Bachelor of Economics

Natural Resources and Environment specialisation

Further information:
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Natural Resources and Environment specialisation

The Bachelor of Economics program at The University of Queensland is comprehensive and of international standing, providing students with a complete range of skills focused on applying economic analysis to real-world contexts. The Natural Resources and Environment specialisation builds on the strong analytical training provided in the core of the BEcon program.

With the growing awareness at the international, regional, national and local levels of the ecological and economic importance of our diverse natural resources, effective and efficient use of these assets is a universal priority.

Students who complete this specialisation will develop the analytical proficiencies required to address the challenges facing business, government and the community at large and an in-depth understanding of the key issues and trade-offs we face in a world of increasing competition, globalisation and natural resource depletion.

Students are trained to apply theoretical and applied economics and quantitative skills to problems associated with renewable and non-renewable natural resources and the environment, including:

- marine resources
- forests and recreational land
- agriculture and rangelands
- water resources and river systems
- local and global environments
- energy
- minerals

This specialisation covers diverse topics providing students with the knowledge base and tools to pursue a career dealing with natural resource and environmental issues including:

- sustainable development
- species preservation
- conservation of renewable and non-renewable resources
- market failures including:
  - externalities
  - common property resources
  - public goods
  - information asymmetries
- mechanisms to manage the efficient allocation and provision of natural resources and environmental conservation including:
  - regulation
  - economic instruments
  - information delivery
- evaluation techniques
- non-market valuation techniques

Bachelor of Economics students have the option to focus on this specific area and have this specialisation formally recognised on the degree certificate upon graduation.

In addition to the ten compulsory courses in the Bachelor of Economics program, students pursuing this specialisation are required to complete six electives from the following list:

- ECON2320 Business and Economic Decision Techniques
- ECON3220 Benefit Cost Analysis for Business
- ECON3500 Economic Development
- ECON3700 Environmental Economics
- ECON3710 Economics of Natural Resources
- ENVM1512 Agricultural and Ecological Economics
- ENVM3518 Environment and Development
- ENVM3523 Natural Resource Management
- AGRC3024 Agricultural and Resource Markets
- AGRC3027 Agricultural and Resource Policy

The balance of courses required for the degree can be taken from a diverse range of electives, which cover fields such as economic theory, applied economics, economic statistics, econometrics, economic history, business economics, industrial relations, Asia-Pacific economics, international trade and finance, and experimental economics.

Duration of program

The Bachelor of Economics program is normally taken over 6 semesters of full-time study, or the part-time equivalent.

Minimum entry requirement

Sound achievement in Year 12 English and in Year 12 Mathematics B. For international students who are not completing secondary studies in Australia, a passing grade in Advanced Mathematics (including Calculus) is required.

- Australian students gain admission to the above programs through the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC).
- International students must apply to the International Education Directorate of the University.
- A copy of the entry requirements to the university is available www.uq.edu.au/study

Total units

48 Units (24 courses)

Commencement

Students may commence this program in either semester 1 (February) or semester 2 (July).

Important information

Students enrolled in the BEcon as part of a dual program may be unable to complete a specialisation depending on the combination.

Dual program students intending to enrol in the Bachelor of Economics (Honours) program will be unable to complete a specialisation in the BEcon due to additional pre-requisites for entry to Honours.