Advanced Inquiry Program

Ignite Ecological & Social Change

Chicago
CZS/Brookfield Zoo

Cincinnati
Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden

Cleveland
Cleveland Metroparks Zoo

Denver
Denver Zoo

Jacksonville
Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens

New York
WCS/Bronx Zoo

San Diego
San Diego Zoo Global

Seattle
Woodland Park Zoo

St. Louis
Missouri Botanical Garden

Study at a Master Institution; earn your master’s from Miami University!

Photo: Water lily, a culturally significant species admired around the world.

APPLY BY Feb 28th
The AIP Master’s Difference

The Advanced Inquiry Program (AIP) offers a ground-breaking online master’s degree that combines web-based graduate courses through Miami University with face-to-face experiential learning and field study at premiere community learning institutions nationwide. AIP students learn with peers and faculty nationally while also working directly through their local AIP Master Institution to improve their communities through shared investigation and action.

Our AIP Master Institutions

- Chicago Zoological Society/Brookfield Zoo – Chicago
- Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden – Cincinnati
- Cleveland Metroparks Zoo – Cleveland
- Denver Zoo – Denver
- Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens – Jacksonville
- Missouri Botanical Garden – St. Louis
- San Diego Zoo Global – San Diego
- Wildlife Conservation Society/Bronx Zoo – New York
- Woodland Park Zoo – Seattle

Sample Graduate Courses

AIP master’s students earn 35 total credit hours: 21 credit hours of courses that combine web-based instruction with the excitement of experiential learning and field study on-site at your AIP Master Institution + 14 credit hours of AIP core courses that occur on the web. All courses in the AIP online master’s degree are delivered via the web by a Miami University instructor, and two-thirds of AIP courses also include experiential learning led by experts at a Master Institution.

- Foundations of Inquiry
- Conservation Science & Community
- Urban Ecology
- Global Biomes
- Project Design & Assessment
- Issues in Evolution
- Biology in the Age of Technology
- Graduate Research: Conservation Innovation

AIP students also have the option to integrate international field study into their coursework by participating in an Earth Expeditions course in Africa, Asia, Australia, or the Americas (7 credits from Earth Expeditions courses can count toward the AIP master’s degree).

Project Dragonfly and the AIP

Project Dragonfly reaches millions of people each year through inquiry-driven learning media, public exhibits, and graduate programs worldwide.

Project Dragonfly is based in the Biology Department at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Established as a state university in 1809, Miami is one of the eight original Public Ivies and has a distinguished record of excellence in research and teaching in science and science education.

Advanced Inquiry Program Details

Why Participate?

The AIP is based on the principle that education should extend beyond the classroom, and that students should make a difference—not just after graduation, but now, as a basic function of education itself. AIP students join a coalition of extraordinary educators and conservationists to improve neighborhoods, schools, businesses, and ecosystems, while advancing national education standards through research-based practices.

The AIP master’s can be completed part-time while working. It’s designed for educators and a broad range of professionals from non-profit, business, and government settings.

Who Is Eligible?

Enrollment is open to applicants who hold a bachelor’s degree—regardless of academic major or profession—and who are able to travel to an AIP Master Institution. Coursework occurs online with experiential learning at affiliated institutions.

Degree Options

Applicants elect to enroll in either a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) degree in the Biological Sciences or a Master of Arts (MA) degree in Biology. MA and MAT candidates go through the Advanced Inquiry Program together.

Miami University is fully accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Costs

To support involvement by a broad range of educators and conservation professionals nationally, Miami University offers significantly reduced tuition.

Applying Online Is Easy!

Apply at AIP.MiamiOH.edu by February 28.

Master’s program applicants will also apply to Miami University’s Graduate School; best to start this process as early as possible.

We are prepared. For more information visit our COVID-19 Info page.