The graduate certificate in applied conservation science provides students with hands-on education in conservation science. The courses in this program are all residential, full-day, one- or two-week intensive courses held at the Smithsonian Mason School of Conservation in Front Royal, Virginia. This certificate is designed for early to mid-career conservation professionals working in government, non-governmental organizations, and research institutions worldwide.

Students acquire essential skills in conservation research and practice while developing a crucial understanding of the principles and philosophies underlying effective conservation and biodiversity programs. They learn how to apply analysis techniques and tools to address those questions and evaluate conservation outcomes.

Upon completion of the certificate, students will have developed practical and analytical skills applicable to a wide range of programs in applied conservation science research, policy, and practice – from single-species protection and landscape-level restoration and management to community conservation initiatives and human-wildlife conflict mitigation.

The graduate certificate in applied conservation science may be pursued on a part-time or full-time basis.

**Admissions & Policies**

**Admissions**

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For information specific to the graduate certificate in applied conservation science, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (http://chss.gmu.edu/programs/LA-CERG-ACNS/application).

**Policies**

For policies governing all graduate certificates, see AP.6.8 Requirements for Graduate Certificates.

**Requirements**

**Certificate Requirements**

Total credits: 15

For policies governing all graduate certificates, see AP.6.8 Requirements for Graduate Certificates.