
F-101
(609) 652-4298
Lewis.leitner@stockton.edu

Program Director:

Ekaterina Sedia, Ph.D. Office:
USC214
(609) 652 4569
Kathy.Sedia@stockton.edu

THE FACULTY
Tait Chirene

Ph.D. (University of Florida), Associate Professor, Environmental Studies: water quality issues in Southern New Jersey, including speciation and transport (and modeling) of heavy metals in aquatic systems, ecosystem processes related to metal and nutrient retention/accumulation in soils, ground water and soil remediation; use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) in environmental problem solving.

Weihong Fan

Ph.D. (Colorado State), Associate Professor, Environmental Studies: species diversity, systems ecology, landscape ecology and regional analysis using Geographical Information Systems (GIS); remote sensing and ecological modeling (carbon and nitrogen cycling); well water contamination.
Daniel A. Moscovici  
Ph.D. (University of Pennsylvania), Assistant Professor, Environmental Studies: Environmental planning, land preservation, regional planning, energy planning, natural resource management, sustainable development.

Ekaterina Sedia  
Ph.D. (Rutgers, The State University), Associate Professor, Biology: plant ecology; microbial composition and soil properties; non-vascular plants; restoration of disturbed habitats, effects of light and salinity on the Atlantic White Cedar, and invasive species in southern NJ.

Mark Sullivan  
Associate Professor of Marine Science; Ph.D., University of Miami; M.S., State University of New York at Stony Brook; B.S., Tulane University; marine ecology, ichthyology, early life history of fishes, fisheries oceanography, climate change, fisheries management.

Judith Turk  
Ph.D. (University of California-Riverside), Assistant Professor, Environmental Science: historical land-use effects on soils of southern New Jersey, soil patterns related to remnant periglacial features in the New Jersey Pinelands, digital soil mapping, soils of arid ecosystems.

ASSOCIATED FACULTY

Kristin Hallock-Waters  
Ph.D. (University of Maryland at College Park), Assistant Professor of Chemistry: environmental chemistry, photochemistry, spectroscopic methods for assessing trace pollutants, statistical analysis of long term pollution data.

Daniel Hernandez  
Ph.D. (Rutgers, The State University), Associate Professor, Biology: conservation biology; wildlife management; ornithology, biology of Horseshoe Crabs and Diamondback Terrapins behavioral ecology, ecological modeling.

Patrick Hossay  
Ph.D. (The New School of Social Research), Associate Professor of Political Science: international development, environmental politics, resource sustainability, and racism and nationalism.

Russell Manson  
Ph.D. (University of Glasgow), Associate Professor of Computational Science: computer modeling of surface water flow.
Rodger Jackson
Ph.D. (Michigan State University), Associate Professor of Philosophy: ethical theory, applied ethics, pragmatism, history of philosophy, environmental philosophy.

Maritza Jauregui
Ph.D. (University of California at Irvine), Assistant Professor of Public Health: environmental health.

William A. Rosche
Ph.D. (Texas A & M University), Assistant Professor of Biology: microbiology and genetics. Research interests include microbiology of polluted soil and water, bioremediation, biofilms, and mutations.

Whiton Paine
Ph.D. (University of Maryland), Associate Professor of Business Studies: consumer behavior, market research, e-marketing, business and marketing ethics.

Louise S. Sowers
Ph.D. (Drexel University), Associate Professor of Chemistry: chemical impact of energy systems on the environment, pollution analysis, trace metals.

George Zimmermann
Ph.D., Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey; Professor of Environmental Science: forest ecology, ecological forest management, silviculture, wildlife-forest interactions, quantitative methods in ecology.

PROFESSORS EMERITI

Claude Epstein
Ph.D. (Brown University), Professor Emeritus, Environmental Studies: groundwater-surface water relationships, New Jersey groundwater resources, and stream channel adjustments to land use; hydrology and geomorphology.

Raymond Mueller
Ph.D. (University of Kansas), Professor Emeritus, Environmental Studies: soil science, geomorphology, and physical geography; geoarchaeology, the application of soil science and characteristics to environmental land use issues, and water quality issues related to the chemistry of storm water runoff retention basins.
Lynn Stiles

Ph.D. (Cornell University) Professor Emeritus of Physics: geothermal systems, energy management, optics, solar energy, lasers and holography, environmental physics.

For faculty office hours, please refer to your course syllabus or contact the School of Natural Science and Mathematics. The office is located in office USC240. The phone number is (609) 652-4645.

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

In the event of severe weather or other types of emergencies, check the college’s homepage (www.stockton.edu) for updates on closings. Area radio stations oftentimes announce the status of the college. The school identification numbers are 913 and 2913 for day and evening classes, respectively.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The PSM will among, other things, provide the following to our graduates:
1. Foster critical thinking in solving real world problems in the areas of environmental education, pollution, remediation, sustainability, stewardship, and forestry.
2. Provide students with the critical skill sets required in many professional fields including geographical information systems, statistical analysis, research methodology, professional writing, communication, project management, etc.
3. Equip students with the necessary skills required in formulating effective policy in the environmental field.
4. Equip students with the skills to effectively use information technology to gather and disseminate information.

PROGRAM COMPLETION TIMELINE

Students must complete all aspect of the program within six years of matriculation, not including time spent on school-approved leave of absence. Please see the Stockton Bulletin for details on the leave of absence policy. Students who do not complete all of their graduate work over the six years of matriculation will be dismissed from the program.

THE CAPSTONE PROJECT (ENVL 5800)

Introduction

Each PSM graduate is required to do a capstone project with a PSM or PSM affiliated faculty member. This capstone project shall include a significant contribution to our understanding of our living environment and a project report meeting the guidelines posted on the PSM website by December 2009 shall be prepared. Specifically, the project may be a research project, a methodology or policy proposal or a comprehensive literature review on a specific subject. Each student will also be required to present the results of his/her work in an Environmental Science Seminar in front of his/her advisor and members of the PSM Committee. A hard and electronic copy of the project write-up shall be submitted to the PSM coordinator for his/her records.
Students are advised to initiate discussions about their projects by the end of their second semester and register for them in the third semester. A grade of “In progress” will be assigned until the project is completed and graded by their faculty advisor on the project. Only full time PSM faculty members may advise student projects. In the event that a student works with another advisor outside of the PSM faculty, a PSM faculty member must cosign as an advisor to the project. Students must earn the grade of “B” or better on their projects. Failure to achieve this grade will require a redo of the project until a satisfactory grade is obtained. Students who fail to achieve a “B” or better on their projects on their third attempt will be dismissed from the program.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic Honesty
Academic honesty is a very serious issue. All students enrolled in graduate courses at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey are required to follow all College policies including the Academic Honesty Policy specified in the Stockton Bulletin. Unless specifically designated otherwise, all work is expected to be the student’s own, independent effort. When in doubt about how to complete an assignment properly, students need to consult with the appropriate faculty member.

ATTENDANCE

Students are required to participate in all required lectures and field activities for the PSM. Students must discuss emergencies with individual instructors and field leaders and provide the necessary documentation at the request of said instructors.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE & MAINTENANCE OF MATRICULATION

Students wishing to take a leave of absence or a maintenance of matriculation procedures detailed in the College Bulletin.

AWARDS AT GRADUATION

Students who graduate with a 4.0 GPA will receive the Dean’s Award. The PSM program is still determining other types of awards and certificates for outstanding students.
GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

Graduate assistantships are available on a semester basis. The number of credits awarded will be determined by PSM program faculty in consultation with the Dean of the School of Graduate and Continuing Studies. A graduate assistantship requires 1-4 hours of service per week for each credit of waived tuition. The tuition waiver is granted for graduate courses in which a student is enrolled during the semester that an assistantship is held.

Only matriculated students with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 in PSM courses are eligible for graduate assistantships. Interested students need to submit a letter of interest, their resume, and the graduate assistantship application form (found on the graduate studies website or the Graduate Director) to the Graduate Director no later than October 31 for spring semesters and March 31 for fall semesters. Notifications will go out in early December for spring and late April for the fall.

Note: Preregistration is required before the proceeding term to ensure eligibility for a Distinguished Research Fellowship, Stockton Scholarships and/or a Graduate Assistantship may be jeopardized.

ACADEMIC PROGRESS/DISMISSAL

Academic Progress
All PSM students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0. Students whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0 during any semester are placed on probation and given one additional semester (limited to 9 credits) to raise their GPA. Failure to raise the GPA to 3.0 or higher will lead to dismissal from the program.