

INTERDEPARTMENTAL PH.D. EMPHASIS IN ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY

<http://www.es.ucsb.edu/phd>

University of California, Santa Barbara

Student Name: _____

Perm: _____

INTERDEPARTMENTAL Ph.D. EMPHASIS IN ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY 2025-26

The Interdepartmental Ph.D. Emphasis in Environment and Society (IPEES), based in the Environmental Studies Program, enables student participants to benefit from UCSB's extraordinary strengths in environmental studies and sciences by reaching beyond the resources available in their home departments. Participants enrich their knowledge of interdisciplinary environmental scholarship, join a community of diverse but like-minded scholars, and receive mentorship from faculty outside their discipline. The goal of IPEES is to assist participants in developing the integrative thinking and problem-solving skills necessary to lead the next generation of environmental scholars in their respective fields.

For the purposes of this proposal, we define "environment and society" as encompassing the diverse, dynamic, and complex interactions between human societies and their biophysical surroundings, over time and space. This includes environmental change, environmental politics, and environmental problems and solutions, as well as critical theories of environmental thought, perception, representation, and action. IPEES places particular value on interdisciplinarity in environmental scholarship, especially work that bridges biophysical and social systems.

Applicants to IPEES must first be admitted to, or enrolled in with good standing, one of the following UCSB doctoral programs: Anthropology; Environmental Science and Management; Chicana and Chicano Studies; Comparative Literature; Earth Science; East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies; Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology; Education; English; Feminist Studies; Film and Media Studies; Geography; Global and International Studies; History; the Interdepartmental Graduate Program in Marine Science; Linguistics; Political Science; Psychological and Brain Sciences; or Sociology.

Any UCSB Ph.D. student in a participating department may apply, though most applicants will probably be students going into their second or third years of doctoral study. To be accepted into the emphasis, applicants must demonstrate that (1) they have a strong interest in and commitment to interdisciplinary environmental studies and sciences; (2) participation in the emphasis will advance their intellectual development, research agendas, and career goals; (3) they are well-situated to assume the additional workload and responsibilities of the emphasis; and (4) they have the full support of their dissertation chair or appropriate graduate advisor.

To earn the emphasis, which is awarded at the time of graduation, students must complete the following requirements, in addition to the departmental and campus requirements of their doctoral degree programs:

- All students in the emphasis must register for the *IPEES Core Seminar*, offered each winter, which will bring together that year's cohort for an interdisciplinary discussion about foundational and cutting edge issues, concepts, problems, and methods in interdisciplinary environmental studies and sciences.
- All students in the emphasis must take three elective courses in an area of specialization outside their home departments and/or disciplines. Students are encouraged to design a tailored elective curriculum, with proper justification or may choose these electives from a standing list.

- All students in the emphasis must have one member of their dissertation committee from outside of their home department, selected from the list of faculty affiliated with the emphasis.
- All students must attend the IPEES annual symposium, where beginning and continuing students will present their research.
- All students must include some aspect of interdisciplinary environmental studies as a component of their dissertations. There are many ways to fulfill this final requirement, and students should consult with their outside committee member(s) to ensure that they are on the right path.

Student participants must complete the following requirements:

REQUIRED COURSES			
CORE SEMINAR			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE
ENV S 200	Core Seminar in Environment and Society	4.0	
ELECTIVE COURSES			
COURSE #	COURSE NAME	UNITS	GRADE
OUTSIDE COMMITTEE MEMBER			
NAME		DEPARTMENTAL AFFILIATION	

SYMPOSIUM
Each year, all students registered in the emphasis will come together for a one-day symposium to formally present or workshop their research.

DISSERTATION REQUIREMENT
<p>The student's Ph.D. dissertation must include some aspect of interdisciplinary environmental studies. All students in the emphasis must have at least one member of their dissertation committee from outside their home department and/or discipline who is a participating member of the emphasis.</p> <p>Dissertation Title: _____</p> <p>IEES Committee member: _____</p> <p>Name (please print): _____</p> <p>Department: _____</p>

VERIFICATION OF COMPLETION
EMPHASIS REQUIREMENTS SATISFIED (DATE): _____
EMPHASIS DIRECTOR SIGNATURE: _____
PRINT NAME: _____