



*“Bard CEP allowed me to tailor my studies around my specific interests while giving me a base of knowledge that I continue to draw from.”*

—Ben Hoen MS '06, Principal Research Associate, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

### **Master of Science in Environmental Policy**

The Bard Center for Environmental Policy (CEP) trains future leaders to craft effective policy by fostering critical thinking on issues concerning both the natural and built environments. The overall goal of Bard CEP's graduate training is to provide the methods of inquiry, knowledge, and tools necessary to create realistic and effective policies concerning the environment. The program leading to the master of science degree in environmental policy (EP) takes two years. The first year is spent at Bard engaged in interdisciplinary course work; the second year includes a four- to six-month internship, completion of a master's thesis, and a final semester of instruction on campus.

### **Certificate Program in Environmental Policy**

A professional certificate is awarded upon completion of the first year of courses and is designed for mid-level professionals hoping to change careers. A certificate recipient may decide to continue toward the master's degree, either immediately or within five years of matriculation into the program.

### **Why Bard**

- Intimate program and small class size
- Modular course structure
- Thematic cohesion across the curriculum
- Integration of science, law, policy, and economics
- Local, national, and international internships
- Exceptional faculty of experts and practitioners
- Close mentoring of student career preparations
- Research opportunities designed to meet student interests

### **Thematic Curriculum**

The Bard CEP curriculum integrates the core disciplines of science, policy, law, and economics into a consistent and comprehensive first year of graduate course work. Through close collaboration with faculty and an innovative program of study, students learn to think across disciplines to understand the complexities of today's environmental problems and challenges. Courses delve simultaneously into curricular

themes to provide students with a deep understanding of the issues from multiple perspectives and at the same time highlight linkages and divisions across disciplines. This holistic approach to learning illuminates integral connections between the social world and the physical sciences, and encourages students to incorporate various perspectives and ideologies into their work.

### **First-Year Course Work**

The first-year courses link natural ecosystems and their functioning to the impact of socioeconomic activities and to the political, institutional, and legislative processes that address environmental problems. Emphasizing analytical frameworks and basic principles through examples and case studies, the courses are designed to focus on the topic specified in each of the following themes, or modules:

- Foundations and General Concepts
- Air and Atmosphere
- Risk and Uncertainty
- Biodiversity
- Water
- Terrasphere
- Agriculture
- Energy
- Industrial Ecology
- Urban Environments

### **Professional Internships**

The internship provides students the chance to narrow the focus of their degree through hands-on experience working with professionals in the field and facilitates entry into the job market. Internship arrangements with public, private, and nonprofit institutions offer a wide range of choices, providing real benefits to the student and the collaborating organization. Students are expected to work a minimum of 30 hours per week for at least four months at an internship site. Internship selection begins during the late fall of the first year and is based on Bard CEP guidelines as well as the criteria and interests of the students. Internship placements include:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Environmental Defense Fund, China
- Riverkeeper, Inc.
- Scenic Hudson
- National Resources Defense Council
- United Nations Environment Programme
- Environmental Advocates of New York
- Nike
- IBM Corporation

### Flexible Student Research Option

The master's thesis is the student's chance to specialize and to create an original body of work, often linked to some aspect of the internship, with practical applications to environmental policy issues. Bard CEP theses reflect the multifaceted nature of environmental issues while integrating aspects of the natural and social sciences and humanities in the policy-making process. The student is expected to pursue a topic intensively, drawing on and integrating knowledge from the first-year course work and internship, and demonstrate skill in developing and conveying recommended policies and action on a particular issue or problem.

Students work closely with their advisers during development of the thesis topic. Graduate theses, which range greatly depending on the student's interest, may fall into such categories as:

- Water policy
- Pollution prevention
- Regulatory review
- Land-use planning
- Environmental justice
- Preservation of natural resources
- Sustainable development
- Energy policy
- Corporate social responsibility
- National environmental agendas
- International environmental policy

### Interdisciplinary Course Work

#### Year 1

Environmental Science of Natural and Built Environments  
 Environmental Law I and II  
 Environmental Policy I and II  
 Environmental and Natural Resource Economics  
 Statistics and Econometrics  
 Geographical Information Systems  
 National Climate Seminar

#### Year 2

Professional Full-time Internship  
 Master's Thesis Proposal  
 Capstone Seminar: Policy Leadership  
 Topics in Environmental Policy  
 Master's Thesis Seminar

### Learning from the Best Faculty

The Bard CEP faculty consists of a distinguished core of full-time and affiliated members who are eminent experts and researchers in diverse fields relating to environmental and climate policy and current practices. The high ratio of faculty to students allows for close rapport and individualized guidance.

### Join an Exceptional Student Cohort

Our students come from a variety of academic disciplines, and they bring to Bard a passion about their future role as environmental leaders. Although each class is diverse in both background and interests, all students share a common purpose—to understand the complexity of environmental problems, and work towards finding viable and sustainable solutions to tomorrow's environmental challenges.

### Admission

**Early Deadline:** January 15, 2013

**Regular Deadline:** March 15, 2013

**Final Deadline:** May 15, 2013

Bard CEP seeks motivated students who are dedicated to becoming leaders in the field of environmental policy. Students are accepted into the graduate program based on an assessment of various components: record of academic achievement, letters of reference, work and career experiences, volunteer activities, and professional goals. Quantitative literacy is required.

### Bard CEP Degree Options

MS in Environmental Policy  
 MS in Climate Science and Policy  
 Dual MS and JD with Pace Law School  
 Dual MS and MAT  
 Dual MS and MBA in Sustainability  
 The 3+2 Program for Undergraduates  
 Peace Corps Master's International Program  
 Peace Corps Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program  
 Professional Certificate

Contact us or visit us to learn more! We hold open houses every fall and spring in Annandale as well as online information sessions throughout the year.