

Research Assistantships in Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of Delaware

The Department of Applied Economics and Statistics at the University of Delaware will be funding four to five Graduate Research Assistantships in the department's areas of interest. These research assistantships will be funded for two years (assuming satisfactory performance) leading to a master's degree in Agricultural Economics. The assistantships will be awarded to students based on a combination of ability and interest in one of the topics listed below. If the applicant is awarded an assistantship, compensation is anticipated to be \$16,500 for nine-months with 100 percent tuition covered. A portion of the University's Accident and Sickness Insurance plan will be covered.

Food Economics and Consumer Behavior. The research assistant will be engaged in research using experimental economics techniques in the general area of food marketing, consumer behavior, marketing and behavioral economics. Research assistant will focus on consumer behavior to labeling and media information. Research will occur in both the laboratory and in the field and involve adult consumers as research participants. Supervising faculty: Bernard (jbernard@udel.edu), Messer (messer@udel.edu)

Food Security and the Economics of Health. Graduate research assistants will participate in on-going research focused on the empirical analysis of the determinants of adult and childhood obesity and the role of economic policies in promoting better health status. Topics include: supply side policy incentives, role of socioeconomic status and child health, effects of job-related sedentary technological change, and international comparison of food market policies. The selected individual will be mentored in how to conduct high quality research that would result in published journal articles. Supervising faculty: Awokuse (kuse@udel.edu)

International Trade and Development. Graduate research assistants will participate in on-going research focused on the empirical analysis of the impact of global trade and investment policies on producers and consumers in developed and developing countries. Topics include: determinants of sustainable growth, intellectual property protection, trade and FDI effects on development, renewable energy use and growth. The selected individual will be mentored in how to conduct high quality research that would result in published journal articles. Supervising faculty: Awokuse (kuse@udel.edu)

The Economics of Nonpoint Source Pollution Control. Research assistants are sought to contribute to on-going research involving the behavior leading to nonpoint source pollution and the economics of corrective policies. Topics include investigating best management practice incentives, water quality trading, reverse auctions, and input taxes. Driving this effort is the goal of collaborative efforts leading to journal article publication on topics of importance to agricultural economy and broader social welfare. Supervising faculty: Duke (duke@udel.edu)

Land Use Economics and Policy. Research assistants are sought to contribute to on-going research involving land conservation and preservation. Research also involves property rights and institutions. Topics include assessing government policies, explaining incentives, and policy design. Driving this effort is the goal of collaborative efforts leading to journal article

publication on topics of importance to agricultural economy and broader social welfare.

Supervising faculty: Duke (duke@udel.edu)

Risk Perception on the Effect of Sea Level Rise and Contamination. Delaware is the lowest-lying state in the country and therefore faces significant threats from sea level rise. Additionally, like coastal areas worldwide, Delaware has an industrial heritage that has left some coastal areas heavily impacted with contaminated soil. The research assistant will use experimental and behavioral techniques to understand how residents perceive the risks of sea level rise and contamination and how these risks and associated fears can best be mitigated. As part of a research team, the assistant will be expected to work with coastal communities and local, state, and federal officials. Supervising faculty: Messer (messer@udel.edu)

Land Use and Climate Change Impacts on Water Systems. Working with the project team, the research assistant will work in the area of integrating economics and natural science as it relates water systems in the northeast. The research assistant will utilize experimental, hydrologic modeling techniques, and agent-based modeling to develop a better understanding of how water systems will respond to changes in climate and land use. The research assistant will also evaluate the likely impact of more accurate and frequent measurement of environmental conditions. It is anticipated that the assistant will collaborate with other academic units on campus, state and federal agencies, and other researchers in the northeast. Supervising faculty: Messer (messer@udel.edu)

Responsibilities

Under the direction of their advisor, each research assistant will:

1. Work on a research project;
2. Complete a Master's degree in Agricultural and Resource Economics;
3. Prepare at least one article for publication.

Requirements

1. A BS degree in Agricultural Economics or Economics, or completion of necessary coursework to enter the department's graduate program.

Application Process

Applicants should follow the normal process for admission to the graduate program for the Department of Applied Economics and Statistics. For more information link to

<http://www.udel.edu/gradoffice/apply/>.

In completing the application you will be asked to indicate your area of study on the supplemental document that you will submit as part of the application. If you are interested in more than one, please indicate all of the topics you may be interested in.

Questions can be directed to the supervising faculty, the director of graduate admission (John Pesek pesek@udel.edu), Erma Wolpert (ewolpert@udel.edu) or the chair of the department (Titus Awokuse kuse@udel.edu).