ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS (EREC)

The Environmental and Resource Economics program offers training in areas that include public resource policy, resource management, natural resource and environmental economics, and community economics and finance. The curriculum emphasizes applied economics in the context of public policy. Training is also available in agricultural economics, including agribusiness, small business management, food marketing, agricultural policy, and world food supplies.

https://colsa.unh.edu/natural-resources-environment

Programs

- Environmental and Resource Economics Major (B.S.)
- Environmental and Resource Economics Minor

Courses

Environmental & Resource Economics (EREC)

EREC 411 - Environmental and Resource Economics Perspectives
Credits: 4
Microeconomic theory and analysis in resource management and use decisions. Survey of significant resource problems from an economic perspective and the application of economic analysis.
Attributes: Social Science (Discovery)
Mutual Exclusion: No credit for students who have taken ECN 412, ECON 412W, ECON 402, ECON 402A, ECON 402H.

EREC 444 - The New Pirates of the Caribbean
Credits: 4
Inquiry into many facets of tourism from the standpoint of tourists and tour destination. Economic and institutional factors affecting human well-being from the use of land and water resources; discussions of distributional aspects of benefits from tourism activities; environmental impacts; ownership patterns and uses; cultural attributes; and local economies in small Caribbean island nations. Cruise ships, time-shares, all-inclusive resorts, hurricanes, casinos, bars, rum, sex, and drugs are investigated through extensive readings and web surfing.
Attributes: World Cultures (Discovery); Inquiry (Discovery); Writing Intensive Course

EREC 525 - Statistical Methods and Applications
Credits: 4
Applications of elementary statistical concepts and methods including probability, descriptive techniques, statistical inference and bivariate and multivariate statistical analysis. Orientation is toward analysis and interpretation of data commonly encountered in social science disciplines.
Attributes: Quantitative Reasoning (Disc)
Mutual Exclusion: No credit for students who have taken ADM 430, ADMN 420, ADMN 510, BIOL 528, HHS 540, MATH 439, MATH 539, MATH 644, PSYC 402, PSYC 402H, SOC 402, SOC 402H, SOC 502, SOC 502H.

EREC #535 - Being a Locavore
Credits: 4
Explores the growth of the Locavore movement in the United States, starting with the evolution of the mainstream agricultural system. Topics such as the Agricultural Adjustment Act, farm subsidies, the development of mono-culture large scale farms, as well as the Magnuson-Stevens Act and the current state of fisheries. Ethical, economic, and social phenomenon will be discussed, followed by nutrition, and environmental impacts. Students will keep a food journal, which will be used as a basis to source, budget, and plan for years of eating local food. The class concludes with an investigation into the growing trend of local farmers’ markets, CSAs, and on farm sales. How and why more and more people are going local and perhaps becoming “Locavores”.
Attributes: Social Science (Discovery)

EREC 572 - Introduction to Natural Resource Economics
Credits: 4
Introduces theory, methods of analysis, and current literature of natural resource economics and policy. Topics include multiple use, taxation, optimal harvest scheduling, market failure, property rights, public goods, benefit-cost analysis, amenity values, non-market resource services and natural resource policy. Topics applied to forests and forestry, wildlife management, outdoor recreation, public lands, agriculture, fisheries, water, energy and mining/nonrenewable resources.

EREC #600 - Field Experience
Credits: 1-4
A supervised experience providing the opportunity to apply academic experience in settings associated with future professional employment and/or related graduate opportunities. Must be approved by a faculty advisor selected by the student. Prereq: permission. Cr/F.
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.
Equivalent(s): EREC 600W, RECO 600

EREC 601 - Agribusiness Economics and Management
Credits: 4
Applications of economic and management principles in production, marketing, finance, and other operational decisions facing small agribusiness firms. Prereq: EREC 411 or ECON 402 or equivalent.

EREC 606 - Land Economics Perspectives: Uses, Policies, and Taxes
Credits: 4
Economic and institutional perspectives affecting human use of land resources; discussion of land ownership patterns and uses; land rent, location, and resource use; institutional constraints; partial ownership policies; and local planning for more efficient use of land. Real estate markets, transfers, valuation, and taxation. Prereq: EREC 411 or equivalent or permission.
Equivalent(s): RECO 606

EREC 627 - Community Economics
Credits: 4
Economic factors affecting community and local government decisions. Emphasizes use of economic theory for decision making and community problem solving. Prereq: EREC 411 or equivalent.
Equivalent(s): CD 627, RECO 627

EREC 680 - Agricultural and Food Policy
Credits: 4
Analysis of issues that led to government involvement in the agricultural and food sector. Application of economic concepts and tools to the evaluation of public policies affecting agriculture and food. Prereq: EREC 411 or equivalent.
Equivalent(s): EREC 704
EREC 708 - Environmental Economics  
Credits: 4  
Environmental pollution, the market economy, and optimal resource 
allocation; alternative control procedures; levels of environmental 
protection and public policy; property right issues. Prereq: ECON 605 or 
equivalent.  
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course  
Equivalent(s): RECO 708

EREC 756 - Rural and Regional Economic Development  
Credits: 4  
Concepts and methods of delineating regional economies, methods 
of measuring activity, regional development, and public policies.  
Emphasizes empirical research studies. Prereq: intermediate economic 
theory or permission. Writing intensive.  
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course  
Equivalent(s): RECO 756

EREC 760 - Ecological-Economic Modeling for Decision Making  
Credits: 4  
In this course, students will develop ecological-economic models and use 
them to inform economic decision making related to the management 
of natural resources. These models range from analytical models 
using algebra and calculus, to computational models using coding and 
simulations. The course will focus on spatial-dynamic computational bio-
economic models because of their ability to capture economic decision 
making and ecological processes over time and space. Prereq: ECON 605 
or equivalent; MATH 420, or equivalent.

EREC 795 - Investigations  
Credits: 2-4  
Special assignments in readings, investigations, or field problems. Topics 
may include agricultural marketing, agricultural production and farm 
management, community development, economics of human resources, 
economics of population and food, land economics, marine economics, 
rural economic development, regional economics, water economics, or 
teaching experience. Prereq: permission. May be repeated.  
Equivalent(s): EREC 795W, RECO 795

EREC 795W - Investigations  
Credits: 2-4  
Special assignments in readings, investigations, or field problems. Topics 
may include agricultural marketing, agricultural production and farm 
management, community development, economics of human resources, 
economics of population and food, land economics, marine economics, 
rural economic development, regional economics, water economics, 
or teaching experience. Prereq: permission. May be repeated. Writing 
intensive.  
Attributes: Writing Intensive Course  
Equivalent(s): EREC 795, RECO 795

EREC 799 - Honors Senior Thesis  
Credits: 1-4  
Honor/thesis students conduct an independent research project, relevant 
to the student's area of specialization in the major, under the direction 
of a faculty sponsor. Students submit a research proposal, write a final 
report, and provide an oral presentation. One or two semester sequence. 
Restricted to Senior/Natural Resource Majors. Permission required.  
Attributes: Honors course; Writing Intensive Course  
Repeat Rule: May be repeated for a maximum of 8 credits.  
Equivalent(s): RECO 799

Faculty  
https://colsa.unh.edu/natural-resources-environment/people