

Certificate Requirements

The UVM Graduate School only requires 15 UVM credits (5 courses) for completion of the certificate program. However, individual departments at UVM may choose to include additional courses in their certificate program requirements in order to tailor each program according to their goals.

The Gund Institute Certificate in Ecological Economics requires 3 core courses (9 credits), and four core competencies. Two of the competencies (6 credits) are taken as electives through certificate course work at UVM. The remaining two competencies are typically demonstrated as pre-requisites prior to enrolling in the certificate by appropriate graduate coursework at UVM or elsewhere, or by life experience. If prerequisites are not met prior to application, a student may be provisionally admitted with the understanding that the prerequisite(s) be taken at UVM prior to completion of the certificate. ***Most students demonstrate the competencies through four courses (12 credits) for a total of 21 credits.***

The Certificate of Graduate Study in Ecological Economics requires fifteen graduate credits that must be taken at UVM and are distributed as follows*:

1. Three required core courses (9 credits total) – must be taken at UVM.
 - a. **NR 341 - Ecological Economic Theory** (3 credits) offered every fall.
 - b. **NR 385- Ecological Economic Methods** (3 credits) offered in fall
 - i. or **PA 308 - Decision Making Models** offered in fall.
 - c. **NR 385 - Ecological Economic Practice** (3 credits) varying subjects offered both in fall and spring.
2. Four required competencies in: **Natural Science, Social Science, Management and Quantitative Methods/Statistics**. Two of the competencies are demonstrated through course work at UVM. The remaining two competencies can be demonstrated through: two additional courses at UVM, prior appropriate graduate coursework, or life experience.

Demonstration of the competencies:

1. Take four 3-credit courses (12 credits total, for a total of 21 credits) in each of the above competencies.
2. Take two 3-credit courses (6 credits total) in the above competencies at UVM and demonstrate two previous graduate level courses worth 6 credits (12 credits total) in the remaining two competencies.
3. Take two 3-credit courses (6 credits total) in the above competencies at UVM and demonstrate life experience equivalent to graduate level education in the other two competencies.
 - a. Example - Sam is currently enrolled as a doctoral student at UVM. He will take the 3 core courses. He worked for 21 years at the World

Bank on social policy. He got approval for this to count as his management and social science competencies. He will take the remaining 2 competencies at UVM.

4. Take two 3-credit courses (6 credits total) in the above competencies and a combination of prior course work, life experience, or additional course work demonstrating competencies in all four areas.
 - a. Example - Sam is currently enrolled as a doctoral student at UVM. He will take the 3 core courses. He has an MPA and he worked as an ecologist for five years before that. He will get approval for his job experience to count as his natural science competency and one 3-credit course from his MBA for his management competency. He will take the remaining 2 competencies at UVM.

*Up to six graduate credits (two classes) can be transferred in from UVM. Students should matriculate as soon as they are accepted to avoid having UVM courses not count towards the certificate.

