PhD and MS Research Assistantships in Water Resource Economics at Colorado State University

Area of Study: Water Resource Economics

Deadlines: Application deadline is February 15, 2019
Apply online: http://graduateschool.colostate.edu/prospective-students/apply/
Contact: Chris Goemans, Chair of the Graduate Program
(970) 491-7261
cgoemans@rams.colostate.edu

The Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics (DARE) at Colorado State University has multiple research assistantships available for qualified PhD and MS students interested in research related to water resource economics. Specifically, we are recruiting students interested in conducting research in the following four areas:

- **Economic analysis of alternative water allocation institutions**
- **Design and evaluation of policies to reduce groundwater pumping**
- **Urban and agricultural water demand estimation**
- **Water quality impacts and policy design**

Within each of these topic areas, the selected students will work closely with an inter-disciplinary team of faculty involved in applied research. The student will develop a skillset in the areas of applied policy analysis and micro econometric modeling. Additionally, the selected students may have the opportunity to perform both primary data collection as well as empirical analyses of secondary, restricted-access data. Direct interaction with diverse stakeholders will provide an opportunity to understand and evaluate the importance of applied research for effective policy recommendations.

Requirements: Formal training in economics (including econometrics and microeconomics) and a demonstrated facility with mathematics and/or quantitative methods is expected, but candidates with interdisciplinary backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Previous research experience, excellent written and oral communication, organizational skills, ability to work independently, and some experience are desirable. Successful candidates will possess an innate curiosity, willingness to innovate new approaches to address applied, policy-driven research questions and a passion for studying water resource economics.

Graduate assistantship includes:

- 2-4 years of a competitive stipend, commensurate with the student's experience and engagement in research
- 2-4 years of full tuition support
- Full medical insurance
- Potential for summer salary and travel funds to cover costs for academic conferences.

The student will be responsible for required CSU graduate fees. CSU is an EO/EA/AA employer and conducts background checks on all final candidates.

The graduate program in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at CSU
We offer rigorous coursework, coupled with training in applied research and an emphasis on close collaborations between faculty and students. Most of our students are directly involved in grants and projects in cooperation with government agencies and industry stakeholders.

Specific information about the program can be found at
http://dare.agsci.colostate.edu/graduate/graduate-programs/

The Water Economics research team of supervising faculty includes:

Chris Goemans

Chris' research focuses on the management of scarce resources, specifically water. His recent work has dealt with understanding how information affects the decision making of residential water customers, specifically their understanding of their own water use and the rate structures they face. Current research investigates how continued population growth and climate change will affect the management of resources such as land and water.

Dana Hoag

Dana's research focuses on resource issues related to agriculture. While he has looked a wide variety of issues, he mostly focuses on soil and water conservation. He is currently working on two projects that look at the economic efficiency and welfare impacts of different polices to address nutrient and selenium pollution from irrigation and other sources in Colorado. He works in close cooperation with Civil Engineering to integrate data on physical processes with economic study. Dana is also interested adoption of conservation technologies.

Dale Manning

Dale's research uses econometrics and optimization tools to understand the use and value of natural resources, including water, land, fish, firewood, and other energy resources. He is particularly interested in the relationship between natural resources, climate change, and economic development, considering the economic linkages that tie resource value into broader, local economies.

Jordan Suter

Jordan's research primarily addresses issues related to land use policy, water resource economics, and the analysis of pollution control regulations. His research applies the methods of experimental economics as well as analysis of spatially explicit data to analyze how individuals and groups respond to the incentives generated by resource management policies. Current

research that he is working on analyzes the economic tradeoffs associated with groundwater conservation policies, the efficiency of ambient pollution tax policies, and the performance of incentives aimed at encouraging the voluntary provision of disaggregate water use information.

Jesse Burkhardt

Jesse's research is focused primarily on environmental, water, and energy economics. His work related to water includes identifying peer effects in landscaping changes, understanding how residential consumers respond to behavioral interventions and moral suasion, and identifying commercial and industrial water customer responses to water prices. Jesse would like to further explore the relationships between water use, climate change, and energy production and consumption.

About DARE and CSU

DARE centers its research, teaching and outreach activities in defined areas of excellence: agricultural education, agribusiness management and food systems, the economics of water, land, energy and environment, and agricultural, food and resource policy. We are dedicated to, and appreciated for, engaging stakeholders in high-quality disciplinary and interdisciplinary research, as well as the ability to effectively communicate findings to the public and peers. Excellence in teaching and mentoring students is created with thoughtful and innovative curricular design, emphasizing experiential learning where appropriate and fostering student achievement.

Colorado State University is located in Fort Collins, Colorado, approximately 65 miles North of Denver. Fort Collins is at the base of the Rocky Mountain foothills, with ample opportunity for outdoor recreation.