The Economics and Politics of the Environment (EPE) specialization trains students to develop and implement public policies dealing with environmental problems, to manage public environmental resources, and to understand how firms and other organizations respond to these policies and management systems.

EPE students acquire knowledge about interactions between the public sector and the private sector and about the impact of political processes on efforts to solve environmental problems. In the process, they learn how to identify and evaluate policy options and to communicate the results to policymakers and regulators in an effective manner. Broadly defined to encompass the full range of issues pertaining to environmental quality and natural resources, the EPE specialization addresses these concerns as they arise from the local level through the state and national levels to the international level.

Students taking this specialization find employment with local, state, and national governments as well as with intergovernmental organizations, firms subject to environmental policies, and consulting groups dealing with the management of environmental resources. The EPE specialization trains students to develop and implement public policies dealing with environmental problems, to manage public environmental resources, and to understand how firms and other organizations respond to these policies and management systems. EPE students acquire knowledge about interactions between the public sector and the private sector and about the impact of political processes on efforts to solve environmental problems.

http://www.bren.ucsb.edu/academics/mesm_specialization/pub_env_mgmt.asp

ALUMNI PLACEMENT
Here is sample initial job placement held by alumni who specialized in Economics and Politics of the Environment (EPE) at the Bren School:

Research Analyst
Policy Analysis Division
BCS, Incorporated
Consulting | Arvada, CO

Fisheries Pathway Intern
USDA Forest Service
Government | Bishop, CA

Science and Policy Analyst
Heal the Bay
Non-Profit | Santa Monica, CA

Project Manager
California Land Stewardship Institute
Non-Profit | Napa, CA

Researcher
The Sustainability Consortium
Research/Education | Lafayette, AR

PhD Student
Agricultural and Resource Economics
University of California, Davis
Research/Education | Davis, CA

Sustainability Associate
Department of Sustainability
California Institute of Technology (Cal Tech)
Research/Education | Pasadena, CA

Research Assistant
Environmental Economics
Chinese Academy for Environmental Planning
Government | Beijing, China

Catch Shares Spatial Analyst
Catch Shares Design Center
Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)
Non-Profit | San Francisco, CA

Mitigation Specialist
WRA Environmental Consultants
Consulting | San Rafael, CA

Deputy Director
Ministry of the Environment
Government | Tokyo, Japan

Senior Program Manager
Solana Center for Environmental Innovation
Non-Profit | Encinitas, CA

Presidential Management Fellow (PMF)
Olympic National Forest, Region 6
USDA Forest Service
Government | Portland, OR

Conservation Specialist
Coal Oil Point Reserve
University of California, Santa Barbara
Research/Education | Santa Barbara, CA

Environmental Protection Specialist
Office of Pesticides, Antimicrobials Division
Risk Assessment and Science Support Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Government | Arlington, VA

These are initial job placements and might not represent the alumni’s current positions. For up-to-date information on alumni job placements, please visit the Bren School Alumni Network or the Bren School Online Community.
Salaries for Initial Job Placement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MESM Class</th>
<th>Minimum Salary</th>
<th>Average Salary</th>
<th>Maximum Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2012</td>
<td>$41,600</td>
<td>$51,800</td>
<td>$62,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2011</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$58,751</td>
<td>$95,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2010</td>
<td>$33,000</td>
<td>$45,905</td>
<td>$68,768</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Satisfaction with Initial Job Placement

Half of MESM Class of 2012 EPE graduates found placement in their “ideal” job, with 25% indicating that their initial placement was “close to ideal.” Additionally, 50% of these students also received their job offers before graduation, with the other half of respondents receiving their job offers within two months of graduation. Half of the recent EPE graduates reported that they had received at least one other job offer in addition to the offer they accepted.

Similarly to the recent graduated class, 50% of MESM Class of 2011 graduates who specialized in EPE indicated that their initial job placement was their “ideal” job, with the remaining 50% saying it was “close to ideal.” 89% of EPE graduates stated that they were either “Very satisfied” or “Satisfied” with the geographical location of their jobs. 45% of these graduates found jobs out-of-state or internationally. Three-quarters of EPE graduates from the Class of 2011 had received their job offers by graduation.

Initial Job Placement Sectors

Half of the EPE graduates from the MESM Class of 2012 were placed in the research/education sector, with government and non-profit sectors both at 25% placement. The majority of MESM 2011 EPE graduates found placement within the government sector (45%), with consulting and non-profit sectors tying for second place.

Internship Placement - MESM 2013

For EPE students, 35% landed internships within the government, though the majority (55%) found placement in internships within the non-profit sector (internships with research/education institutions as well as consultancies round out the internship placement totals). Over half of EPE students completed out-of-state or international internships.

All EPE students indicated that they received some form of compensation for their internships, with the majority of students receiving stipends. About 65% of internships completed by MESM students specializing in EPE were full-time, with the majority of EPE internships (80%) lasting at least 10-12 weeks in duration, providing them with the opportunity to gain solid experience and knowledge with their respective organizations.

Sample Internship Placement Organizations for Recent EPE Students

Beartooth Capital Partners in Santa Barbara, CA (Corporate)
Bureau of Land Management (BLM) - Planning Division in Palm Springs, CA (Government)
Conservation International (CI) in the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador (Non-Profit)
Cradle to Cradle Product Innovation Institute in San Francisco, CA (Non-Profit)
International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development in Geneva, Switzerland (Non-Profit)
Morro Bay National Estuary Reserve in Morro Bay, CA (Non-Profit)
National Renewable Energy Laboratory’s Energy Analysis Division in Golden, CO (Government)
Nature Conservancy (TNC) in Ventura, CA (Non-Profit)
NOAA’s Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary in San Francisco, CA (Government)
Ocean Conservancy - Government Relations in Washington, DC (Non-Profit)
Sierra Nevada Alliance in South Lake Tahoe, CA (Non-Profit)
Sustainable Fisheries Group in Santa Barbara, CA (Research/Education)
The Equinox Center - Policy and Communications Division in San Diego, CA (Non-Profit)
The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in Lima, Peru (Non-Profit)
Universidade de Vale do Itajaí (UNIVALI) in Itajaí, Brazil (Research/Education)
United Nations Economic Commission of Europe in Geneva, Switzerland (Non-Profit)
United Nations Environmental Programme in Geneva, Switzerland (Non-Profit)
US Environmental Protection Agency - Stormwater Division in Santa Barbara, CA (Government)
USDA Forest Service Chief’s Scholars Program in Washington, DC (Government)
Woodard & Curran in Dedham, MA (Consulting)
World Wildlife Fund - México in La Paz, México (Non-Profit)

Comprehensive internship information, including complete lists of internships completed by past MESM classes, key places to look for internships, and additional internship-related resources, can be found on the Internship Restricted Site, located on the Career Development Restricted Site.