



August, 2016

WELCOME!

Welcome to the Water Resources Program (WRP) at the University of New Mexico. The WRP offers a Masters in Water Resources (MWR) degree, and is housed under the Graduate Studies at UNM.

The broad vision of the program emphasizes the interdisciplinary nature of the professional graduate degree (MWR), and the inherent links to sustainability issues. The WRP Mission Statement identifies the program goal as: “to become a regionally prominent center of expertise on water related issues and training for environmental professionals, promoting fair, healthy, and sustainable solutions to the challenges of water use in New Mexico and the southwest.”

The UNM Water Resources program began awarding masters degrees in 1991. Approximately 130 students have graduated from the program since 2000. In recent years, a typical incoming cohort of WRP students numbers approximately 15, who come from different disciplinary backgrounds and experiences and bring a diversity of perspectives. There is a mix of full-time and part-time students enrolled in the WRP.

The WRP is truly interdisciplinary, drawing teaching and participating faculty from across multiple colleges and disciplines at UNM. Approximately 60 UNM faculty members include themselves as part of the connected WRP faculty, and offer numerous graduate classes with a water resources focus that WRP students can draw from. The core WR classes are taught by a small set (6-8) of interdisciplinary faculty. A 10-person Program Committee provides guidance on policy and planning.

The 39 credit MWR degree offers considerable flexibility in meeting student interests, with concentrations in both Hydrosociences (HS) and Policy/Management (PM); however, all students must take a mix of classes in both the HS and PM tracks, participate in a common core sequence of three first year Water Resources classes (WR 571, WR 572, and WR 573) emphasizing collaboration and teamwork, and

must complete a Professional Project paper. Recent PP papers are available electronically through the UNM Libraries DSpace repository.

For the previous three years (through the 2015-2016 academic year), the WRP was successfully lead by Robert Berrens (now chair of the Department of Economics). Professor Mark Stone (Civil Engineering) has also recently served as Associate Director. We thank them, and look to build on their efforts in leading the program and connecting the larger water resources discourse community, both on and off campus.

Please feel free to contact us with questions about the program. For interested students, information about the application process can also be obtained from the WRP Office (Annamarie Cordova, Administrator: 505-277-5226; wrp@unm.edu).

Sincerely,

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