

Resilience Studies, MS (Online)

Resilience studies is an emerging field of inquiry that focuses on how global, national, and subnational actors manage a range of chronic transnational challenges—such as terrorism, organized crime, weapons proliferation, cyberattacks, bioterrorism, climate change and catastrophic disasters, migration, and radicalization—that can be destabilizing to societies. It explores how strategic doctrines, organization processes, bureaucratic behaviors, and security tools and tactics are adapting to these challenges by placing greater emphasis on resilience. Resilience is a concept rooted in multiple disciplines that is gaining widespread currency at the community, societal, and global levels given the prevalence of human-made and naturally occurring threats that do not lend themselves to preventive and protective measures. Strategies for dealing with these threats emphasize measures that mitigate, respond to, recover from, and adapt to risk in order to safeguard essential functions and societal values. Many of these measures involve the role of technologies, system design, and engineering as well as policy, regulatory, and governance issues. Students at Northeastern University who enroll in the Master of Science in Resilience Studies have an opportunity to become prepared to inform and support domestic and international efforts to deal with the major sources of turbulence in the 21st century.

The master's program offers an optional cooperative education experience to eligible students. Co-op is central to both the Northeastern experience and to the College of Social Sciences and Humanities experiential liberal arts framework. Northeastern's signature co-op ecosystem provides qualified master's students with six-month work experiences in businesses, nonprofits, and government agencies in Boston and across the United States. Graduate students take their work from campus learning spaces, apply their knowledge outside of the classroom, and then bring knowledge and skills gained in community learning spaces back to our campus learning spaces during the cocurricular experiential integration course.

To earn the Master of Science in Resilience Studies degree at Northeastern, you must successfully complete 32 semester hours (or 33–34 semester hours with co-op). Full-time students can expect to complete the degree within one calendar year. Cost per semester hour may vary based on the college that offers the course. See Tuition and Fees (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/graduate/expenses/tuition-fees/>) for more information.

Academic Standing/Progress

Satisfactory progress in the MS program includes maintaining a minimum grade-point average of 3.000.

Program Requirements

Core Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
POLS 7341	Security and Resilience Policy ¹	4
POLS 7346 or PPUA 7346	Resilient Cities Resilient Cities	4
Research Methods		
Complete one of the following:		4
CRIM 5270	Crime Mapping	
INSH 6300	Research Methods in the Social Sciences	
INSH 6500	Statistical Analysis	
PPUA 5263	Geographic Information Systems for Urban and Regional Policy	
Capstone		
PPUA 7673	Capstone in Public Policy and Urban Affairs	4

Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Complete 16 semester hours from any combination of the following:		16
POLS 7343	Counterterrorism	
PPUA 5100	Climate and Development	
PPUA 5235	Participatory Community Planning Methods	
PPUA 5249	Sustainable Urban Coastal Policy	
PPUA 5264	Energy Democracy and Climate Justice: Technology, Policy, and Social Change	
PPUA 5267	Climate Policy and Justice	
PPUA 5390	Special Topics in Public Policy and Urban Affairs	
PPUA 6503	Managing People in Public and Nonprofit Sectors	
PPUA 6532	Building Resilience into Local Government	

Optional Co-op Experience

Code	Title	Hours
Four-month co-ops require registration at 1 semester hour for one term. Longer co-ops require registration at 1 semester hour per term for two consecutive terms.		
POLS 6964 and INSH 6864	Co-op Work Experience and Experiential Integration	1-2

Program Credit/GPA Requirements

32 total semester hours (33–34 with optional co-op) required

Minimum 3.000 GPA required

¹ Occasional online offering