OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM:
The Occupational Safety program prepares competent professionals who serve as valued members of the management, engineering and business team providing solutions to complex Safety/Environmental problems.

This program focuses on principles drawn from engineering technology, health, physics, math, psychology, language and speech. Hands-on applications of these principles are emphasized through preparatory and professional courses. Preparatory courses include math, chemistry, physics, human anatomy, statistics, speech, written composition and psychology. Professional courses include industrial hygiene and toxicology, safety engineering and design, systems safety, safety and environmental law, fire prevention, ergonomics, environmental hazard control, OSHA compliance and program management. Computer skills and experiential learning are heavily emphasized, including laboratory activities, industrial projects and internships. Internships, which provide experiential learning, are required prior to graduation and may be paid or unpaid.

The curriculum is a highly flexible 2 + 2 curriculum. Once the two-year degree is earned, graduates may choose to enter the workforce or to continue their education with two additional years at the baccalaureate level.

Students graduating with an Occupational Safety BS degree from FSU earn the designation as a Graduate Safety Practitioner (GSP) which is recognized by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP). FSU’s Occupational Safety program is one of only 12 safety BS degrees in the world to offer this graduate designation.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:
The need for safety professionals will continue to grow. Major employers of our graduates include insurance companies, government entities, state and local agencies, businesses and consulting firms. Increased emphasis on ergonomics, hazardous waste, accident costs, workers’ compensation, regulatory compliance and health hazard control will require more professionals in the industry.

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The BCSP reports that the average annual salary of a Certified Safety Professional (CSP) is about $109,000. The average salary of a mid-career Occupational Health and Safety Technician is approximately $92,000 per year.

As reported by the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), the projected need for this field is expected to increase over the next 10 years like most technically related fields.

NOTES: