

Research, Measurement, and Evaluation: Ph.D.

Program Format

The Ph.D. program in RME is intended to be completed within four years, and consists of a mixture of coursework in core methodological areas, one-on-one mentoring in targeted areas of research related to the advancement of statistical and measurement methodology, and applied experiences in consultation and data analysis roles. The first two years of the program focus primarily on coursework, but by the third year students typically spend considerable time in research activities field experiences as a methodological consultant and statistical analyst.

The Ph.D. program in RME is designed to provide students with an in depth training in research methodology, measurement, and applied statistical modeling, and to gain an expertise in one or more specialized areas of measurement or statistical modeling. The program aims to provide students with the necessary mentoring and experiences to produce original research that advances methodology used in statistics and measurement. Students are encouraged to present their research in regional and national conferences, and to publish their research in peer-reviewed journals. In this respect, students in this program are being groomed to assume influential positions in the field of research methodology, such as faculty positions at research-intensive universities and research scientist positions in research and testing organizations.

All students entering the Ph.D. program are intended to be full-time students. Although financial support is not guaranteed for all incoming students, the program makes strong effort to provide opportunities for financial support for all students. Students may have a relevant Masters degree prior to entering the program, but a Masters degree is not required for admission. Qualified students with an appropriate exposure to applied mathematics, statistics, or research methodology may enter directly into the Ph.D. program with only an undergraduate degree. Although previous extensive experience with statistics is not required for admission, students must have successfully completed a minimum of an introductory statistics course (or an equivalent course) to be considered for admission.