MS3 Fact Sheet - Program Overview
The following is an overview of key aspects of the MS Sustainability Science (MS3) Program.

STUDENTS GRADUATE WITH:
- A systems thinking approach to understanding the interrelated scientific, social, economic, and political underpinnings of sustainability challenges
- Critical thinking and communications skills
- Real-world pragmatic training and field experiences
- A network of peers and colleagues who are committed to each other's' success

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
The MS3 Program requires you to complete a total of 33 credit hours, with 7 consisting of required courses (Perspectives on Sustainability and the Practicum). Additional Requirements that are good to keep in mind are:
- 12 credits must be 600-level or above
- At least half of the required credits must receive a letter grade
- Up to 12 graduate-level credits, but no more than 6 credits from any one category, may be transferred to your graduate transcript, pending approval from both the MS3 Graduate Program Director and the Graduate School. For more information, visit the FAQ page on the MS3 website (http://www.umass.edu/sustainsci/faq).
- You must have at least a 3.0 GPA and only courses with a “C” or better can count toward the degree

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MS3 offers a variety of unique professional development opportunities, including:
- A resume and cover letter workshop
- An extremely popular 2-day overnight Career Retreat at Harvard Forest
- Sustainability in the "Real World" field trip seminar series
- A MS3 alumni panel/networking event

PROGRAM STRUCTURE
The program is structured around four areas:
1. Core Knowledge (5 credits)
2. Electives (9 credits)
3. Concentration/Specialization (15 credits)
4. Practicum (4 credits)

This framework grounds students in a common understanding of sustainability while allowing you to maximum flexibility in honing expertise in your concentration of choice.
Concentrations

To develop professional-level knowledge, students select a concentration from one of the areas of expertise listed below. These concentrations frame a student’s intellectual development within a disciplinary context, and provide targeted courses and skills training to be highly effective in their career path.

URBAN SUSTAINABILITY
This concentration is designed for aspiring professionals interested in the sustainable growth and development of cities. This would be a good concentration for you if you are interested in green building and energy systems. Career paths include urban design, environmental consulting, renewable energy, and more. This specialization also has the opportunity to complete a dual degree with the Masters of Regional Planning.

RENEWABLE ENERGY AND EFFICIENT DESIGN
This concentration, offered for the first time in Fall of 2016, is designed for aspiring professionals who are drawn to the complex issues of energy systems and the central role they will play in moving towards a more sustainable future. This would be a good concentration for you if you are interested in renewable energy production, passive design, energy policies, computer modeling with GIS or building energy analysis software. A graduate with this specialization will be prepared for a myriad of careers in the growing clean energy sector, including energy consulting firms, government bodies, non-profit organizations, and more.

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS
This concentration is designed for aspiring professionals who are passionate about how food is grown and the processes it goes through before it is consumed. Whether you wish to be an agricultural producer, regulate food policies, or promote global nutrition and health, this concentration provides you with all of the necessary training to pursue these and many other career paths.

WATER SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE
This concentration is designed for aspiring professionals concerned about global climate change and how it affects water quality and availability. Students interested in watershed management, water pollution, and impacts of climate change on hydrology should choose this concentration. A graduate with this specialization will be ready for a variety of career paths with private companies, non-profits, and government organizations.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
This concentration is designed for aspiring professionals focused on environmental sciences and their connection to human well-being. This would be a good concentration for you if you are interested in remediating soil and air pollution, social justice, or public health and epidemiology should pursue this concentration. A graduate with this specialization will walk away with a unique skill set that can be geared towards environmental consulting, improving and restoring brownfields and contaminated sites, disease prevention, and several other fields.