

## Two Very Useful Pages

GA 'onboarding'

<https://grad.uconn.edu/assistantships/>

Required GA Trainings

<https://grad.uconn.edu/assistantships/training/>

# Other (Potentially) Required Trainings (for many grads.)

## Responsible Conduct of Research

If you are **employed on a Federal Grant or Fellowship** (e.g., NSF, NIH, NIFA), you are **required** to this complete training.

deadline: during the course of employment

details: <https://ovpr.uconn.edu/services/rics/responsible-conduct-of-research/>

Option 1: 8 separate 1-hour training workshops (register in advance)  
you have some choice in topics

Option 2: GRAD5910 (approved course)  
The grad. school runs a section every fall.  
MCB runs a section each spring.

# Research Compliance & Regulations

## Within UConn

- Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S)
- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)
- Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)
- Institutional Review Board (IRB)

## Outside UConn

- State permits (collecting; site access; installation of equipment, ...)
- Federal permits (collecting)
- International permits (import/export; CITES)

<https://covid.uconn.edu/>

## COVID

Search this site... 

[Students](#) [Faculty & Staff](#) [Vaccinations](#) [Testing](#) [Dashboard](#) 

### On, Together

Our community has demonstrated care and compassion for others throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and has been held up as a model to other universities for how to do this right. UConn and the state of Connecticut are very proud of this accomplishment, but our work is not done. As our community becomes increasingly protected by vaccinations, we still must take precautions and follow testing, social distancing, masking, and hygiene protocols.



Talk to your advisor about individual lab and field research safety plans



# Research Compliance & Regulations

- Lots to consider - only an introduction
- Details will vary depending on your research
- TALK TO YOUR ADVISOR
- Seek advice from other faculty who do similar research, especially if you are doing something that is unusual for your lab
- These rules will apply to anyone who works for/with you
- TALK TO YOUR ADVISOR

# WHAT TO DO RIGHT NOW

## 1. Find out what basic trainings you need

- Husky SMS is the main system for Env Health and Safety
- Your advisor should have added you to the system
- Log in to find out what trainings you need
- Start working through them

## 2. Basic requirements that apply to most labs:

- Initial Lab Safety & Chemical Waste Management
- Chemical Hygiene Plan

Go to [ehs.uconn.edu](https://ehs.uconn.edu)

Click on “Safety Training” (or HuskySMS)

The screenshot shows the UConn Environmental Health and Safety website. At the top, the UConn logo and "UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT" are visible. Below this, the text "DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY" and "Environmental Health and Safety" is displayed. A search bar is located on the right side. A navigation menu includes links for "About-", "Primary Services-", "Faculty/Staff-", "Students", "Visitors", "HuskySMS", and "COVID-19". The main banner features the "HuskySMS" logo and the text "Your one-stop shop for:" followed by a list of services: "Safety Training", "Safety Inspections", and "IBC Registrations". Below the banner, there are four image-based buttons: "SAFETY TRAINING" (circled in orange), "REGULATED WASTE MANAGEMENT", "FOOD SAFETY & PUBLIC HEALTH", and "ACCIDENT & INCIDENT".

**UCONN** UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
Environmental Health and Safety

Search this site...

About- Primary Services- Faculty/Staff- Students Visitors HuskySMS COVID-19

# HuskySMS

Your one-stop shop for:

- Safety Training
- Safety Inspections
- IBC Registrations

SAFETY TRAINING

REGULATED WASTE MANAGEMENT

FOOD SAFETY & PUBLIC HEALTH

ACCIDENT & INCIDENT

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DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
Environmental Health and Safety

Search this site... Q

About- Primary Services- Faculty/Staff- Students Visitors HuskySMS COVID-19

## Training

# HuskySMS

Safety Management System  
Powered by BioRAFT

### EHS Training Delivery COVID-19 Response

Visit our [COVID-19 Resources page](#) to access COVID-19 training. If you have a NetID, you can complete the lesson in HuskySMS to have immediate access to a certificate of completion. Affiliates can complete the COVID-19 training lessons through the EHS website without a NetID. Your completion will still be recorded, and you will receive a confirmation email.

Currently, unless otherwise indicated, all EHS in-person training sessions are held on [UConn's official WebX system](#). To ensure security, and to accurately record participation, all WebX sessions for EHS lessons will be invitation only. All registered participants can expect an email with information about how to join the EHS training lesson 24 hours before the lesson is

### Register Now

You must register for all EHS training lessons to ensure adequate space and availability. Courses with no participants registered may be cancelled. Walk-in attendance for cancelled classes will not be possible. Walk-in participants for courses with no registration may not be able to complete/participate in some training courses.

**LAUNCH HUSKYSMS**

Watch Later Share



Go to [ehs.uconn.edu](https://ehs.uconn.edu)

Click on “Safety Training” or HuskySMS

Launch HuskySMS

Log in

[Log in with your UConn  
NetID and Password](#)

[\(Click here for other access methods\)](#)

## Welcome to HuskySMS – The University of Connecticut Safety Management System Powered by BioRAFT

[Please enter your UConn NetID and Password to log in.](#)

Access to this system is strictly limited to users associated to the University of Connecticut. All access is monitored and logged. If you do not have a NetID but need access to HuskySMS, please request access [here](#). We appreciate your patience as we authenticate and process your request.

Go to [ehs.uconn.edu](https://ehs.uconn.edu)

Click on “Safety Training” or HuskySMS

Launch HuskySMS

Log in

The screenshot shows the HuskySMS dashboard for Christopher Elphick. The top navigation bar includes the logo, user name, and links for Home, Support, and Logout. A left sidebar contains navigation options: Elphick (Christopher) Lab, Research Tools, Training, and My Account. The main content area is titled 'Welcome to HuskySMS!' and features three primary sections: Announcements, Required Training, and Messages. The Announcements section states there are no recent announcements. The Required Training section contains a table with five rows, showing the status of various courses. The Messages section lists four recent messages, including training and registration status updates. A Compliance Summary section at the bottom right shows 'Biological' and 'Training' both with green checkmarks, indicating compliance. A 'View Dashboard' link is also present.

**HuskySMS** | Safety Management System  
Powered by BioRAFT

Welcome, Christopher Elphick  
[Home](#) | [Support](#) | [Logout](#)

**Welcome to HuskySMS!**

- + Elphick (Christopher) Lab
- + Research Tools
- + Training
- + My Account

**Announcements**  
*There are no recent announcements*  
[View All Announcements](#)

**Required Training**

Status	Course Name	Renewal Date
✓	<a href="#">Biological Safety Considerations: Field Research with Birds (Online)</a>	Never
✓	<a href="#">Biological Waste (Online)</a>	Never
✓	<a href="#">Biosafety General (Online)</a>	Never
⚠	<a href="#">Biosafety General Refresher (Online)</a>	09/08/2022
✓	<a href="#">Shipping and Transportation of Biological Agents (Online)</a>	06/02/2023

**Messages**

- 08/22/2022 [UConn EHS Training – Staff Safet...](#)
- 05/20/2022 [UConn EHS Training – Staff Safet...](#)
- 05/11/2022 [Bio Registration Status: Admin A...](#)
- 05/10/2022 [Bio Registration Status: Awaitin...](#)

[View Entire Inbox](#)

**Compliance Summary for Elphick (Christopher) Lab**

**Biological:** ✓  
**Training:** ✓

[View Dashboard](#)









Go to [ehs.uconn.edu](https://ehs.uconn.edu)

Click on “Safety Training” or HuskySMS

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Log in

#### Required Training

Status	Course Name	Renewal Date
	<a href="#">Biosafety General (Online)</a>	Overdue!
	<a href="#">Chemical Hygiene Plan Confirmation (Online)</a>	Never
	<a href="#">Biological Safety Considerations: Field Research with Birds (Online)</a>	Never
	<a href="#">Biological Waste (Online)</a>	Never
	<a href="#">Initial Laboratory Safety and Chemical Waste Management (Classroom)</a>	Never
	<a href="#">Laboratory Safety and Chemical Waste Management Refresher (Online)</a>	01/20/2022
	<a href="#">Shipping and Transportation of Biological Agents (Online)</a>	06/02/2023
	<a href="#">COVID-19 Returning to Campus Training (Online)</a>	Never

[Training History](#)

[Course Directory](#)

# POTENTIAL PITFALLS

System is relatively new:

- Your advisor need to be prompted to add you
- The system might request unnecessary trainings

TALK TO YOUR ADVISOR .....

# WHAT TO DO RIGHT NOW

3. Think about what your research\* will involve?
  - Study vertebrates? = Institutional Animal Care & Use Cmte (IACUC)
  - Recombinant or synthetic-nucleic acid molecules, biological agents, toxins? = Institutional Biosafety Cmte (IBC)
  - Human subjects (including surveys, self)? = Institutional Review Board (IRB)

\*Note that all this applies to teaching too

# WHAT TO DO RIGHT NOW

## 3. Think about what your research\* will involve?

- Study vertebrates? = IACUC
- Recombinant or synthetic-nucleic acid molecules, biological agents, toxins? = IBC
- Human subjects (including surveys, self)? = IRB
- Soils?
- Radioactive materials?
- X-rays?
- Lasers?
- Transporting/shipping biological materials?

# WHAT TO DO RIGHT NOW

## 3. Think about what your research\* will involve?

- Study vertebrates? = IACUC
- Recombinant or synthetic-nucleic acid molecules, biological agents, toxins? = IBC
- Human subjects (incl surveys, self)? = IRB
- Soils?
- Radioactive materials?
- X-rays?
- Lasers?
- Transporting/shipping biological materials?
- Etc., etc., etc.

**OVERWHELMED YET????**

# Outside UConn

## An example (one study)

- State permit to catch and mark birds (one for each state)
- Federal permit to catch and mark birds
- Federal permit to collect nests, dead eggs, chicks, etc.
- State permit to access state lands
- Special park permissions to take tree cores and tag trees
- Federal permit to access National Wildlife Refuges (one for each)
- Individual landowner permissions for all other sites (dozens)
- State permit to install experimental enclosures

**PERMITS TAKE TIME (MONTHS!) TO GET APPROVED**



# EEB Building Access

## FOR ALL GRADUATE STUDENTS

**one-stop shop** for building access and issues **EXCEPT PBB**: email [CLASFSHelp@uconn.edu](mailto:CLASFSHelp@uconn.edu)

**PBB, TLS**: email [cheryl.dudley@uconn.edu](mailto:cheryl.dudley@uconn.edu) (TLS & PBB building manager)

**BPP, Gant**: email [justin.heavenor@uconn.edu](mailto:justin.heavenor@uconn.edu) (Gant + Biophysics building manager)

include your NETID, photo of the back of your card, and whose lab you are in  
cc your advisor on the email

We recommend asking for access to the following EEB spaces:

TLS exterior doors

TLS 315 (mailroom & teaching supplies)

TLS 171B (Bamford room)

PBB exterior doors & research wing doors

Gant exterior doors & your lab (if housed there) & EEB space

you may also need access to one or more teaching labs

## IF YOU HAVE PLANTS/INSECTS IN THE RESEARCH GREENHOUSES

You will need access to the following (from Brett):

BPB exterior doors

BPB elevator

research greenhouses on roof of BPB

**Biophysics collections**: independent access granted only after completion of collections course

## EEB Resources

- **EEB Rainforest** (Meghan Moriarty, greenhouse manager) [florawww.eeb.uconn.edu](http://florawww.eeb.uconn.edu)
- **Biodiversity Research Collections** (Bernard Goffinet, Director; Katrina Menard, invertebrate curator; Sarah Taylor, herbarium manager; Erin Kuprewicz, vertebrate curator) [biodiversity.uconn.edu](http://biodiversity.uconn.edu)
- **Computational Biology Core** (Jill Wegrzyn, Director): high-powered computing clusters and bioinformatics support [bioinformatics.uconn.edu](http://bioinformatics.uconn.edu)
- **Basic molecular facilities** (Elizabeth Jockusch & Bernard Goffinet): PCR, gel imaging, DNA quantification, Sanger sequencing
- **Center for Genome Innovation** (Rachel O'Neill, MCB, Director): NextGen sequencing [cgi.uconn.edu](http://cgi.uconn.edu)
- **Collections library & Bamford library**
- **EEBedia** (Paul Lewis) [hydrodictyon.eeb.uconn.edu/eebedia/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://hydrodictyon.eeb.uconn.edu/eebedia/index.php/Main_Page)  
departmental wiki site: seminar speaker sign-up in normal times

## Software

- **software licensing group:** [software.uconn.edu](http://software.uconn.edu)
  - Microsoft, Matlab, PulseSecure, ArcGIS Desktop
- **ArcGIS** [esri.uconn.edu](http://esri.uconn.edu) (contact Rich Mrozinski), <http://esri.uconn.edu>
- **VPN:** PulseSecure and/or CISCO AnyConnect, <https://kb.uconn.edu/space/IKB/10731882158>

## CLAS Shared Services

- Nick McIntosh – computer support (university-owned machines)
- Cheryl Dudley (TLS, PBB) & Justin Heavenor (Gant, BPP) – building managers

## EEB Research Funds

- EEB has a number of different accounts that make funds available for small research awards (\$200 - \$1500)
- There is a once-a-year competition entered by filling out an application form
- Depending on the research area, these are evaluated by either the botanical or the zoological research committee

# Help Resources

**mental health** (your own or that of someone you're concerned about)

UConn Mental Health Services [counseling.uconn.edu](https://counseling.uconn.edu)

1-800-GRAD-HLP (National Grad. Crisis Help Line)

**teaching Assistant**

Grad. Admissions and Awards Committee

Department Head

Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) <http://cetl.uconn.edu>

**financial**

financial aid (US citizens and permanent residents only)—limited for grads.

grad. student loan fund <http://gss.uconn.edu/short-term-loans/> —short term loans

summer support: limited; annual application to GAAC (research students only)

**international students**

Nick Boston (EEB office)

International Student and Scholar Services <http://iss.uconn.edu>

**graduate school**

GA 'onboarding' <https://grad.uconn.edu/assistantships/>

grad. school web page [grad.uconn.edu/student-life/](https://grad.uconn.edu/student-life/)

graduate catalog [gradcatalog.uconn.edu](https://gradcatalog.uconn.edu)

**graduate employees union**

[www.uconngradunion.org](http://www.uconngradunion.org)

Teresa Graziano (nursing)-Steward for district including EEB

**alcohol and drug**

[aod.uconn.edu](https://aod.uconn.edu)

## Additional Resources

**Ombuds Office:** Jim Wohl (<https://ombuds.uconn.edu>)

The UConn Ombudsman\* serves as a neutral resource who **provides confidential and informal assistance** to members of the UConn and UConn Health community. The Ombuds Office was established to provide a confidential, neutral resource for staff, faculty, Professional and graduate students and trainees to express concerns, identify options to address workplace conflicts, facilitate productive communication, and surface responsible concerns regarding university policies and practices.

### **Cultural Centers:**

African American Cultural Center (<https://aacc.uconn.edu>)

Asian American Cultural Center (<https://asacc.uconn.edu>)

Puerto Rican and Latin American Cultural Center (<https://latinx.uconn.edu>)

Rainbow Center (<https://rainbowcenter.uconn.edu>)

Women's Center (<https://womenscenter.uconn.edu>)

Graduate Students of Color Association (<https://uconntact.uconn.edu/organization/graduatestudentsofcolorassociation>)

**Center for Students with Disabilities:** (<https://csd.uconn.edu>)

The mission of the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) is to enhance this experience for students with disabilities. Our goal is to ensure a comprehensively accessible University experience where individuals with disabilities have the same access to programs, opportunities and activities as all others. The Center is also committed to promoting access and awareness as a resource to all members of the community...The CSD also embraces its spirit by providing services to all students with permanent or temporary injuries and conditions to ensure that all University programs and activities are accessible.

**Office of Institutional Equity** <http://equity.uconn.edu>

The Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) ensures the University's commitment and responsibility to foster diverse and inclusive working and learning environments. Our work focuses on ensuring compliance with the University's non-discrimination and anti-harassment policies, as well as state and federal laws and regulations related to equal opportunity and affirmative action. We provide support and advice to all University offices on EEO recruitment and retention issues, provide sexual harassment prevention and diversity awareness training and serve as a resource for responding to reports of discrimination and harassment, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (Title I) compliance, and Title IX compliance.

**Title IX related resources** <https://titleix.uconn.edu>

UConn is committed to creating and maintaining a campus environment free from all forms of sexual harassment, sexual violence, relationship violence and stalking. The intent of this website is to raise awareness and to provide information, support and resources to anyone impacted.

As a University, we are committed to ensuring compliance with [Title IX](#), a federal law that prohibits discrimination based on the sex (gender) of employees and students of educational institutions that receive federal financial assistance. Title IX's prohibition of sex discrimination includes prohibition of sexual harassment and sexual violence.

# Graduate Student “Ontogeny”

deadline by semester

	PhD	MS (Plan A, thesis)	BS/MS (Plan B, Biodiversity)
Form provisional committee	1st	1st	N/A
Formalize committee	3rd	2nd	1st
Plan of Study	3rd	2nd	1st
General Exam	4th	N/A	N/A
Prospectus	5th	N/A	N/A
Defense/Final examination	10th	4th	4th

N/A = not applicable

red font: deadlines overseen by relevant Grad. Committee

GAAC for PhD, plan A MS (C. Elphick, chair)

BS/MS Advisory Committee for Plan B MS (C. Garcia-Robledo, chair)

general rule: committee can grant 1-semester extension

longer extension requires permission from the relevant Grad. Committee

## Advisory Committee

Major advisor (appointed to Graduate Faculty in EEB)

2+ associate advisors (rules differ slightly for MS and PhD)

roles: guidance on coursework, research, internships; conduct exams/defenses

formal meeting at least annually

## MS Committees (plan A & plan B)

Associate advisors: 2 required (typically EEB faculty members, but not required)

“An associate advisor must possess suitable academic or scientific credentials in the student’s field of study” (UConn rule)

at least 1 must be on UConn Graduate Faculty

less common to include outside advisors (but it happens)

## PhD Committees

Associate advisors: 2 required

at least 1 must be on EEB graduate faculty

common to include outside advisors

common to have more than two (up to four)



# Student-Advisor Relationships

## What are the roles of your advisor?

Help you develop into an independent scientist

Intellectual guidance

- project development

- experimental design/troubleshooting

- finding funding

- internship selection

- course selection

Feedback on written work

- grants

- manuscripts

- dissertation/thesis

- job applications

Talk about big picture/career plans

Help you identify opportunities/make connections

Write letters of recommendation

# Plan of Study

## MS Plan of Study

**\*\*30 credits minimum\*\*** (even if you see a lower number somewhere!)

Plan A: 21+ credits coursework (counts seminars, independent study, etc.)  
9+ credits GRAD 5950/5960 (thesis research credits)  
no program-wide course requirements  
your committee is likely to require some specific courses

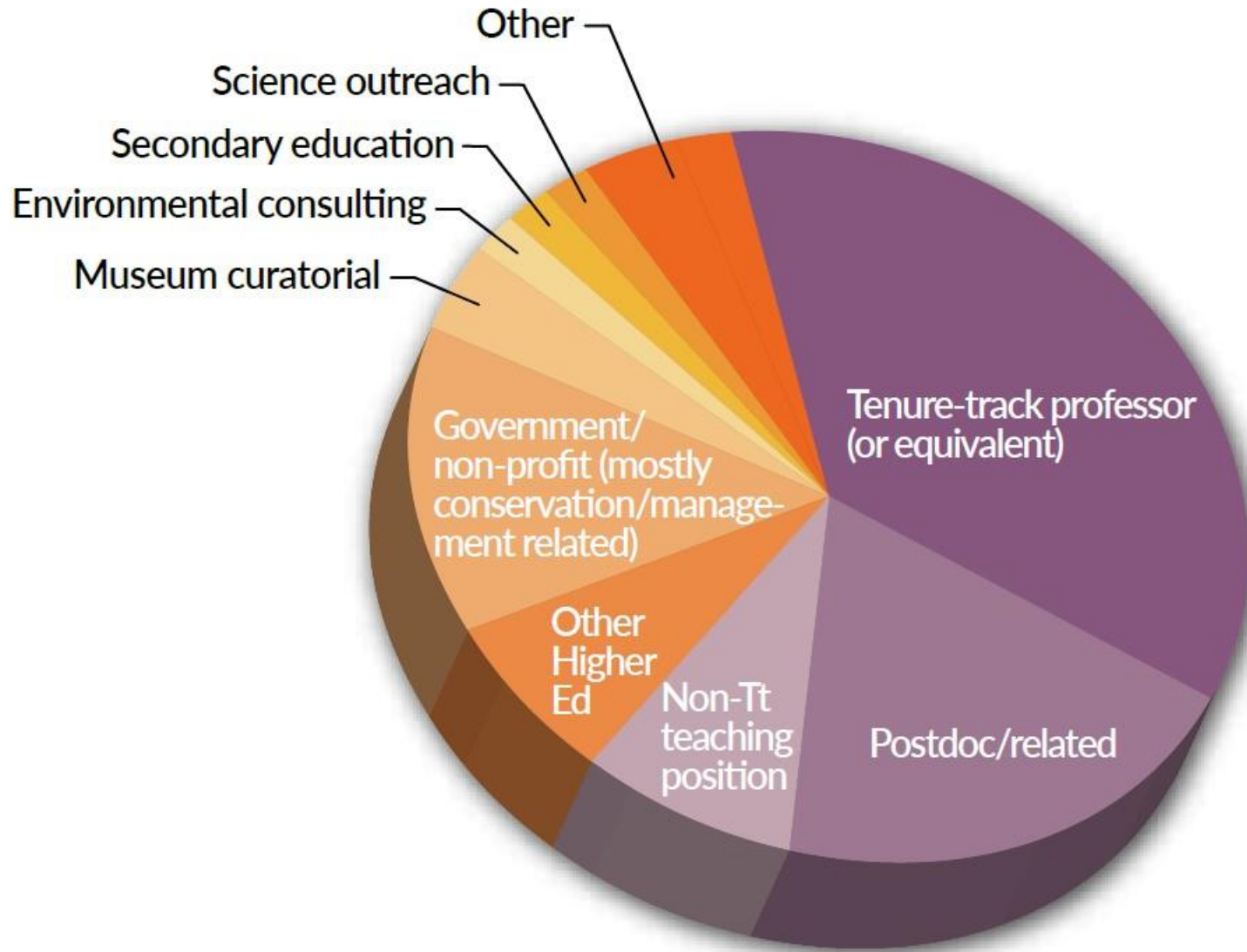
Plan B: 30+ credits appropriate coursework, fulfilling [EEB-specific requirements](#)  
internship (2+ months; for credit or not)  
research (4+ credits, EEB 5889)

## PhD Plan of Study

without MS: 30+ credits coursework (counts seminars, independent study, etc.)  
with MS: 15+ credits coursework  
all: 15+ credits GRAD 6950/6960 (dissertation research credits)  
all: no program-wide course requirements  
all: your committee is likely to require some specific courses  
'related area': at discretion of your Advisory Committee

**Plan of study** can be amended at any time, with Advisory Committee approval. At graduation, courses on Plan of Study must be completed.

# Ph.D Degrees Granted 2005-2018 (N = 101)



## Tenured/tenure-track Positions

Arcadia University

Assumption College

Bucknell University

California State University Dominguez Hills

California State University, San Marcos

Chicago Botanic Garden & Northwestern U.

Colby College

College of the Atlantic

Curry College

Drake University

Fort Hays State University

Framingham State University

Incheon National University (Korea)

LeMoyne College

Meredith College

Plymouth State University

Saddleback College

Saint Anselm College

SUNY Oneonta

Universidade Federal de Goiás (Brazil)

University of Bridgeport

University of Buffalo

University of California, Davis

University of Laval, Quebec

University of New Hampshire

University of North Florida

University of Tennessee

University of Texas at El Paso

University of Washington

University of Wisconsin Eau Claire

University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

US Air Force Academy

Wofford College

Worcester State University

## **Government/non-profit positions (often conservation related)**

- Agricultural Scientist, Department of Entomology, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
- Assistant Director of Marine Fisheries, Connecticut DEEP
- biologist/bioinformatician, Smithsonian Institution's CTFS-ForestGEO network
- Conservation Scientist, Chicago Botanic Garden
- Director of Bird Conservation, Audubon Washington
- Director of Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre
- Director of Research and Education, Linda Loring Nature Foundation (Nantucket) Executive Director, Mystic River Watershed Association
- Herpetological Geneticist, U. S. Geological Survey, Western Ecological Research Center
- Invertebrate Zoologist, Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, Massachusetts Division of Fish & Wildlife
- Northwest Coordinator, Foresters for the Birds, Forest Stewards Guild
- OTS Education and Research Liaison, La Selva, Costa Rica
- Research Officer, National Research Council, Canada
- Senior Urban Forestry and Landscape Planner, City of Somerville, MA
- Undergraduate Project Leader and Research Specialist, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies
- Vermont Dept of Environmental Conservation