

*Interdisciplinary Certificate Program in*  
***Natural Resource and Environmental  
 Policy***

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**Affiliated Faculty: Professors** Stan L. Albrecht, Provost of Utah State University; Loren R. Anderson, Civil and Environmental Engineering; Caryn Beck-Dudley, Management and Human Resources; David S. Bowles, Civil and Environmental Engineering; F. E. "Fee" Busby, Dean of College of Natural Resources; Anne M. Butler, History; Keith R. Criddle, Economics; William J. Doucette, Civil and Environmental Engineering; R. Ryan Dupont, Civil and Environmental Engineering; Christopher Fawson, Economics; Terrence F. Glover, Economics; E. Bruce Godfrey, Economics; James W. Haefner, Biology; Craig W. Johnson, Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning; John E. Keith, Economics; James J. Kennedy, Environment and Society; Richard S. Krannich, Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology; Kenneth S. Lyon, Economics; Glenn M. McEvoy, Management and Human Resources; Clyde A. Milner II, History; Jon R. Moris, Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology; Carol A. O'Connor, History; Gary R. Oddou, Management and Human Resources; V. Phillip Rasmussen, Plants, Soils, and Biometeorology; David L. Rogers, Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology; Randy T. Simmons, Political Science; Donald L. Snyder, Economics; David K. Stevens, Civil and Environmental Engineering; Richard E. Toth, Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning; Wynn R. Walker, Biological and Irrigation Engineering; **Professors Emeriti** Herbert H. Fullerton, Economics; Ronald L. Little, Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology; Joan R. McFadden, Human Environments; F. Ross Peterson, History; Frederic H. Wagner, Forest, Range, and Wildlife Sciences; **Associate Professors** Dale J. Blahna, Environment and Society; Mark W. Brunson, Environment and Society; Steven W. Burr, Environment and Society; D. Layne Coppock, Environment and Society; Steven E. Daniels, Director of the Western Rural Development Center; Susan E. Dawson, Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology; Edward W. Evans, Biology; David B. Goetze, Political Science; Thomas B. Hardy, Civil and Environmental Engineering; Cathy L. Hartman, Business Administration; Paul M. Jakus, Economics; Arthur R. Jones, Health, Physical Education and Recreation; Michael R. Kuhns, Forest, Range, and Wildlife Sciences; David R. Lewis, History; Robert J. Lilieholm, Environment and Society; Michael S. Lyons, Political Science; Gary E. Madsen, Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology; Terry A. Messmer, Forest, Range, and Wildlife Sciences; Bruce E. Miller, Agricultural Systems Technology and Education; Dennis A. Nelson, Health, Physical Education and Recreation; John K. Nicholson, Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning; Peter C. Ruben, Biology; John C. Schmidt, Aquatic, Watershed, and Earth Resources; Robert H. Schmidt, Environment and Society; Edwin R. Stafford, Business Administration; David G. Tarboton, Utah Water Research Laboratory, Civil and Environmental Engineering; Veronica Ward, Political Science; **Research Associate Professor** Darwin L. Sorensen, Biology, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Utah Water Research Laboratory; **Assistant Professors** Paul W. Box, Aquatic, Watershed, and Earth Resources; Ronda R. Callister, Management and Human Resources; Arthur J. Caplan, Economics; Christopher A. Conte, History; Douglas B. Jackson-Smith, Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology; Nicole L. McCoy, Environment and Society; Jennifer A. Peeples, Speech, Languages and Philosophy; Peggy Petrzalka, Sociology, Social Work and Anthropology; **Science and Reference Associate Librarian** Anne E. Hedrich, Sci-Tech Library; **Special Collections Assistant Librarian** Stephen C. Sturgeon, Merrill Library

### ***Graduate Program Description***

The Natural Resource and Environmental Policy Certificate is designed to prepare resource and environmental professionals to meet current public policy challenges. Many of the problems confronting natural resource and environmental managers are social, as well as technical, in nature. Public involvement in decision making, equity concerns, and conflict management is becoming a critical issue. Resource professionals are increasingly challenged to design management strategies and public policies that maximize human well-being, environmental quality, and ecological integrity. The policy certificate is an interdisciplinary program to train students for careers in government, education, consulting, and conservation.

The Certificate Program provides students with a comprehensive educational framework for understanding complex natural re-

source and environmental concerns and to develop the critical thinking and analytical skills needed to address these issues. Students develop familiarity with both disciplinary and interdisciplinary concepts and principles of the social, natural, and physical science approaches to natural resource policy. Students engage in educational activities and thesis projects designed to apply this training to current policy issues. The primary objective is to prepare students to develop innovative, creative, and feasible natural resource and environmental policies and management strategies.

All eight colleges, as well as sixteen departments, at Utah State University participate in the Natural Resource and Environmental Policy Program and are represented on the Policy Program Advisory Committee.

## **Certificate**

Students who complete the Policy Program receive a certificate in Natural Resource and Environmental Policy. Notification of this certificate appears on the student's transcript.

## **Admission Requirements**

Admission to the Certificate Program is open to students accepted into a Plan A (thesis) master's degree program or a doctoral degree program at Utah State University who have satisfied the prerequisites outlined in the next paragraph. Admission is also available for students accepted into Plan B or Plan C master's degree programs, provided their degree program requirements include development of a written research paper or project report that will be presented to and defended before the student's graduate committee. In all cases, the thesis, research report, or dissertation must contain a significant component addressing natural resource or environmental policy dimensions of the research.

Prerequisites for acceptance into the Natural Resource and Environmental Policy Graduate Certificate Program are (1) undergraduate or other experience in the natural and social sciences; and/or (2) demonstrated understanding of general ecological principles, earth processes, and social systems. A standing Admissions Subcommittee of the Policy Program Advisory Committee reviews graduate student requests for admission to the program to determine whether prerequisites have been met.

To meet the natural sciences prerequisite, students must have taken an upper-division course focusing on the operation of natural systems, such as a course in ecology, biological systems, ecosystem management, or earth processes. Professional experience equivalent to such a course is also considered as having met the natural sciences prerequisite. Students without sufficient natural science backgrounds are required to take an equivalent course at USU to fulfill the prerequisites prior to certificate coursework. Students should contact the Natural Resource and Environmental Policy Program office for a current list of suggested courses.

To meet the social sciences prerequisite, students must have taken an upper-division course focusing on the operation of social systems, such as a course from the fields of economics, political science, sociology, or anthropology. Professional experience equivalent to such a course may also be considered as having met the social sciences prerequisite. Students should contact the Natural Resource and Environmental Policy Program office for a current list of suggested courses.

## **Graduate Committee**

The student's graduate committee must include one faculty member affiliated with the Policy Program to advise the student on meeting the program requirements and in selecting core courses.

## **Course Requirements**

The Graduate Certificate Program draws on a variety of courses to provide an integrated, interdisciplinary program. An integrative cornerstone seminar offered every other year as a team-taught course (NR 6430, Natural Resource and Environmental Policy Cornerstone Seminar), is normally taken in the student's first year. Students are expected to take at least nine credits from the core policy courses listed below to gain perspective on different disciplinary approaches to natural resource policy. Another program activity is the Natural Resource and Environmental Policy Seminar, NR 6440, which features invited speakers and must be attended by students for credit. In another required seminar, NR 6450, graduating students make a presentation on the policy dimensions of their thesis or dissertation.

The following are the Natural Resource and Environmental Policy Certificate core courses: ASTE 6260, Environmental Impacts of Agricultural Systems; BA 6540, ST: Sustainable Marketing; Econ 6500, Introduction to Natural Resource and Environmental Economics; Econ 6510, Applied Resource and Environmental Economics; EnvS 5300, Natural Resources Law and Policy; EnvS 6000, Human Dimensions in Natural Resources Graduate Seminar; EnvS 6530, Natural Resources Administration; NR 6420, Stegner Center Annual Symposium; EnvS 6110, Fisheries and Wildlife Policy and Administration; EnvS 6350, Wildlife Damage Management Policy; EnvS 6900, ST: Natural Resources Partnerships; AWER 6330, Large River Management; EnvS 6550, Environment, Resources, and Development Policy; Hist 6460, Seminar in Environmental History; LAEP 6900, Special Problems: NEPA Course; PolS 5180, Natural Resource Policy; PolS 5200, Global Environment; EnvS 6130, Policy Aspects of Wildland Recreation; FRWS 5150, Conflict Management in Natural Resources; FRWS 6900, ST: Restoration and Rehabilitation Economics; Soc 6620, Environment, Technology, and Social Change; Soc 6630, Natural Resources and Social Development; Soc 7620, Sociology of Environmental Hazards and Risks; Spch 5000, Studies in Speech Communication: Protest and the Environment; EnvS 5320, Water Law and Policy in the United States. Other courses may be included in the list of core courses by action of the Policy Program Faculty Advisory Committee.

Approved core courses may be part of a student's departmental requirements; however, only one core course taught in the student's home department may be applied toward the certificate.