Toxicology

The Toxicology Program provides course work and research training to prepare prospective toxicologists and environmental health scientists for careers in academia, government, and industry. Research in the program spans an array of topics ranging from the molecular to population level consequences of toxicant exposure. Areas of research excellence within the program include elucidating relationships among cell signaling processes and stressor-induced disease and toxicity, establishing mechanisms of system-specific toxicity, using physiological and genomic approaches to understand differences in species and individual susceptibility to environmental contaminants, and unraveling gene-environment interactions. Some specific research areas include: apoptosis, endocrine disruption, trace metal bioaccumulation and detoxification, oxidative stress/gene regulation/cell toxicity, asthma and lung fibrosis, cancer and mutagenesis, ecotoxicology, developmental abnormalities, chemical exposure assessment and environmental epidemiology. Some examples of the types of environmental agents that are being investigated include chemical carcinogens, trace metals, pesticides, particulates metals, endocrine disruptors, nanoparticles and UVB radiation.

Admission Requirements

Prospective students should have a strong background in the biological and physical sciences with a minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum Quantitative GRE score in the 70th percentile. GRE subject tests are not required. International students whose primary language is not English must submit TOEFL scores. A written statement should describe the applicants academic and career goals as well as their area of interest. All applications are reviewed by an admissions committee. Students are encouraged to submit applications no later than December 15 for Fall admission.

Master of Science Degree Requirements

The M.S. is a research-oriented degree requiring a minimum of 30 credit hours and a written thesis. At least 20 credit hours must be graduate-level courses and a core curriculum is required.

Master of Toxicology Degree Requirements

The MTOX degree is a non-research degree designed for those interested in pursuing non-research careers in toxicology and environmental health science, and/or working professionals seeking to further their education and advance their careers. To accommodate working professionals the MTOX degree can be pursued on a part-time basis. A minimum of 30 credit hours is required, with at least 14 credit hours in toxicology courses.

Doctoral Degree Requirements

The Ph.D. program is designed to train students to become independent scholars capable of conducting unsupervised and original research. Students enroll in a core curriculum similar to that of the M.S. degree and additional courses as determined by his/her advisory committee. Normally a total of 72 credit hours is required, with the majority of these credits being dissertation research. Students must pass both a written and oral preliminary exam prior to advancing to Ph.D. candidacy. A doctoral dissertation presenting the students original research is written and defended in a final oral examination.

Student Financial Support

Financial assistance is available for qualified applicants through traineeships, fellowships, teaching assistantships and research assistantships.

Other Relevant Information

Students pursuing either the M.S. or Ph.D. degree may elect to specialize in General Toxicology, Environmental Toxicology, or Molecular and Cellular Toxicology. More details can be obtained on the Environmental and Molecular Toxicology web site.

Degrees

- Toxicology (MR) (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/graduate/sciences/toxicology/toxicology-mr/)
- Toxicology (MS) (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/graduate/sciences/toxicology/toxicology-ms/)
- Toxicology (PhD) (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/graduate/sciences/toxicology/toxicology-phd/)
- Toxicology (Minor) (http://catalog.ncsu.edu/graduate/sciences/toxicology/toxicology-minor/)

Faculty

Full Professors

Ronald E. Baynes
James C. Bonner
Matthew Breen
David Buchwalter
William Gregory Cope
Jane A. Hoppin
Cathrine Hoyo
Michael Hyman
Detlef R. Knappe
Seth William Kullman
Jerry "Mac" Law
Gerald Andre LeBlanc
Carolyn Jane Mattingly
Elizabeth Guthrie Nichols
Jun Ninomiya-Tsuji
Heather Patisaul
Emilie Francesca Rissman
Richard M. Roe