

Education for a Free Society and an Engaged Livelihood

Graduates of the Institute for Social Ecology's MA programs are leaders in today's social movements, international development efforts, and educational institutions. Approximately half of social ecology MA graduates have gone on to work in education, including popular education and community organizing, in addition to more traditional pursuits. Others have chosen careers in agriculture and agricultural policy, alternative technology, international development, social and environmental advocacy, and other related fields. A concentration in social ecology offers a firm theoretical and practical grounding for a life-long pursuit of visionary social and political change.



Residency

All Master of Arts Program students are required to attend quarterly colloquia in Prescott, Arizona. The colloquia provide interactive peer learning and dialogue, as well as opportunities to present ideas. Working with peers and faculty, students receive both support and challenge. Throughout the semester, students work with graduate advisors to review progress, revise study plans, and evaluate accomplishments.

Master of Arts Program At a Glance

Founded 1992

Program Graduate degree from a distance

Graduate Enrollment 332

Student-Faculty Ratio 1:1

Age Range 23-69

Students Receiving Financial Aid 55%

Tuition Students in the ISE Program will pay MAP tuition and an additional \$150 per semester to Prescott College.

Accreditation Prescott College grants Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, and Ph.D. degrees and is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.



Residents of all areas (except Tucson and Southern Arizona):

Prescott College Admissions Office
220 Grove Avenue
Prescott, Arizona 86301
(877) 350-2100 ext. 2112 — (928) 350-2112
admissions@prescott.edu

Residents of Tucson and Southern Arizona:

Tucson Center
2233 East Speedway Blvd.
Tucson, Arizona 85719
(520) 319-9868 — (888) 797-4680
tucsonadmissions@prescott.edu

Graduate Study in Environmental Studies or Humanities with a concentration in Social Ecology



1: a coherent, radical critique of current anti-ecological trends. 2: a reconstructive, ecological, communitarian, and ethical approach to society.



Prescott College

www.prescott.edu

Master of Arts Program

Graduate Study in Environmental Studies or Humanities with an emphasis in Social Ecology

The Prescott College Master of Arts Program (MAP) is working in collaboration with the Vermont-based Institute for Social Ecology (ISE) to offer a concentration in social ecology for Prescott MAP students. Established in 1974, the ISE is an independent institution of higher education dedicated to the study of this interdisciplinary field, which draws upon studies in philosophy, political and social theory, anthropology, the natural sciences, history, economics, and feminism.

Social ecology advocates a reconstructive approach to social and environmental issues, and promotes a directly democratic, confederal politics. As a body of ideas, social ecology envisions a moral economy that moves beyond scarcity and hierarchy, toward a world that reharmonizes human communities with the natural world, while celebrating diversity, creativity and freedom. Historically, the ISE has been a pioneer in the exploration of ecological approaches to food production, alternative technologies, and urban design, and has played an essential, catalytic role in movements to challenge nuclear energy, global injustice and unsustainable biotechnologies, while building living, participatory, community-based alternatives. The Institute strives to be an agent of social transformation, demonstrating the skills, ideas and relationships that can nurture vibrant, self-governed, healthy communities.

Qualified ISE faculty are available to serve as graduate advisors through Prescott College, and students are invited to participate in conferences and colloquia organized by the ISE, as well as several kindred projects across the country. Students and ISE advisors collaborate on study planning and attend the quarterly MAP colloquia at Prescott College, where they have the opportunity to collaborate and dialogue with other social ecology students, as well as their peers in many other areas of concentration.

Areas of Study

As a broadly interdisciplinary field, social ecology offers a strong theoretical grounding that reinforces the Prescott MAP's focus on the development of social and ecological literacies. A student's first semester of guided independent study will typically include central works in the theory of social ecology, as well as initial explorations of the student's self-chosen area of focus. Subsequent semesters will allow students to intensify their theoretical grounding and pursue advanced research and writing in their particular field, working toward the eventual completion of an MA thesis.

Possible areas of study include:

- Social theory
- Ecological and social activism
- Ecological land use and organic agriculture
- Environmental issues and politics
- Ecofeminism and other ecophilosophies
- Science and technology studies
- Globalization and global justice
- Community organizing and development
- Food systems and agricultural policy
- Ecological alternatives in education
- Environmental justice and community health
- Economic relocalization
- Media democracy

Within MAP

Students design individualized degree plans by weaving together three critical components.

Theory – Students become critically aware of established concepts, theoretical bases, and controversies.

Practicum – Students undertake supervised internships or active projects to reflect on the relationship between theory and practice.

Thesis – Students demonstrate a deep understanding of a self-selected topic, combining theory, practicum, analysis, and creativity to produce a relevant contribution to their field.

Practicum Experiences

Students spend one or more semesters engaged in an internship or work experience involving hands-on application of the ideals of social ecology. Along with

participation in the Institute's own activities, our students have undertaken projects with such organizations as:

- Direct Action Network, New York, NY
- Food Works, Montpelier, VT
- GreenTV, St. Joseph County, IN
- Loka Institute, Houston, TX
- New England Small Farms Institute, Belchertown, MA
- National Tropical Botanical Gardens, Hana, HI
- Northeast Organic Farming Association, Richmond, VT
- Prescott Creeks, Prescott, AZ
- Ocean Arks International, Burlington, VT
- Savory Center for Holistic Management, Albuquerque, NM



Sample Courses

From recent social ecology students' study plans

- Fundamentals of Social Ecology
- Themes in Environmental Justice
- Ecological Design for Human Needs
- The Ecology of Genocide in Darfur, Sudan
- Social Movements: Theory and Practice
- Water Privatization and Poverty
- Natural Building Methods for Cold Climates
- Ecological Resistance Movements
- Studies of Internalized Hierarchy and Domination
- Bioregional Agriculture and Permaculture Design
- Ecological Impacts of War
- Feminist Science and Epistemology