

Community Resources and Development, MS

PPRECDTMS

With your commitment to reshaping your community, your passion for change and your aspirations for an influential career, you can prepare to be an agile, results-driven leader. Align your degree with your goals while unlocking opportunities across diverse communities through program electives and the four concentrations.

Program description

Degree awarded: MS Community Resources and Development

The master's degree program in community resources and development prepares students to analyze and understand critical topics and issues pertinent to the fields of tourism, parks and recreation management, nonprofits and nongovernmental organizations, and sustainable communities.

Students choose between two academic options: the thesis or the practicum professional option.

On average, completion of the master's degree requires two years of study.

At a glance

- **College/School:** [Watts College of Public Service & Community Solut](#)
- **Location:** [Downtown Phoenix](#)

Accelerated program options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an **accelerated bachelor's plus master's degree** with:

Community Sports Management, BS

Community Sports Management (Events), BS

Nonprofit Leadership and Management, BS

Nonprofit Leadership and Management (American Indian Studies), BS

Parks and Recreation Management (Therapeutic Recreation), BS

Parks, Recreation and Sport Management, BS

Tourism Development and Management, BS

Tourism Development and Management (Meetings and Events), BS

Tourism Development and Management (Resort and Hotel Leadership), BS

Tourism Development and Management (Sustainable Tourism), BS

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. Students typically receive approval to pursue the accelerated master's during the junior year of their bachelor's degree program. Interested students can learn about eligibility requirements and [how to apply](#).

Degree requirements

30 credit hours and a thesis, or

36 credit hours including the required applied project course (CRD 593)

Required Core (15 credit hours)

CRD 500 Research Methods (3)

CRD 502 Statistical and Data Analysis (3)

CRD 530 Community Services Management (3) or advanced inquiry course (3)

CRD 552 Critical Issues (3)

CRD 555 Theoretical Perspectives in Community Development (3)

Electives (9 or 15 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (6 credit hours)

CRD 593 Applied Project (6) or

CRD 599 Thesis (6)

Additional Curriculum Information

Students may select a thesis or applied project. The thesis option is a research-oriented program recommended for students planning to continue graduate studies beyond the master's degree. The applied project option is intended for students seeking additional knowledge and expertise relevant to professional career development. Advising and direction in both options are under the direct supervision of an assigned faculty member.

Students in the applied project option take CRD 530 as part of their core coursework and 15 credit hours of electives.

Students in the thesis option take an advanced inquiry course as part of their core coursework and nine credit hours of electives. The thesis must be defended in an oral examination before a supervisory committee of at least three faculty members, one of whom resides in another department.

Admission requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Watts College of Public Service and Community Solutions.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in any field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or they must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. statement of professional and academic goals
4. three letters of recommendation
5. current resume
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of [English proficiency](#) regardless of their current residency.

International applicants are required to submit TOEFL or IELTS scores and a financial guarantee statement.

Only complete application files are reviewed or considered for admission. Applicants without undergraduate academic work in related disciplines are required to take six credit hours of deficiency coursework in addition to the master's degree requirements. Deficiency coursework may be taken in conjunction with master's degree classes.

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

Application deadlines

Fall

Spring [expand](#)

[expand](#)

Program learning outcomes

Program learning outcomes identify what a student will learn or be able to do upon completion of their program. This program has the following program outcomes:

- Conduct research in tourism while analyzing critical topics and issues pertinent to tourism development and management.
- Relate their individual strengths to demonstrate knowledge of research methods and data analysis within the context of tourism sectors.
- Apply the principles and practices of community development to address the social, economic, environmental and cultural challenges of diverse communities.

Career opportunities

Career opportunities after graduation include:

- community services officer
- nonprofit and nongovernmental organization officer
- parks and recreation officer
- tourism officer

Contact information

[School of Community Resources and Development](#) | UCENT 550

scrd@asu.edu | 602-496-0550