Environmental and Sustainability Economics (Graduate Certificate)

Do you want to understand and evaluate the tradeoffs that influence decisions at the individual, corporate and public policy levels? This program trains you to use powerful quantitative tools to examine human-environment interactions and help incentivize more sustainable decision-making.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: Certificate Environmental and Sustainability Economics (Certificate)

The graduate certificate program in environmental and sustainability economics provides training in the economic theory and quantitative modeling tools of environmental and resource economics. Environmental and resource economics provides an approach to evaluate the consequences, social benefits and costs of changes to markets and environmental policies.

Prospective students for this certificate include master's and doctoral students in fields with a sustainability, environmental science or policy focus, including sustainability, public affairs, biology, environmental social science, applied mathematics and agribusiness, where training in environmental and resource economics may be complementary to research interests or career development.

Graduates of the certificate program are able to identify and evaluate the economic assumptions embedded in policy analyses and recommendations. They are also able to critically evaluate the validity of publications in environmental and resource economics; apply economic modeling approaches to real-world cases; utilize econometric techniques to generate predictions; and test hypotheses using applied economic models.

At a Glance
• **College/School:** College of Global Futures  
• **Location:** Downtown Phoenix campus, Polytechnic campus, Tempe campus

### Degree Requirements

17 credit hours

**Required Core (5 credit hours)**

- SOS 512 Environmental and Resource Economics (3)
- SOS 529 Research Seminar in Environmental and Sustainability Economics (2)

**Electives (12 credit hours)**

**Additional Curriculum Information**

Students choose one elective course in each of the following categories: microeconomic theory, statistical and econometric modeling, environmental and resource economics, and modeling and empirical methods.

Students should see the academic unit for a list of approved electives.

### Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Global Futures.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in any field from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee  
2. official transcripts  
3. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

International students who need an F1 or J1 visa first need to apply to and be accepted into a graduate degree program prior to being considered for the certificate program. International students residing in the USA on other types of visas must adhere to all Graduate College policies and procedures regarding admission to be considered for admission to this certificate program.
Prerequisite coursework: None. However, it is strongly recommended that students have at least one semester of calculus or the equivalent such as MAT 251 Calculus for Life Sciences, MAT 265 Calculus for Engineers or SOS 211 Calculus and Probability.

Application Deadlines

Fall
Spring

Career Opportunities

Professionals with expertise in environmental and resource economics are in demand across sectors and industries, including business, sustainability, government, biology and applied mathematics.

Career examples include:

- chief sustainability officer
- economist
- environmental economist
- environmental engineer
- environmental protection specialist
- environmental restoration planner
- health sciences manager
- postsecondary environmental sciences professor
- sustainability specialist
- urban planner

Contact Information

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