

ESPP Specialization Course Waiver Request

The Doctoral Specialization in Environmental Science and Policy allows a student to waive one of Requirements 2 (Interdisciplinary Environmental Natural Science and Policy) and Requirement 3 (Interdisciplinary Environmental Social Science and Policy) when the student already has sufficient background in the required area. Diverse, in-depth experience in the natural sciences or social sciences constitutes sufficient background. For the natural sciences, such experience might include physics or geology with chemistry and biology (ecology). Appropriate social science experience would include policy, economics, and behavior (behavior equates to sociology, anthropology, psychology or similar), with a focus on environmental topics. This experience may take the form of one or multiple courses. At least some experience must be at the graduate level. A 'B/ 3.0' average or higher is expected.

Students are encouraged to submit waiver requests based on an anticipated plan of study. Please provide a one page justification, with additional supporting materials, spelling out the courses you have taken and other training in natural or social science and the environment demonstrating that you have received sufficient training in the requested waiver area.

The graduate committee will review requests for waivers on an ad hoc basis and make recommendations to the ESPP Director. Students must write why they need the substitution and why it is appropriate. Course descriptions and transcripts are required (if course has already been taken) and syllabi may be helpful. Please send requests to espp@msu.edu, with "Waiver Request" in the subject line. The Director will justify his or her decision to the student in a brief written response.

Student Name:

Major:

Date of Request:

Decision of ESPP Director (with signature)

Date



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