

Ph.D. position opening at UCLA in Ecohydrological Modeling

The Ecohydrology Group in the Department of Geography at the University of California, Los Angeles, invites applications for one Ph.D. position starting in Fall Quarter 2026. Financial support is guaranteed for five years. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.

Position summary: The successful candidate will join the Ecohydrology Group led by Dr. Yanlan Liu. Our group is focused on addressing environmental challenges of vegetated ecosystems and their roles in climate mitigation. To learn more about our research, please visit <https://yanlanliu.com>.

The Ph.D. student will work on ecohydrological modeling—broadly defined to include analytical, statistical, process-based, inversion, and hybrid approaches. Research will contribute to one or more of the following themes:

- Ecohydrological shifts under warming and wildfires in boreal forests
- Plant hydraulic responses and feedbacks to drought across scales
- Ecosystem resilience and critical transitions

Qualifications: Applicants should hold a bachelor's or master's degree in geography, Earth science, environmental science, engineering, geophysics, hydrology, ecology, natural science, statistics, computer science, or a related field. Strong quantitative and programming skills are required. Preferred experience includes one or more of the following: big data analytics, Bayesian inference, machine learning, nonlinear dynamics, remote sensing, land surface modeling, hydrological modeling, and dynamic vegetation modeling. Applicants must meet UCLA's requirements for GPA and English proficiency (for international students).

How to apply: To ensure full consideration, please submit your cover letter, updated CV, and list of three references as a single .pdf file through the form at <https://yanlanliu.com/join-us/>. While we appreciate all applications, we will only contact candidates for interviews. Selected candidates will be encouraged to submit a formal application to UCLA's graduate program, expected to be due in December 2025. For questions, please contact Dr. Yanlan Liu at liu.9367@osu.edu.