

Course selection guidelines: MES

1. All MES students are required to take ENSC 801 and 802 and their thesis ENSC 899 or project ENSC 898 course. I have already registered the incoming class in these courses. Thesis-based students take two additional half-credit courses (Four in total). Course-based students take four additional half-credit courses (Six in total).
2. Normally MES students take 801 and 802 in their first year. Two or three additional courses may also be taken in the first year. Thus a thesis-based student may complete all course requirements in the first 8 months of the program, but a course-based student will be taking courses in the second year.
3. There are ENSC graduate courses that MES students may take other than the required 801 and 802. Check the ENSC web site and the online graduate calendar. MES students will also take courses outside the School. Notices about other available courses will be forwarded when they are received.

We have provided a list of courses taken by MES students in the previous years (<http://www.queensu.ca/ensc/graduate/current-students/courses/courses-interest>).

ENSC 897 will be offered this year. Dr. Hovorka co-ordinates the course and will sign the academic change form. Her approval is required and she will provide details for the requirements of this course.

4. MES students can take one undergraduate course at the 400- or 500-level for credit as part of their program.
5. ENSC 840, 841, 842 (Directed Studies) allow students to independently study a selected topic under the supervision of one of more faculty members. This may take the form of a reading course with an assigned paper, or an internship. Other possible formats would be considered. Dr. Graham Whitelaw co-ordinates this course. A plan of study is required. Submit to Dr. Whitelaw for approval.
6. All course and program changes must be done through an academic change form located at http://www.queensu.ca/artsci/sites/default/files/academic_change_form.pdf. Please make sure that you have the required signatures and submit the form to the Graduate Assistant in Rm 3132 Biosciences for processing.
7. Choosing courses is one of the most important challenges facing new MES students. There are several important reasons to choose a course: It is pertinent to your thesis or project research, the course fills a gap in your previous education, you have a strong personal interest in the course material. It is a good idea to ask advice from your supervisors and other MES students. IMPORTANT – If you are considering taking a course, make sure you go to the first few lectures. This is an excellent way to determine whether the course is suitable.
8. Note that not all courses are offered every year, and some courses have limited enrolment.
9. If a course has listed prerequisite that may be waived through “permission of the instructor”, do not hesitate to contact the instructor.
10. Aside from half-courses (3 credits) offered in Fall and Winter terms, there are some Spring and Summer courses offered at Queen’s that may be of interest to MES students. There are intensive field courses offered through several Departments, notably Biology. If you are interested in taking courses at another institution, this may be possible and should be discussed with Dr. Whitelaw. Courses at RMC are open to MES students. Registration is done through Grad School. Please see the Graduate Assistant in Rm 3132 for details.
11. The Analytical Services Unit (ASU) of the School offers an intensive 2-week spring course in Environmental Analysis Methods. See Dr. Allison Rutter for details and course offering. This course is not offered every year.