

Student Name: _____ Perm: _____

EMPHASIS IN ECONOMICS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE – 2025-26

Only currently enrolled UCSB Ph.D. students in the Department of Economics or the Bren School of Environmental Science & Management may apply for admission into the Economics and Environmental Science (EES) emphasis. A prerequisite for admission to the emphasis is successful completion of the core course sequence in microeconomics and econometrics (ECON 210 A-B-C, ECON 241 A-B-C, with grades of B or better on all classes) and the achievement of a Ph.D.-level pass on the preliminary examinations in these areas. These requirements must be met in a single academic year.

The EES emphasis is a joint undertaking of the UCSB Department of Economics and the Bren School, administered through the Bren School. The goal of the emphasis is to provide a new model for doctoral training in environmental and resource economics. EES students receive Ph.D.-level training in economics *and* a companion area of natural science (e.g., climate, hydrology, applied ecology, and marine science). Students who pursue this emphasis acquire a deep and expert knowledge of economics, as well as an understanding and appreciation of research questions and methods of a field of natural science that complements their economics research.

Once admitted to the Ph.D. program and in consultation with their respective faculty advisor(s), students are expected to begin defining an area of natural science in which they will establish competency. Typically, a student will complete 4-6 courses, seminars, and directed readings in natural science, ideally supplemented with lab meetings and summer research.

Procedurally, EES students identify a natural science faculty member to serve as a mentor and then identify an area of natural science consistent with the interests and expertise of that mentor. Examples of specialization areas include applied ecology, climate, hydrology, and marine science. A student's area of natural science specialization and plan for establishing competency should be approved within a year of being admitted to the EES emphasis.

A grade of B or better is required for a course to count towards field one and field two.

REQUIRED COURSES			
FIELD ONE: ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS 16 units of core and elective classes in this field, as defined by the Department of Economics, including at least 8 units from the core courses listed below.			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE
ECON 260D	Natural Resource Economics: Dynamic Programming Methods	2.0	
ECON 260E	Natural Resource Economics: Continuous-Time Methods	2.0	
ECON 260F	Demand for Environmental Goods	2.0	
ECON 260G	Environmental Externalities and Regulation	2.0	
ECON 260H	Climate Change, Adaptation, and Policy	2.0	
ECON 260I	Time, Uncertainty, and Environmental Policy	2.0	
ECON 260J	Environmental Macroeconomics	2.0	
ECON 260K	Environmental and Development Economics	2.0	
ECON 230A	Public Economics I	2.0	

FIELD TWO – Establish proficiency in a second field as defined by the Department of Economics, or alternatively, design a custom field that is approved by the EES Emphasis Director with the following components: The existence of a significant body of economic literature, sufficient breadth to be recognized as a field for teaching or research, and availability of Ph.D.-level coursework in support of the field. A minimum of 12 additional units of coursework must be completed in this field.			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE
REQUIRED SEMINARS – Must complete one quarter of ESM 514 and six quarters of ECON 290			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE
ESM 514	Collaborative Interdisciplinary Research	4	
ECON 290	Special Topics in Economics - Environmental and Natural Resource Economics	4	
ECON 290	Special Topics in Economics - Environmental and Natural Resource Economics	4	
ECON 290	Special Topics in Economics - Environmental and Natural Resource Economics	4	
ECON 290	Special Topics in Economics - Environmental and Natural Resource Economics	4	
ECON 290	Special Topics in Economics - Environmental and Natural Resource Economics	4	
ECON 290	Special Topics in Economics - Environmental and Natural Resource Economics	4	

NATURAL SCIENCE COMPETENCY – Must complete a minimum of four courses			
Natural Science Faculty Advisor: _____ Natural Science Faculty Advisor Signature: _____ Date: _____ Area of Specialization: _____			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE

DISSERTATION

The dissertation is the most important product of a student's Ph.D. program and should be an original contribution to knowledge. Although the expectation is that a student's dissertation be a contribution to economics, the specific subject of the dissertation is a matter between the student and their Ph.D. committee.

VERIFICATION OF COMPLETION

EMPHASIS REQUIREMENTS SATISFIED (DATE): _____

EES EMPHASIS DIRECTOR: _____

EES EMPHASIS DIRECTOR SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

HOME DEPARTMENT GRADUATE ADVISOR: _____

HOME DEPARTMENT GRADUATE ADVISOR SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

HOME DEPARTMENT FACULTY ADVISOR: _____

HOME DEPARTMENT FACULTY ADVISOR SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____