

Positions are open for graduate students seeking a Master of Science Degree in Earth System Science and Policy at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND with research interests in environmental change and impacts related to climate change using remote sensing and GIS techniques.

Students are being sought to assist in classifying land cover/land use change between 1930 and 2010 within the Sheyenne National Grassland in Southeast North Dakota. Preliminary analysis of this study area over the last decade indicate increases in wetlands within the National Grassland which is having an impact on various biological, economic, and cultural features, including grassland species and tourism. This study involves the use of remote sensing and GIS techniques in which ENVI and ERDAS Imagine remote sensing, and ESRI GIS software will be utilized in analyzing ASTER and Landsat images, Aerial Photography, and Digital Elevation Models. As well, visits to the study site and field work will be necessary. Knowledge of either software and/or the above data types is desirable, but not necessary. This topic can also be tailored to fit a PhD degree. Tuition waiver is available to those who qualify. Students from a wide range of fields are encouraged to apply, such as Geography, Geology, Biology, Environmental Science, Climatology, Hydrology as well as many others in environmental majors.

Earth System Science and Policy at the University of North Dakota is an interdisciplinary department which focuses on environmental sustainability. Three degrees are offered through the department: Master of Environmental Management (M.E.M.), M.S., and Ph.D. If either of the above research topics is of interest, please see the UND Graduate School website ([www.und.edu/dept/grad/](http://www.und.edu/dept/grad/)<<http://www.und.edu/dept/grad/>>) for application instructions, or contact Dr. Jeff VanLooy of the Department of Earth System Science and Policy at the University of North Dakota at (701) 777-4755, or by e-mail: [jvanlooy@aero.und.edu](mailto:jvanlooy@aero.und.edu)<<mailto:jvanlooy@aero.und.edu>> Recommended deadline for application is June 1st however, early applications will receive top priority for admission.

For more information, see the following websites:

The University of North Dakota: [www.und.edu](http://www.und.edu)<<http://www.und.edu>>

The UND Graduate School: <http://www.und.edu/dept/grad/>

UND Earth System Science and Policy: <http://essp.und.edu/>

Grand Forks Visitors Bureau: <http://www.visitgrandforks.com/main.php>