Graduate Studies in Mineral and Energy Economics
Division of Economics and Business

Apply tools from economics, finance, and operations research to minerals and energy.

Founded in 1969, this world-renowned program leads to M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Mineral and Energy Economics. Originally known as Mineral Economics, our program attracts students from all over the world, and our alumni are known globally for their career achievements and qualifications. Our faculty’s expertise is recognized worldwide creating an exciting and challenging learning environment in the Division.

Students gain skills to:
- Understand the economic and public policy forces driving changes in the energy and mineral industries, both domestically and internationally.
- Apply quantitative tools from economics, finance, optimization and management science to assist in the analysis and implementation of public and business policies.

Quick Facts
Enrollments:
26 - PhD Program
76 - MS Program
13 - CSM/IFP Joint Degree Program

Placement rate:
Placement rate: PhD 100%
MS 85%
Average starting salary: $70,993
Range: $60,000 - $90,000

“Adaptability, strong theoretical background, worldwide and multidisciplinary exposure, practical orientation, focus on results. These are just some of the common areas between what the energy industry requires and what Mines offers.”
– Eva Maria Gomez, Sr. Planning Engineer, Occidental Oil and Gas MS degree

“My education from Mines has prepared me for a very exciting and rewarding career including conducting business development activities for two major mining companies and running a small mining company. I now help manage an international private equity investment fund focused exclusively on the mining and minerals sector.”
– Ross R. Bhappu, Vice President, Resource Capital Funds PhD degree
Recent Placement

Bentek Energy  
Credit Suisse  
Duff and Phelps  
El Paso  
Newmont Mining  
Wood MacKenzie  
PFC Energy  
Schlumberger  
Xcel

Types of Positions

Energy Economist  
Commodity Research  
Market Analyst  
Oil and Gas Consultant  
Operations Manager  
Research Economist  
Risk & Value Consultant  
Supply Chain Analyst

Curriculum

CORE COURSES

Mathematical Economics  
Natural Resource Economics  
Operations Research  
Econometrics  
Microeconomics  
Macroeconomics

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Public Policy

Energy Economics  
Economics of Metal Industries  
Advanced Microeconomics  
Exploration Economics

Intl. Trade & Investments

Environmental Economics  
Advanced Econometrics

Finance

Corporate Finance  
Industrial Accounting  
Economic Evaluation & Investments

Investments & Portfolio Management  
Advanced Mining & Energy Valuation

Quantitative Business Methods/Operations Research

Nonlinear Programming  
Stochastic Models  
Network Models  
Adv. Linear Programming

Industrial Systems Simulation  
Integer Programming  
Exploration Economics  
Adv. Integer Programming

Supply Chain Management  
Linear Programming  
Decision Analysis

Recent Thesis Projects

• Modeling the State-Level Impacts of Carbon Policy: The Case of Colorado
• Minimum-Risk Routing Through a Mapped Minefield
• Reaping the Whirlwind: Property Rights and Markey Failures in Wind Power
• The Optimal Regulation of Accidental Pollution and Market Power in the Mineral and Energy Industries: Policy Implications for the U.S.A. and Peru

Program Collaborations

• Petroleum Economics and Management with the IFP School near Paris, France — this work trains the next generation of technical, analytical and managerial professionals vital to the future of the petroleum and energy industries.
• Natural Resource Law with the University of Denver - this reciprocal agreement provides students with the opportunity to take law courses.

For more information, contact:  
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