Information on Coastal and Marine Economics and Policy Concentration  
Coastal Resources Management PhD Program at East Carolina University

The **Coastal and Marine Economics Concentration** of the CRM PhD Program focuses on theoretical and quantitative analysis of coastal and marine systems that affect human livelihoods. Specific areas of focus include policy solutions for challenges specifically related to coastal and marine environments; understanding feedback between natural and human systems; management of renewable and non-renewable coastal resources; and valuation of non-market goods and services.

The **Coastal Resources Management (CRM) PhD program** is a doctoral program that integrates knowledge across Ecology, Geosciences, Economics and other Social Sciences. It is designed to meet the need for scientifically trained specialists able to move effectively between the worlds of research, policy, and management.

The CRM program:
- Emphasizes an integrated, interdisciplinary approach to coastal studies with a focus on natural and social sciences
- Nurtures skills in the acquisition, interpretation, and synthesis of scientific information on coastal environments and populations
- Fosters pursuit of individual interests in the context of a structured but flexible program of classroom instruction, field research, work experience, and a doctoral dissertation
- Draws on a supportive, collaborative faculty from some 18 academic departments, several colleges, and close ties to marine science faculty at the Coastal Studies Institute, the Universities of North Carolina – Chapel Hill and Wilmington; North Carolina State University; and Duke University
- Provides the academic basis for graduate students seeking careers in academia, government agencies, private firms, and non-profit organizations, all centered on a coastal theme.

CRM Students pursue an emphasis (primary concentration) in one of following four areas, with complementary work in a secondary concentration: coastal and estuarine ecology, coastal geosciences, coastal human dimensions and policy, and coastal and marine economics and policy. A student in the program can choose his/her primary concentration and secondary concentration. Students without a Master’s degree can earn a Master’s in economics as they progress through the PhD program. This information sheet is to help answer questions that may arise for students considering a primary concentration in Coastal and Marine Economics and Policy.

**If I have a Master’s degree in economics or related program, can I use course credit from my Master’s Program to meet the requirements of the CRM PhD?**

If you have a Master’s degree or graduate coursework in economics you can devote up to 24 credit hours of the coursework from your Masters towards your PhD

**How much is ECU tuition?**

In state (North Carolina) graduate tuition for 2016-2017 is $2,328 per semester. Out of state graduate tuition is $8,773.50 per semester.
What kinds of financial support are available for the student in the CRM program?

Graduate stipends are awarded competitively in the amount of tuition plus $22,000 for the academic year. With additional summer support the annual stipend can total about $30,000. A student with enough training to provide research assistance to faculty members that have won a federally funded grant, may receive partial or full support through the grant. In addition there are opportunities to teach principles level economics courses in the later part of the program of study.

How long does it take to earn a PhD in this program?

Depending on the amount of graduate work the individual has completed before entering the program, their performance on core competency exams, and the time requirements of their original research for their dissertation, a goal of completing the dissertation and earning the PhD in 3-5 years is not unreasonable.

How should I go about investigating the application process?

The CRM program relies heavily on faculty mentoring and guidance to help the student identify the program of study that fits with his/her career goals and that meets the CRM requirements. Consequently, it is a very good idea to meet with faculty that could potentially be on the student’s dissertation committee. You should look at the kind of research various professors are engaged in and make it a point to meet with them in person or by phone to learn if you are both good candidates for a mentoring relationship. The application for the CRM program will be significantly strengthened if the applicant demonstrates knowledge of faculty research interests. Below find descriptions of faculty members whose research interests align with the CRM Program. You can also go to the Department of Economics webpage at [http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cas/econ/](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cas/econ/) to check out individual faculty by clicking the faculty tab.

**Dr. Okmyung (Paul) Bin**, PhD in Economics, Oregon State University, 2000
Research Interests: Environmental and Resource Economics. Hedonic modeling of the coastal housing market, insurance and mitigation behavior. Applied Econometrics

**Dr. Jacob Hochard**, PhD in Economics, University of Wyoming, 2015
Research interests: Geospatial analysis to improve management of ecosystem services from water, wildlife and forests in developing and developed countries. Human health and community responses to surface and groundwater pollutants. Natural defenses to protect coastal communities from extreme weather events.

**Dr. Greg Howard**, PhD in Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics
Ohio State University, 2012
Research Interests: Stated preference survey methods and economic experiments to value environmental amenities and evaluate public policies.
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Dr. Andy Keeler, PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley, 1991
Research Interests: Environmental and Resource Economics, Climate change economics, Public Policy.

Dr. Jamie Brown Kruse, PhD in Economics, University of Arizona, 1988
Research Interests: Economics of Natural Hazards, Risk and Decision-making, Insurance, Experimental Economics, Integrative models of Hazards and Human Behavior.

Dr. Jonathan Lee, PhD in Economics, North Carolina State University, 2012
Research Interests: Environmental Economics, Industrial Organization, Risk analysis.

Dr. Haiyong Liu, PhD in Economics, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2003
Research Interests: Labor and Health economics and applied econometrics. Migration behaviors, housing choice, and application of high performance computation.

Dr. Philip Rothman, PhD in Economics, New York University, 1990
Research Interests: Time Series Econometrics with focus on Macroeconomics, Finance, and Oil Prices.

The following link has additional information about the CRM PhD and all concentrations. http://www.ecu.edu/crm/ For more information about the application process, click the tab titled “admissions.”

To initiate the application to the CRM program in ECU’s graduate school, go to the link, https://ecugrad.hobsonsradius.com/ssc/aform/C7867217A7020x6702c07al.ssc

What timeline and deadlines should I be aware of?

The application deadline is March 1. The CRM graduate admissions committee will start evaluating completed application packets shortly thereafter for admission in fall semester. However, highly qualified applicants may be considered at other times as well.
What might a CRM program of study look like?

The first year should be devoted to completing the core courses of Coastal Geoscience (GEOL 7002/7003-4 cr.), Coastal Ecological Processes (BIOL 7005-4 cr.), and Human Dimensions of Coastal Management (CRM 7005-3 cr.), and Coastal and Marine Economics and Policy (ECON 7010-3 cr.) along with a CRM seminar CRM 7006(1 cr.) both fall and spring. You must carry at least 9 credit hours to be considered a full time student and eligible for health insurance. CRM 7005, BIOL 7005, GEOL 7002/7003 are typically taken in the fall and ECON 7010 is offered in the spring. The four core courses will provide the content for the core competency exams that are offered in the summer. In the spring semester there is more flexibility to take additional CRM required courses or to start taking courses that will become part of your primary or secondary concentrations. Your goal is to be prepared for and pass the core competency exam on your first sitting.

In your second year, you will work with your advisor to identify and take courses that fit with your goals and can fulfill primary and secondary concentration requirements. You should finalize the roster of your dissertation committee. Additionally, this is a good year to finish your CRM-required courses and a graduate school-required research ethics course.

Your third year may involve some structured coursework but should be focused on research and supporting literature review for your doctoral dissertation. Some of the ideas for your dissertation may have come from papers and projects developed in your coursework. This is the time to hone your knowledge in the subject areas of your dissertation, prepare a proposal defense, finish the research, and possibly defend your dissertation and graduate this year or the following year.

For more information on the CRM PhD with Economics concentration contact:

Department of Economics
East Carolina University
(252) 328-6006
Email: econ@ecu.edu
http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cas/econ/