WELCOME TO THE EARTH SYSTEMS COTERM!
Welcome from Kevin Arrigo, Director of Earth Systems

Staff Introductions

Student intro

Earth Systems offers two coterminal degrees:

- Master of Science (MS) in Earth Systems
- Master of Arts (MA) in Earth Systems, Environmental Communication
CONGRATULATIONS, YOU’RE A GRAD STUDENT!

- Welcome and Introduction
- Coterm Logistics (Kristin)
- TA/CA-ships and Funding (Deana)
- Coterm Graduate Resources (Katie)
These degree requirements are the same for both the Master of Arts degree and the Master of Science degree in Earth Systems, and must be fulfilled to receive an M.A. degree or M.S. degree in Earth Systems:

- A minimum of 45 units of course work and/or research credit (upon approval).
- At least 34 units of the student's course work for the M.A./M.S. must be at the 200-level or above.
- All remaining course work must be at the 100-level or above.
- All courses for the M.A. and M.S. degrees must be taken for a letter grade; courses not taken for a letter grade must be approved by the master's adviser and Director of Earth Systems.
- Transfer courses are not permitted to count towards the coterm.
- A minimum overall GPA of 3.4 must be maintained.
- All coterminal master's students are required to take the capstone course, EARTHSYS 290 Master's Seminar.
The bare necessities:

- Once your graduate career is active in Axess, be sure to enroll in graduate courses in your graduate career, and undergraduate courses in your undergraduate career in Axess.

- Courses taken during or after the first quarter of the sophomore year are eligible for consideration for transfer to the graduate career, with approval of the Master’s adviser and Earth Systems Director.

- Courses may be transferred from undergraduate to graduate career (and vice versa) by using the “Coterm Course Approval/transfer form” found in the “Resources” section of the Earth Systems website, or on the Registrar’s website.
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- You’re subject to graduate academic policies after completing 12 quarters (*units*)
  - [http://gap.stanford.edu/4-2.html](http://gap.stanford.edu/4-2.html)
  - [http://registrar.stanford.edu/students/coterminal-degree-programs](http://registrar.stanford.edu/students/coterminal-degree-programs)

- After conferring undergrad degree, or completing 12 quarters, eligibility for loans or fellowships changes from undergraduate to graduate status
  - You are no longer eligible for financial aid from the university after 12 quarters
  - Federal Work Study is **not** available for coterm students
Degree Conferral

- Coterminal students must apply to graduate separately in both the undergraduate and graduate career.
- The master’s degree may be conferred simultaneously with, or after, the bachelor’s degree.
- Courses may not be transferred between undergraduate and graduate careers once the undergraduate degree is conferred.
- You must be enrolled as a student the quarter that you wish to confer your degree (LOA/grad quarter issues).

Residency Requirement

- The university minimum requirements for the coterminal bachelor’s/master’s program are 180 units for the bachelor’s degree plus 45 (or higher departmental requirement, as determined by each graduate department) unduplicated units for the master’s degree.
- The requirements for the coterminal program with dual undergraduate degrees are 225 units for the two bachelor’s degrees, and 45 units for the master’s degree.
- Units for a given course may not be counted to meet the requirements of more than one degree, that is, no units may be double-counted.
Leave of Absence:

- Coterminal students who wish to take a leave of absence are subject to the Leave of Absence policies for undergraduate and graduate students.
- Graduate students, including coterminal students, must obtain permission from the master’s degree program. A coterminal student whose undergraduate degree has not been conferred must also obtain permission from the office of Undergraduate Advising and Research, and may not take a leave of absence unless approved for both the graduate and undergraduate leave.
- Leaves of absence are granted for a maximum of one calendar year, or four quarters. An extension of leave, for a maximum of one year or four quarters, is approved only in unusual circumstances. Leaves of absences may not exceed a cumulative total of two years (8 quarters including Summer quarters), including both undergraduate and graduate programs.

**Questions on anything covered??**
The status change from UG to GR can affect housing eligibility.

From the Housing office:

- Coterms are not guaranteed housing and should apply by the first round deadline. Coterminal students applying for their first year of graduate housing will be considered continuing students and will have limited priority.

- The housing office believes that space will be very tight for the Graduate Lottery this year, so it is unlikely that many coterms will be housed but the best chance of getting housing is by applying in the first round lottery. The housing office suggests that coterms begin looking for off-campus housing as early as possible and possibly pair up with other coterms to share expenses. There is a community housing website which gives information to students and also has a listing service for local landlords looking to rent to Stanford students. The earlier students look, the less expensive and more availability:

This site is found at offcampus.stanford.edu.
YOUR ADVISOR AND QUARTERLY COURSE PLAN REVIEW

- At the beginning of each quarter in Earth Systems – your approved quarterly course plan update is due (1 week before final study list deadline)
- Print your graduate transcript – needs to be approved/sign off by adviser
- Submit to Kristin; Kevin reviews and approves these
**FUNDING**

- Earth Systems does not provide funding
- Teaching and Course Assistantships
  - Grad students (13th quarter and on.. Receive tuition, salary and health subsidy)
  - TA/CA Selection process
    - TAs: must request to be billed at the 8-10 unit rate from SSC
- There is no financial aid available for coterm students, contact FAO - loan info
RESOURCES

- Vice Provost for Graduate Education (VPGE)
- Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning (VPTL)
- BEAM – Stanford Career Education
- Earth Systems Staff!
ACADEMIC RESOURCES

- Lab groups
- Academic seminar series
- Other graduate students (MS, MA, and PhD) and postdocs who work with your advisor
MORE SUPPORT.

- Coterm email list
- Earth Systems website
- Quarterly Coterm event/mixer
- Upon/close to graduation – esjobslist
- We’re here to help!
Deana Fabbro-Johnston (deana@; rm 129)
Kristin Tewksbury (ktewks@; rm 127)
Katie Phillips (kphill@; rm 127)
Tom Hayden (MA) (thayden@; rm 171)
Kevin Arrigo (Director) (arrigo@; rm 141)
Richard Nevle (rnevle@; rm 133)
Melissa Vallejo (mvallejo@; rm 131)