MES Spring Quarter 2011

First-year core: Quantitative and Qualitative Data Analysis- Judy Cushing & Kathleen Saul Tuesdays and Thursdays 6-10 pm

Focus: Students learn how to integrate the use of inferential statistics and qualitative data analysis to conduct rigorous examinations of the social, biological, and physical aspects of environmental issues. This knowledge will prepare students for their own research and for understanding and critiquing research articles and reports in fields of their choosing.

Thesis-Essay Workshop – Ralph Murphy - Tuesdays 6-8 PM

Focus: This continuation of the winter quarter workshop is intended to help students prepare a high-quality thesisessay and to increase the likelihood of completion by the end of the spring quarter. This quarter, the workshop will emphasize the continuation of student support groups and improvement of thesis presentations through critique of presentation rehearsals by students and the workshop instructor.

Electives:

Contemporary Challenges to Building a Clean Energy Future- Alan Hardcastle- Mondays or Wednesday 6-10 PM

Environmental Economics- Ralph Murphy – Mondays or Wednesdays 6-10 PM

Focus: This MES elective is designed with both theoretical and practical applied components to develop a strong understanding for how economics (and related topics) can improve and enhance environmental problem solving. A major goal of the class is to make students familiar and comfortable with the language, concepts, models and methodologies used in environmental economic analysis. The class explores the uses and applications of key concepts from micro, environmental, and ecological economics to develop a deeper understanding of public policy initiatives for the environment, sustainability, regulatory reform, and the challenges of the current fiscal crisis in the United States.

Environmental Policy Making- Craig Partridge – Mondays or Wednesdays 6-10 PM

Focus: The goal of this course is to introduce students to the important concepts and to both theoretical and practical problems in the making and carrying out of environmental and natural resource policy in the U. S. Students will learn several approaches to understanding how, why, and by whom environmental policy decisions are made, and will gain experience with policy analysis and evaluation techniques, negotiation, and with the particular problems of policy implementation. This course takes a process approach to the topic, rather than a descriptive or prescriptive approach, and is aimed primarily at students who see themselves as future practitioners or researchers in this field. Some prior familiarity with the main categories of environmental and natural resource legislation and with the fundamental topics of political science will help students gain the most from this course.

Marine Ecology- Gerardo Chin-Leo- Mondays or Wednesdays 6-10 PM