Program: Occupational and Environmental Health M.S., Ph.D. Program  
Rating: High Quality

The OEH department offers an MS and PhD degree in six focus areas: occupational epidemiology, occupational injury, ergonomics, toxicology, industrial hygiene, and agricultural safety and health, with the latter two official subtracks. Industrial hygiene seems to be the stronger of the two subtrack programs. There are a relatively small number of new enrollees each year and a total fall 2008 enrollment of 6 master’s students and 16 PhD students. Diversity is good averaging 10%. The completion rate of 90% is excellent, but the TTD is slightly long at 6.4 years, although looking retrospectively, TTD was 5.7 years for all who graduated from 2003-08. Placement is primarily into academic teaching or research positions or with the government. With only 17 faculty members, the faculty:student ratio (17:21) is low, and the TF wonders if the graduate program is undersized given the number of faculty. Faculty are well-funded by external grants, and master’s students receive 25% funding for 2 years and PhD students 50% funding for at least 3 years. This seems to be a strong department from the research perspective, but perhaps the physical location at Oakdale may limit their graduate education program.