

A Few Notes About Portland State MS/MA in Economics

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Portland State University

Who We Are

- Small, 12 person, Department at PSU
<https://www.pdx.edu/econ/faculty-staff>
- Hiring an econometrician and applied micro person right now.
- We tend to focus on Environmental Economics, including Energy, and Health Economics.
- Portland is a larger version of Bellingham. . .
 - with better public transit
 - higher rents
 - better opportunity for many enthusiasms.
 - Large body of employers

Connections

- Strong history in Energy industry
 - PGE
 - Northwest Natural
 - PacifiCorp
 - Seattle City Light
 - BPA
 - PUC
 - Energy Trust of Oregon
 - Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
 - Northwest Power & Conservation Council
 - Consultancy hub
 - Cadmus
 - Research Into Action
- A few energy managers

Also Health

- Providence
- Kaiser
- OHSU

and Government

- Secretary of State Office
- Legislative Staff
- Oregon Department of Economic Analysis <https://oregoneconomicanalysis.com/author/oregoneconomicanalysis/>

Ph.D. Placements

We have about one student per year go to Ph.D.

Most Recently:

- Michigan State
- U of Illinois Chicago
- UW
- Carnegie Mellon

In Short

People do things after they leave.

Programs

- MS/MA
- Graduate Certificates
 - Energy Policy
 - Econometrics (Next Year)

MA/MS Economics

- 3 terms Micro
- 3 terms Metrics
- 2 terms Macro
- Electives

Generally known for having a strong metrics program.

- Students will frequently take a MS in Applied Statistics at the same time.
- Math has a rather famous game theoretician.

Energy Policy Certificate



A total of **five courses** are required for the Graduate Certificate in Energy Policy and Management, with a minimum of **15 total credits**.

The courses are listed below and offered across the programs collaborating on this interdisciplinary certificate. They are Public Administration (PA); Urban Studies and Planning (USP); Economics (EC); Engineering Technology and Management (ETM); and Systems Science (SYSC).

Students will select one of the core courses, two of the focal area courses, and two of the professional skills courses, depending on interest and course availability. Courses need not be taken in any particular order.

Core Course (one required)

- PA 567 Energy Resources Policy and Administration (3)
- USP 518 Energy and Society (3)

Focal Area Courses (two required)

- EC 537 Public Utility Economics (4)
- EC 538 Energy Economics (4)
- EC 544 Economics of Green Power (4)
- ETM 568 Energy Technology Innovations (4)
- PA 573 Smart Grid and Sustainable Communities (3)
- PA 572 Columbia River Governance (3)
- USP 569 Sustainable Cities and Regions (4)
- USP 574 Socio-Technical Change in the City (3)
- USP 582 Sustainable Transportation (3)
- USP 529 Green Buildings I (3)
- USP 625 Green Buildings II (3)

Funding

Graduate Certificates typically do not come with funding

We usually fund the majority of incoming graduate students:

- Graduate assistantships
- Tuition remission
- 15 hours of work per week.
- ~\$15 per hour

Second Year Students are Frequently Hired by NERC

The Northwest Economic Research Center

- Huge variety of topics
- Run by Tom Potiowsky, former chief state economist.

<https://www.pdx.edu/nerc/about-nerc>

Amazing experience.

Seminars

- Typically about 5 per term on various topics
- Irregular Brown Bag Series
 - Tend to be more technical
 - Faculty centered
 - Some local, but off-campus, people

Applications

- Due Date Feb 1
- GREs
- Letters of Recommendation
- Statement of Purpose.
- Lower Bar on Math is:
 - Linear algebra
 - Ordinary Differential Equations
 - Ph.D. basically requires minor in math these days. Interested students frequently take more classes.

QUESTIONS