



Climate and Sustainable Growth Major

The Climate and Sustainable Growth major is a pioneering new degree that provides students with a 360-degree understanding of the foundational elements, complexities, and tradeoffs inherent in the global climate challenge. This approach allows for the scientist or the engineer or the economist to go out into the world and not just have a strong grasp of their field, but have deeper insight into how their work fits into the bigger picture, allowing them to have greater impact.

FOUNDATIONAL COURSES

The Chicago Curriculum starts with a foundational set of courses from departments throughout the University.

- + The Climate and Growth Challenge
- + The Science of Climate Change
- + The Economics of Climate Change and Energy
- + Energy: Science, Technology and Human Usage
- + The Ethical and Moral Dimensions of Climate Change
- + The Politics and Law of Climate Change and Energy
- + Climate Impacts and Adaptation
- + September Term: Climate and Energy in Other Countries

TRACKS

Once students have a strong foundation of knowledge, they go on to gain an in-depth understanding of a discipline they are interested in pursuing for a career.

- + Climate Science and Technology
- + Politics, Economics, and Society
- + Climate Finance

“We need a radical paradigm shift in climate education—one that recognizes that climate change is not a problem in isolation. The Chicago Curriculum teaches students to have a 360-degree view of the problem, appreciate varied perspectives, become more informed citizens, and learn how to develop lasting solutions.”

— **Michael Greenstone**, Founding Director,
Institute for Climate and Sustainable Growth

**The program is also offered as a minor.



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING: THE SEPTEMBER TERM

All students in the Climate and Sustainable Growth major participate in a unique 3-week September term course during which they apply insights and tools from the foundational courses in a variety of settings around the world. Students travel to India to better understand energy poverty, West Texas to see the local benefits and challenges of an energy boom town, and Wall Street to hear from energy investors. The result is an educational experience grounded in the practical realities of the climate and growth challenge.



GLOBAL EXPERIENCES

The Institute for Climate and Sustainable Growth offers students the opportunity to connect with global stakeholders through participation in treks and major climate gatherings like the United Nations' climate conference (COP) and Clean Energy Ministerial. The Institute also hosts climate leaders and practitioners who may join as guest lecturers, event participants, or meet with students.



VIBRANT COMMUNITY

Students can engage in the vibrant climate community on campus by joining the 200-plus undergraduates who are part of the Energy and Climate Club. Along with hosting talks and site visits, the Club organizes an annual conference and a case competition where students investigate modern-day climate problems posed by partner organizations.



CAREER DEVELOPMENT

To advance students' career opportunities, the Institute supports a wide range of internship and research assistantship opportunities and fosters lasting connections among students and alumni through a dedicated climate and energy alumni network. Alumni visit campus for career talks and climate career fairs. They also provide internship and shadowing opportunities, as well as robust mentorship.

Recent Participating Organizations:

- + The World Bank
- + UN Environment Programme
- + Tesla
- + Blackrock Climate Finance
- + Nasdaq
- + Exelon
- + JPMorganChase
- + U.S. Department of Transportation
- + U.S. Congress
- + ComEd
- + National Parks Conservation Assoc.

ENGAGING WITH PIONEERING RESEARCH

Students attending the University of Chicago have the opportunity to learn from and engage with a vast network of scholars and partner institutions advancing field-defining climate and energy solutions. Renowned for its economics tradition, including 29 Nobel laureates, the University is also home to the nation's largest cluster of energy technology experts. UChicago faculty lead two U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) research hubs and the University administers the DOE's Argonne National Lab that is building transformative energy technologies.

