

Nathaniel Grimes

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Education

Ph.D in Environmental Science and Management (Expected June 2026)
University of California, Santa Barbara – Bren School of Environmental Science & Management

MESM, Master of Environmental Science and Management (June 2018)
University of California, Santa Barbara – Bren School of Environmental Science & Management

B.A in Economics, *summa cum laude* (May 2014)
B.S in Marine Science, *summa cum laude* (May 2014)
Coastal Carolina University

Publications

Peer Reviewed Publications

Grimes, N.G., (2018), “Institutions of the shark fin market: incentives and externalities”, *Review of Business: Interdisciplinary Journal on Risk and Society*, 38(2), 44-60

Saeger, J.T., **N.G. Grimes**, E.H. Rickard, and E.E. Hackett (2015), “Evaluation of simplified evaporation duct refractivity models for inversion problems”, *Radio Science*, 50

Working Papers

Grimes, N.G., C. Costello, and A. Plantinga (2025), “The behavioral effects of index insurance”

Grimes, N.G. (2025), “Finding suitable weather indices for novel fisheries index insurance”

Reports

Kelsall. C., **N.G. Grimes**, D. Bradley, M. Clemence, C. Costello (2024) “Understanding drivers of risk aversion in conservation to unlock opportunities for impact”, *EmLab*, Client: The Nature Conservancy

Millage. K., **N.G. Grimes**, S. Gaines, C. Costello (2022) “Designing an Index Insurance Product for fisheries: A guide for practitioners”, *EmLab*, Client: Builders Initiative

Gaines, S., C. Costello, **N.G. Grimes**, I. Ladner, H. Lahr, M. Clemence, M. Mahadevan, S. Qiu, M. Collado (2020) “Evaluating existing and novel strategies for improved risk-mitigation in fisheries”, *EmLab*, Client: Builders Initiative

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Banda-Cruz, G., A. Daly, **N.G. Grimes**, D. Undurraga, K. Wager (2018), “Design and evaluation of impact investment interventions to rebuild south pacific hake (*Merluccius gayi gayi*) populations in Chile”, *Environmental Defense Fund Chile Program*

Awards, fellowships, and grants

Research Grants

2020 **H. William Kuni Research Award** (\$14,950). With Erin Winslow and Juan Carlos Villaseñor-Derbez

Fellowships and Scholarships

2022 **PERC Summer Graduate Fellowship** (\$5,000)

2018 **Bren School Fellowship** (\$41,000) – Bren School, UC Santa Barbara

2016 **Donald Bren Foundation Fellowship** (\$40,000) – Bren School, UC Santa Barbara

Awards

2024 **Best Teaching Assistant of the Year** – Bren School

2023 **Outstanding Teaching Assistant of the Year Nominee** – UC Santa Barbara

2014 **Marine Science Student of the Year** – Coastal Carolina University

2014 **Economics Student of the Year** – Coastal Carolina University

2014 **Best Paper in session** – Global Business Research Symposium, Krakow Poland

2014 **Best Discussant in session** – Global Business Research Symposium, Krakow Poland

Teaching Experience

Instructor of Record

Transition to Low Carbon Societies – ENVS 117 (Summer 2024, Summer 2025)
Environmental Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara

Advanced Data Analysis – ESM 244 (Winter 2025)
Bren School, University of California, Santa Barbara

Teaching Assistant for Graduate-Level Courses

Introduction to Statistics for Data Science – EDS 222 (Fall 2025)
Bren School, University of California, Santa Barbara

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Coastal Policy and Management – ESM 257 (Fall 2024)
Bren School, University of California, Santa Barbara

Advanced Data Analysis – ESM 244 (Winter 2022, Winter 2023, Winter 2024)
Bren School, University of California, Santa Barbara

Environmental Economics – ESM 204 (Spring 2023)
Bren School, University of California, Santa Barbara

Introduction to Data Science and Statistics – ESM 206 (Fall 2022)
Bren School, University of California, Santa Barbara

Natural Resource Economics and Policy – ESM 242 (Fall 2019)
Bren School, University of California, Santa Barbara

Lead Teaching Assistant

Intro. to Environmental Science – ENVS 2 (Winter 2018 and 2020, Summer 2018 and 2019)
Environmental Studies Department, University of California, Santa Barbara

Introduction to Economics – ECON 9 (Fall 2018 and Spring 2019)
Economics Department, University of California, Santa Barbara

Teaching Assistant

Transition to Low Carbon Societies - ENVS 117 (Spring 2024)
Environmental Studies Department, University of California, Santa Barbara

Introduction to Environmental Science – ES 2 (Winter 2017)
Environmental Studies Department, University of California, Santa Barbara

Introductory Biology Lab – MCDB 1 (Fall 2016 and Spring 2017)
Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology, University of California, Santa Barbara

Workshops

Calculus Bootcamp (Summer 2023 and Summer 2024)
Bren School, University of California, Santa Barbara

Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced Excel Workshop (Fall 2021 and Fall 2022)
Bren School, University of California, Santa Barbara

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Mentorship Experience

Master's Group Theses Mentored (Client in parentheses)

2023- 2024 **Applying Modern Portfolio Theory to Improve Spatial Recovery Planning for Salmon (Client: Wild Salmon Center)**
Students: Alicia Canales, Jaden Husser, Stephanie Luu, Olivia Somhegyi

2023 - 2024 **Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing: Empowering Effective and Efficient Interventions (Client: Skylight, Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence)**
Students: Ashley Cooper, Sydney Mayes, Isabella Rothenberg, Chole Swick, Eleanor Thomas

2022 - 2023 **Community Forest Management to Promote Ecosystem Services and Rural Economies (Client: Wallowa Resources)**
Students: Andrea Cornelius, Cristina Mancilla, Hollie Pennington, Sachi Shiroma, Anusha Sridhara

2020 - 2021 **Quota Baskets: Exploring Alternative Groupings for Fisheries Management (Client: Environmental Defense Fund)**
Students: Mauricio Collado, Gabriel De La Rose, Kat Leigh, Siya Qiu

Research Experience

Career opportunities for environmental studies undergraduates (2025)
Graduate Student Researcher – Greti U. Croft Center for Undergraduate Environmental Leadership

Risk aversion in conservation organizations (2024)
Graduate Student Researcher – Environmental Markets Lab, UC Santa Barbara

Design and implementation of fisheries insurance (2021-2022)
Graduate Student Researcher – Environmental Markets Lab, UC Santa Barbara

Assessment of financial risk tools in fisheries (2020-2021)
Graduate Student Researcher – Environmental Markets Lab, UC Santa Barbara

Presentations

2025 **Presenter**, “Manager responses to the provision of index insurance” , PhD Symposium, Bren School, Santa Barbara, CA

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- 2022 **Presenter**, “Insurance changes behavior in fisheries”, PhD Symposium, Bren School, Santa Barbara, CA
- 2017 **Presenter**, “Impact Investment Intervention Proposals to Support the Recover of the Merluza in Chile”, Management Committee. Valparaiso, Chile
- 2016 **Presenter**, “How to Read Scientific Papers: Translating the Literature to Writing Research Papers”, University of California at Santa Barbara
- 2015 **Presenter**, “Status of Bimini Biological Field Station Acoustic Telemetry Array”, Florida Acoustic Coastal Telemetry Meeting. Tequesta, FL
- 2014 **Presenter**, “Institutions of the Shark Fin Market: Externalities and Incentives”, Business Research Symposium. Krakow, Poland
- Poster**, “Assessment of Evaporation Duct Models in Radar Propagation Simulations”, National Conference of Undergraduate Research, Lexington, KY

Service Positions

Head Coach: JV Boys Beach Volleyball, San Marcos High School, 2023-2025

Bren Environmental Leadership Fellow, Bren School, 2024

Ph.D Symposium Committee Chair, Bren School, 2020

Ph.D Symposium Committee, Bren School, 2019

Dean's Advisory Council, Bren School, 2016-2018

Treasurer, Bimini Biological Field Station, 2015-2018

Technical Skills

Computer: Expert in R; Proficient in MATLAB , Quarto, Shiny, and Latex; Experienced in GitHub; Experience with STATA and Python; Microsoft Office Suite (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, VBA, etc.)