

Renewable Energy Minors and Concentrations

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Admission Requirements

Admission requirements are the same as for the college a student is entering. A minor in renewable energy requires a minimum of 18 credit hours of study: 9 credits of required courses and 9 credits of electives.

About UMaine

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's premier public university. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls 12,000 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. Students are offered 88 bachelor's degree programs, 64 master's degree programs, 25 doctoral programs and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, go online (umaine.edu). Equal opportunity information also is available online (umaine.edu/eo).

College of Engineering College of Natural Sciences, Forestry, and Agriculture

Program Description

Our programs challenge students to think formally about familiar physical processes. Each day we see energy generated, stored and converted in a variety of devices, yet specific scientific principles and technologies undergird the entire energy system. Through our programs, students not only are exposed to the scientific components of energy, but also consider the social and environment implications of energy production and consumption. UMaine offers three distinct minors — renewable energy engineering, renewable energy science and technology, and renewable energy economics and policy — that enable students from diverse backgrounds to add marketable skills to their degree. We also offer a concentration in renewable energy within both the B.A. and B.S. in economics.

Specialized Information

In addition to traditional coursework, students earning a minor or concentration have access to paid summer internships in renewable energy on campus, throughout Maine and at other locations throughout the country. Through partnerships with UMaine research projects and our industrial partners, students can obtain hands-on experience in a growing field.

Many of our classes are available online or through videoconferencing at other locations. Students have access to cutting-edge research facilities and have many opportunities to get involved with innovative renewable energy projects on campus.

Representative Courses

CHB 498 Combustion and Fuel Processing
 CIE 455 Applied Hydrology
 ECE 498 Electrical Circuits, Power, and Machinery
 ECO 180 Citizens, Energy, and Sustainability
 ECO 312 Current Issues and Ethical Perspectives: Energy, Law, and the Environment
 ECO 405 Sustainable Energy Economics and Policy
 EES 324 Environmental Protection Law and Policy
 EET 460 Renewable Energy and Electricity Production
 ERS 369 Energy Resources and Climate Change
 FTY 345 Bioenergy Sources, Systems, and Environmental Effects
 FTY 482 Industrial Ecology and Life Cycle Assessment
 INT 489 Introduction to Renewable Energy Engineering
 MEE 433: Solar Thermal Engineering
 MET 391 Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Design
 MET/MEE 475 Fuel Cell Science and Technology
 PAA 327 Environmental Policy, Management and Regulation
 PHI 232 Environmental Ethics

Academic Programs 2011–12

The latest versions of the UMaine fact sheets are online (factsheets.umaine.edu). This fact sheet is intended for informational purposes only and is subject to change.