



IUP Graduate Handbook

Ph.D. in Safety Sciences

Department of Safety Sciences
and Environmental Engineering

Handbook Updated 2024

Ph.D. in Safety Sciences
Department of Safety Sciences and Environmental Engineering
117 Johnson Hall
Phone: 724-357-3017
Fax: 724-357-3992

Program Website: <https://www.iup.edu/academics/find-your-degree/programs/safe/gr/safety-sciences-phd.html>

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Indiana University of Pennsylvania	1
IUP's Civility Statement.....	1
Affirmative Action.....	1
Title IX Reporting Requirements.....	2
Student Conduct and Student Rights.....	2
Department of Safety Sciences and Environmental Engineering	2
Mission Statement and Program Objectives	2
Faculty and Staff	2
Admission.....	3
Financial Assistance	4
Graduate Assistantships.....	4
Academic Advisement.....	5

Introduction

Welcome to the Ph.D. in Safety Sciences program at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. The Department of Safety Sciences and Environmental Engineering offers a 54-credit distance education and summer workshop part-time program of study leading to a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Safety Sciences. This handbook documents important aspects of this program.

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

As an institution of higher learning, Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) is committed to the preservation, expansion, and transmission of knowledge in all its forms. As a university within the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education, IUP has primary responsibilities of providing high quality education at a reasonable cost and assessing and responding to the higher educational needs of the commonwealth; as a university, IUP has the responsibility of being concerned with the needs of the nation as a whole and those of the international community at large as far as its resources allow.

At the graduate level, IUP is committed to encouraging intellectual excellence, research, and scholarship, to provide in-depth study in each student's special field, and to stimulate continued cultural and intellectual growth for faculty and students.

IUP's Civility Statement

As a university of different peoples and perspectives, IUP aspires to promote the growth of all people in their academic, professional, social, and personal lives. Students, faculty, and staff join together to create a community where people exchange ideas, listen to one another with consideration and respect, and are committed to fostering civility through university structures, policies, and procedures. We, as members of the university, strive to achieve the following individual commitments:

To strengthen the university for academic success, I will act honestly, take responsibility for my behavior and continuous learning, and respect the freedom of others to express their views.

To foster an environment for personal growth, I will honor and take care of my body, mind, and character. I will be helpful to others and respect their rights. I will discourage intolerance, hatred, and injustice, and promote constructive resolution of conflict.

To contribute to the future, I will strive for the betterment of the community, myself, my university, the nation, and the world.

Affirmative Action

[Affirmative Action](#)

Title IX Reporting Requirements

Title IX Reporting

When funds are available, the Department does offer partial scholarships to students entering the program. Contact the Doctoral Program Coordinator for more information.

- <https://www.iup.edu/admissions/graduate/financialaid/index.html>
- Office of Financial Aid: www.iup.edu/financialaid/

Academic Advisement

The Doctoral Program Coordinator serves as the general advisor for all doctoral students. The advisor is

Each student must also satisfactorily complete a comprehensive written examination (in the form of a research proposal), an oral defense of their dissertation proposal, a dissertation, and an oral defense of their dissertation. The credits allocated for the program are as follows:

Required Course Work

Pedagogy Courses (6 semester hours)

SAFE 800	Pedagogical Practices in Safety Education	3 cr.
SAFE 808	Curriculum Evaluation in Safety Education	3 cr.

Advanced Applied Research Courses (9 semester hours)

SAFE 810	Applied Research I: Experimental Design	3 cr.
SAFE 811		

2026	<u>Dist. Ed:</u> SAFE 811 – Applied Research II: Multivariate Analysis SAFE804 – Legal Aspects of Safety Sciences	<u>IUP Workshop:</u> SAFE 800 – Pedagogical Practices in Safety Education SAFE 812 – Applied Research III: Tests and Measurements	<u>Dist. Ed:</u> SAFE 802c
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The course will focus on epidemiological based test procedures commonly used in published safety research. Students will be required to formulate research hypotheses, test them using the appropriate quantitative research methodologies, and interpret results.

Prerequisites: None

SAFE 804: Legal Aspects of Safety Sciences

3c-0l-3cr

This course examines the legal framework within which the safety, health and environmental professional must perform. Consideration is given to the historical development of legal aspects of the profession, including current guidelines that impact on regulatory compliance and professional practice. Personal liabilities associated with professional practice, including the possibility of criminal sanctions for workplace injuries, are presented.

Prerequisites: None

SAFE 805: Strategies in Risk Control

3c-0l-3cr

Tools and strategies for the qualitative and quantitative assessment and management of environmental and occupational risks will be presented.

Prerequisites: None

SAFE 806: Advanced Topics in Environmental Health and Safety

3c-01-3cr

This course will present progressive topics in the environmental, health, and safety field. Leading edge applications in the areas of industrial hygiene, ergonomics, environmental safety, fire protection and safety management will be covered.

Prerequisites: None

SAFE 807: Doctoral Colloquium in Safety Sciences

3c-01-3cr

This graduate colloquium is designed to have the students work closely with their classmates and the instructor to explore and present various components of safety research. Colloquium students will explore and present details of various research methods in order to gain valuable practice with research and technical presentation.

Covers experimental and advanced multivariate statistical procedures, including analysis of variance (ANOVA), multivariate analysis of variance (MANOVA), analysis of covariance (ANCOVA), post-hoc tests, planned comparisons, and randomized block designs.

Prerequisite: None

SAFE 811: Applied Research II: Multivariate Analysis

3c-0l-3cr

This course will explore multivariate analysis techniques commonly used in safety sciences research.

Topics include multiple regression, discriminant analysis, principal component analysis, cluster analysis, and correspondence analysis.

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Evaluation of Students

For information regarding graduate policies on grading, view the Graduate Catalog:

<https://catalog.iup.edu/index.php>

Purpose and Description of Department of Safety Sciences-Specific Comprehensive Examination. The purpose of the comprehensive exam is to ensure that each student has achieved a fundamental knowledge base and can demonstrate an ability to apply that knowledge accurately and appropriately before proceeding to the relatively independent scholarship involved in dissertation research.

Knowledge, integration, and application of scholarship are essential for success.

mixed methods or an evaluation), the student will locate the proposed research (1) within a conceptual

dissertation work. In the event of a revise and resubmit decision, the student is provided with written feedback from the committee and has two months (60 days) from the time they receive all feedback from their committee to revise and resubmit the exam. T

Reexamination Policy

No student is permitted a “third” examination without a recommendation to that effect from the degree program’s sponsoring department per their adopted written procedures and the approval of the Associate Provost of the Office of Graduate Education and Academic Planning. Exceptions to this policy for programs can be made only with the approval of the Office of Graduate Education and Academic Planning. In the event a student does not successfully complete the comprehensive re-examination according to program requirements and the failure results in program dismissal, the program must notify the Office of Graduate Education and Academic Planning of the dismissal in writing. The Associate Provost of the Office of Graduate Education and Academic Planning will send an official notification of the dismissal to the student.

Degree Completion

The program requires a minimum of 54 semester hours of graduate credits with at least 12 credits associated with dissertation work. Each student must also satisfactorily complete a comprehensive written examination (research proposal), an oral defense of their dissertation proposal, a dissertation, and an oral defense of their dissertation. Additional aspects associated with the process of degree completion are provided below, including the completion of a research topic approval form.

Research Topic Approval Form (RTAF). In terms of timing, once the student has completed their comprehensive exam, they should prepare a scholarly, polished 1-2-page summary of the research topic, including the method of study, materials, any equipment that might be used, and an estimated time frame to complete the process. The process to submit the information is through an electronic RTAF. Note: A student may elect to prepare and have approved an RTAF prior to completion of comprehensive exam or proposal defense, but this could result in having to revise the RTAF based on comprehensive examination or proposal defense feedback. Regardless of when the RTAF is completed, students will still need to continue to register for at least one dissertation credit (SAFE 995) in each fall and spring term after required course work has been completed until they graduate.

up-to-date RTAF on file with the Thesis/Dissertation Office.

If the project requires review by either the university's Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects (IRB) or the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), final approval of the Research Topic Approval Form will not be forthcoming from the of the Office of Graduate E.6 (u)2.2 (o4.3 (v)4 (r)-2.8 (a)-

inform the participant of their rights and obtain their consent. Include this script as an appendix to the form.

- Consider the readability and accessibility of the language in your consent forms, scripts, and data collection instruments, ensuring that the language matches characteristics of your sample.
- If you have a tricky or unusual element to your study, consider requesting an advance meeting for you and Chair with the IRB Chair to get suggestions on how best to address these challenges.
- Be aware of IRB Committee schedules and deadlines for submitting your materials (usually, 10

days in advance of a meeting). A calendar of IRB deadlines and meetings is available on the IRB website (www.iupui.edu/irb) or by contacting the IRB Chair at (765) 938-2111.

Signature Page

Insert text as necessary

[Example] My signature below indicates that I am responsible for reading and understanding the information provided and referenced in this department/program student handbook.