

RENEWABLE ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY SYSTEMS

Graduate Program Head	Jeremy Gernand
Program Code	RESS
Campus(es)	World Campus (M.P.S.)
Degrees Conferred	Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S.)
The Graduate Faculty	View (https://secure.gradsch.psu.edu/gpms/?searchType=fac&prog=RESS)

The RESS professional master's program (MPS-RESS) is an online, interdisciplinary master's degree program designed to prepare professionals in the fields of renewable energy and sustainability systems to lead the world's transformation from an unsustainable, fossil energy economy to a renewable, sustainable basis of operation. For example, attaining an ambitious national goal of 25% of energy from renewable resources by the year 2025 in the U.S. requires a tremendous increase in renewable energy production and use in ways that are sustainable, environmentally sound, and reliable. The MPS-RESS program is designed to address the critical need for professionals with relevant expertise in *renewable energy* and *sustainability systems*.

The program provides broad coverage of topics related to *renewable energy* and *sustainability systems* while providing in-depth coverage of related technologies and policies. Students are required to follow a focused curriculum that combines requisite rigor with flexibility appropriate to a rapidly changing field. Students take a number of core program courses that provide an in-depth understanding of the sustainability framework relevant to energy and sustainability systems and, in consultation with their program adviser, select additional courses from a broad array of electives designed to meet their individual learning goals. While not required to do so, students may choose from one of two program tracks: one which provides specialized technical instruction in various aspects of renewable energy systems while the other focuses on sustainability management and policy. A comprehensive Scholarship and Academic Research Integrity (SARI) plan embeds ethics and integrity training both at the start and at the end of the master's program. A capstone course or capstone research experience with an EME faculty member is required of all students that serves to aggregate the material learned and provide a summative educational experience within the framework of a semester long group-based project.