

COURSE PRC 101

CEQA: A Step-by-Step Approach

Course Objectives

Clarify and deepen your understanding of CEQA and the implications it has for your organization, plan or project. Discuss the latest changes to the state CEQA guidelines, new case law and legislation.

Topics include:

- CEQA's legislative history
- An overview of CEQA requirements
- Steps in the CEQA process and when projects are exempt
- The threshold decision: Is an EIR required?
- Negative declarations and mitigated NDs
- How to determine the scope and content of an EIR
- Public notice and review requirements
- Agency decision-making under CEQA
- Mitigation monitoring and reporting
- When to prepare supplemental EIRs
- Judicial review of CEQA decisions

Course Outcomes

Students will learn:

- The background and objectives of CEQA
- How to determine if your project is subject to CEQA and the level of analysis required
- How to prepare CEQA documentation and complete the CEQA process

Instructors

Antero Rivasplata is a technical director who specializes in CEQA compliance and general plan preparation with ICF International. He has worked as either project manager or CEQA adviser on a variety of projects, including CEQA-NEPA documents for transportation projects, EIRs for general plan updates and NEPA documents for federal and local agencies. He is a co-author of the 2012 update of the CEQA Deskbook published by Solano Press, a member of the American Planning Association, the American Institute of Certified Planners and the Association of Environmental Professionals, as well as the editor for its quarterly publication Environmental Assessor.

Greta Brownlow, Ph.D., is a senior manager at ICF. She has 20 years of experience as a planner and project manager preparing CEQA and NEPA documents, for local government agencies, private developers, school districts, universities, transit agencies and utility providers. Her recent project management experience includes infill development projects, including residential, mixed-use, and institutional uses in the cities of Oakland, San Francisco and Mountain View. Greta earned her doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley's Graduate School of Education, with a focus on community engagement in the planning of new schools in Los Angeles

*The instructors alternate based on their availability. Please see the scheduled offering of this course for the assigned instructor.

Course Schedule

We will begin and end class on time, including breaks. Below is the initial schedule we will follow:

9:00-9:15 AM	Introduction
9:15-10:00 AM	Background and Implementation of CEQA
10:00-10:30 AM	Preliminary Review
10:30-10:45 AM	Break
10:45-11:15 AM	The Initial Study
11:15 AM-12:00 PM	The Negative Declaration
12:00-12:30 PM	Lunch Break
12:30-1:45 PM	Environmental Impact Reports
1:45-2:45 PM	Key Issues: Setting, Project, Alternatives, and Mitigation
2:45-3:00 PM	Break
3:00-3:30 PM	CEQA Guidelines Amendments
3:30-4:30 PM	Tribal Consultation

Course Materials

Course materials are provided.

Special Requirements

If you have any learning disabilities, let me and your UCDE Program Representative know immediately so that we can accommodate them. If you are unable to sit for long periods of time, you may stand in the back of the room. I do not mind if you eat or drink during class, as long as it does not become a distraction.

Student Behaviors

You are expected to be honest and fair in all your academic work. If you are not, you may be disciplined. You should be familiar with and adhere to:

- The University of California Standards of Conduct for Students and
- The UC Davis Academic Code of Conduct at <http://sja.ucdavis.edu>

For More Information and to Enroll

Visit our website for more details and quarterly schedule at cpe.ucdavis.edu/planning.