



## The A2C2 IGERT

The University of Maine is seeking outstanding applicants for a doctoral graduate training program in adaptation to abrupt climate change funded by the NSF IGERT program. This is a joint program between the Climate Change Institute and the School of Policy & International Affairs at UMaine.

**Abrupt climate change (ACC)** refers to rapid state changes in the climate system that are either transient or persistent, and of variable magnitude. ACC is one of the greatest threats to the sustainability of human society and ecosystem services, yet economic and social systems are rarely designed for abrupt nonlinear environmental change. This IGERT program is designed to train the next generation of natural and social scientists to meet this challenge.



## For More Information

Please contact the A2C2 IGERT Office:

A2C2 Program Coordinator  
210 Sawyer Research Center  
University of Maine  
Orono, ME 04469

(207) 581-1571

[a2c2igert@umit.maine.edu](mailto:a2c2igert@umit.maine.edu)



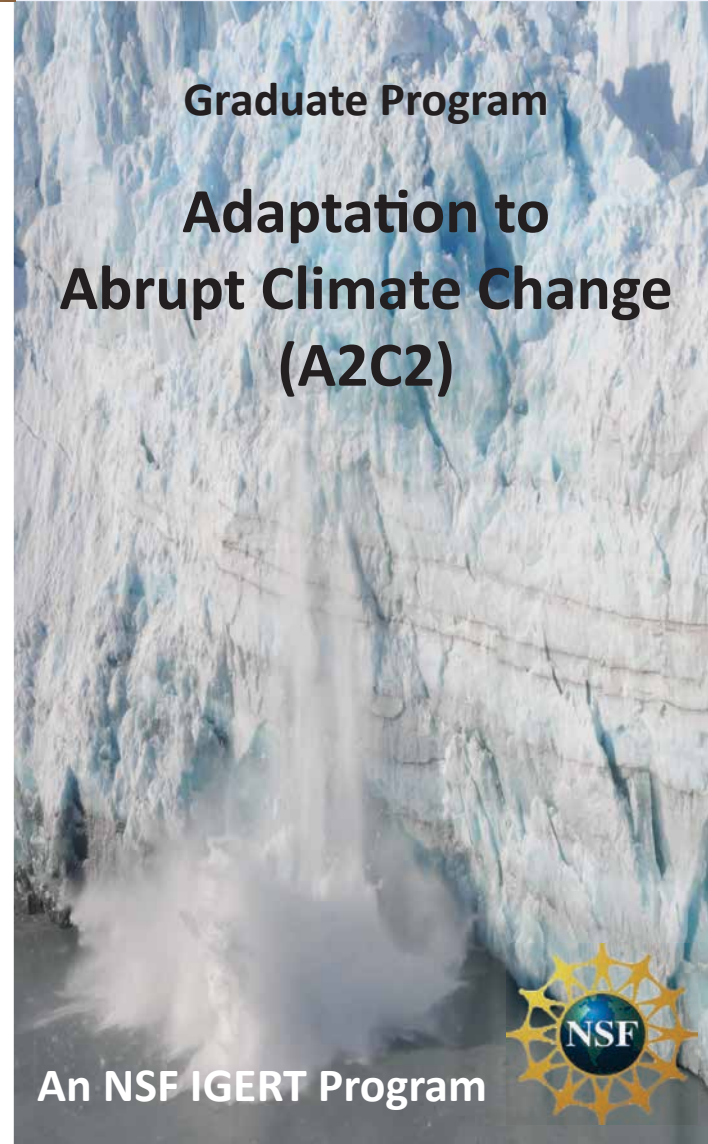
*Photos by:  
Allison Byrd, Gordon Hamilton, Andrea Nurse & Greg Zaro*

University of Maine



Graduate Program

# Adaptation to Abrupt Climate Change (A2C2)



An NSF IGERT Program

[www.umaine.edu/a2c2igert](http://www.umaine.edu/a2c2igert)

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## A2C2 Training Goals

The A2C2 IGERT is designed to:

- train doctoral students in earth sciences, ecology, anthropology, archaeology, international affairs, and economics to become experts and leaders on the issue of ACC in their disciplinary field
- understand the dynamics of coupled natural and human (CNH) systems in response to ACC
- conduct collaborative, interdisciplinary research linking natural and social sciences
- develop innovative policy solutions from their research to foster resilience and adaptation in CNH systems under ACC.



## Research Themes

Research in the A2C2 program focuses on addressing threats of ACC to global security; sustaining ecosystem services under ACC; adapting economic, social, political, and ideological systems to ACC.

## A2C2 Program Components

In addition to degree-specific requirements, the A2C2 IGERT program includes the following:

- Interdisciplinary courses:
  - Climate & the Earth System
  - International Environmental Policy
  - Human Dimensions of Climate Change
  - Ecological Effects of Climate Change
  - Environmental Security
  - Resource Management in Cross-Cultural Perspectives
  - Complex Systems
- Collaborative interdisciplinary research project
- Policy or management internship with an Adaptation Partner
- Annual retreat

A2C2 IGERT trainees receive \$30,000 per year for two years plus tuition, fees, and health insurance.



## Application Process

**Eligibility:** Students must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents to receive IGERT support, and must be seeking a Ph.D. degree.

## To Apply:

- 1) Review the A2C2 IGERT website to determine if the theme of the program matches your interests and goals.
- 2) Contact one of the A2C2 IGERT faculty (see website), discuss your interests with them, and make a decision together on whether to apply.
- 3) Apply for UMaine graduate admission in the Ph.D. program in the supporting faculty member's department/program.
- 4) Submit the following to the A2C2 IGERT program office ([a2c2igert@umit.maine.edu](mailto:a2c2igert@umit.maine.edu)):
  - a) IGERT application form (see website)
  - b) CV/resume
  - c) A letter from you describing your interest and proposed research
  - d) A letter from the prospective advisor supporting your application to the IGERT program

For full consideration, submit all documents no later than **February 1** for the following academic year.