Program

This is the first IGERT to focus on the ‘wicked’ problems at the core of ecosystem service science and management and urbanization interactions. ESUR trainees will complete a 2-week Summer Institute, 4 core courses (Ecological Concepts of Ecosystem Services, Impacts of Social Policy and Management Practices on Ecosystem Services, Dynamics of Ecosystem Services, and Integrated Ecosystem Service Valuation), discussion-based seminars, a proposal writing seminar, and have the opportunity to co-teach an undergraduate course on ecosystem services. In certain Ph.D. programs at PSU, trainees may count some IGERT courses toward their course requirements. ESUR Trainees must also include at least one co-authored dissertation chapter on an interdisciplinary topic.

Community Partners

Problem-based scholarship is a key element of ESUR IGERT. Students will have the opportunity to learn from a diverse suite of public and private partners in the classroom, and to work with these practicing experts in identifying a Ph.D. dissertation project that integrates their academic research interests with ‘real-world’ problems.

Faculty

Faculty, drawn from a broad array of departments and colleges, provide opportunity for rich interdisciplinary exposure to ecosystem service and urbanization topics. ESUR trainees will also work with visiting scholars brought in to complement PSU faculty.

Contact

Email: esur@pdx.edu
Phone: 503-725-2679
Website: http://www.pdx.edu/esur-igert/

ESUR IGERT is an interdisciplinary doctoral training program at Portland State University focused on ‘wicked’ problems at the nexus of ecosystems and rapid urbanization.

About Oregon and PSU

Portland and Oregon, recognized as national and international leaders in innovative approaches to sustainable development, provide an excellent living laboratory for learning. PSU has a longstanding history of community engagement. The ESUR IGERT program builds upon these strengths through close collaboration with diverse community partners who are developing and testing novel solutions to ecosystem science and management issues in urbanizing regions.
About IGERT

ESUR is a National Science Foundation (NSF) funded Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program. National studies document advantages of IGERT training for Ph.D. students including program completion averaging 1/2 year less than comparable non-IGERT programs. IGERT graduates surpass non-IGERT graduates in integrating disciplines and place high value on their training. For these and other reasons, IGERT program graduates report a competitive edge in the job market. See [www.igert.org](http://www.igert.org) for more information.

Support

Trainees will be selected based on student qualifications, relevance of research interests, and balance among participating programs and faculty. ESUR Traineeships provide a $30,000 annual stipend, fully-paid tuition and fees, health insurance, up to $10,500 in research funding, travel support to present professional papers, and dedicated work space for 2 years. In years 3-5, stipend and tuition support will be covered by a portfolio of internal and external sources.

Apply

We are seeking outstanding students with a commitment to and experience in interdisciplinary approaches to participate in ESUR IGERT. Trainees will be selected from qualified Ph.D. students who have been accepted into the following PSU doctoral programs:

- School of the Environment: Environmental Science and Management, Geography, or Geology
- Civil and Environmental Engineering
- Public Affairs and Policy and Community Health
- Urban Studies and Planning
- Sociology

**Eligibility:** ESUR IGERT applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

1. Review the ESUR-IGERT website to determine if the program theme matches your educational interests and goals.
2. Contact one or more ESUR-IGERT core or affiliated faculty with interests aligned with your research goals.
3. Apply for graduate admission to PSU in the supporting faculty member’s department and to the PSU Graduate School.
4. Submit an ESUR IGERT application once a faculty member agrees to sponsor you for an IGERT traineeship.

The application deadline is January 15th for the following academic year. Application instructions are available at: [www.pdx.edu/esur-igert/](http://www.pdx.edu/esur-igert/)

PSU is committed to diversity. Women and minorities are strongly encouraged to apply.