UNIVERSITY: UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

SPECIAL PROGRAM FEES
FEE REQUEST

College/School: Graduate College – Graduate Interdisciplinary Programs
Department: Institute of the Environment
Program: MA in Environmental Management (MEM)

Is this a graduate or an undergraduate program fee?
GRADUATE PROGRAM X

Is this a new fee or an increase to an existing fee?
NEW FEE X Amount requested: $11,500 resident, $17,500 non resident

BACKGROUND

This is a proposed special program fee for a new professional Masters degree in Environmental Management. The degree is designed as a one year intensive program and is modeled on other highly successful professional degrees in environmental science and policy at other universities (Duke, Michigan, Oxford, Yale, UC Berkeley). The overall tuition and fees charged by these other programs currently range from about $15,000 to $35,000 (for residents at state universities) and $36,000 to $70,000 for non residents and the programs receive more than 500 applications for 30 to 100 places. The special fees of $11,500 for residents and $17,500 for non residents proposed here would bring the cost of the degree (assuming the basic graduate tuition fees of $7,645 resident and $22,557 non resident) to $19,154 for residents and $40,057 for non residents. This would be very competitive compared to our peer institutions. The proposed Masters would be differentiated from other US programs and very attractive because it would be completed within one year in an intensive program modeled on several highly ranked European environmental masters programs.

We plan for 30 students a year in the program.

Several US universities do offer one year programs (e.g. Columbia) and most European universities are only one year programs. We have made careful plans to ensure that students can complete the course within one year. The key to completion is that they should devote full time effort to the program (i.e. they should be prepared not to work as a teaching or research assistant or to hold other jobs during the program). They would take 15 credits of courses each semester which will be a combination of lectures, labs and fieldtrips. We anticipate 12 credit of lectures (15 hours per credit) and 3 credits of fieldwork and labs (45 hours per credit) each term – this amounts to about 21 hours of contact time on average per week during term, plus reading and other homework. The lecture material will be assessed by comprehensive examinations at the end of the second term with fieldwork and labs assessed with short papers. In addition to the 30 credit of coursework they will register for 6 credits of summer internship or research for the full total of 36 credits. We expect students to spend at least 8 weeks full time as interns or doing research and 4 weeks writing up their intern or research papers. All work will be due on the same day in August, 12 months after they started the program. Students will be fully informed of the intensity and expectations of the course.