



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.

FAST FACTS

- + Prerequisites: calculus, chemistry, and biology (two of each).
- + Climate and Sustainable Growth can be taken as a minor.
- + It is possible to double major in this and another major.
- + Students should declare their second year, though declaring at the start of third year is possible.

FOUNDATIONAL COURSES

The Chicago Curriculum starts with a foundational set of eight required 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

**Required courses for the minor, plus four other foundational courses of choice.

“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



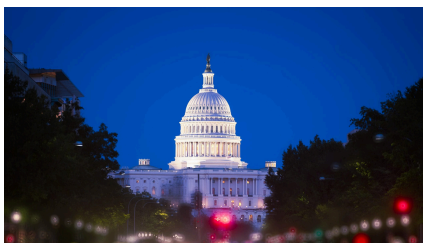
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING: THE SEPTEMBER TERM

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.



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. **Four courses are required for each track.**



Politics, Economics, and Society

Economics Cluster

- + Policy Evaluation
- + Environmental Economics
- + Energy Policy and Human Behavior
- + Utilities & Electricity Markets
- + Big Data

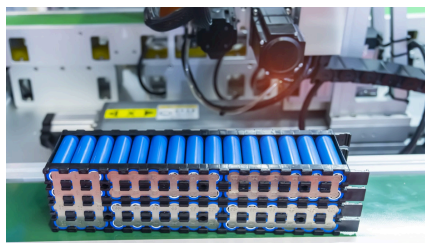
Politics and Law Cluster

- + Environmental Law
- + Environmental Politics
- + U.S. Environmental Policy
- + International Environmental Policy
- + International Political Economy
- + International Environmental Politics

Social Impacts Cluster

- + Environmental Justice in Chicago
- + Env. Justice Principle/Practice I
- + Env. Justice Principle/Practice II
- + Climate Change and Society
- + Philosophical Foundations of Public Policy
- + Philosophies of Environmentalism
- + Climate Change and Human Mobility
- + Introduction to Env. Ethics
- + The Industrial Revolution

*Students can mix and match among clusters



Climate Science and Technology

- + What makes a planet habitable?
- + Introductory Glaciology
- + Chemical Oceanography
- + Environmental Chemistry
- + Paleoclimatology
- + Climate Systems Engineering
- + Removing CO₂ from the Atmosphere
- + Energy Matters—From Mine to Line
- + Principles of Engineering Analysis I
- + Energy Storage/Conversion Devices
- + Electrochemical Principles/Methods
- + Field Course: Modern/Ancient Environments



Climate Finance

One of

- + Financial Accounting
- + Accounting, Financial Analysis

One of

- + Investments
- + Corporate Finance
- + Introductory Finance

Two of

- + Building the New Venture
- + Big Data
- + Navigating the ESG Landscape
- + Impact Investing
- + Portfolio Management
- + Business Statistics
- + The Political Economy of Climate Change

CAPSTONE

Students must complete a capstone requirement, which they will typically take in their senior year. The capstone requirement consists of the Capstone Seminar and a capstone project. The Capstone Seminar guides students engaged in research design, data collection and analysis, and thesis writing and will be offered in the Autumn Quarter. The project continues through the Spring Quarter.

