

Environmental Science BSc (Hons)

UCAS Code: F750 | Duration: 3 years | Full-time | Hope Park | 2024/2025

Accredited | Placement year opportunities available



Course Overview

Working towards a sustainable, healthy future for people and the environment is a priority. Climate change scenarios indicate the urgent need to work towards this. The Environmental Science degree is designed to give you the best possible opportunities to develop practical skills relevant to the workplace and to deal with the growing global concerns over the environment.

The degree covers various aspects of Environmental Science through an investigation of environmental geosciences (geology, Earth materials, environmental resources and hazard management), biodiversity, ecology, aspects of environmental biology, and human/environment interactions. Taught by academics that are experts in their field, you also look at environmental challenges such as habitat loss, climate change, resource management, and a range of other key environmental issues.

Environmental Science prepares you to work towards an environmentally sustainable and socially conscious future. After completing the degree, you will have appropriate knowledge and understanding that makes you well suited to contributing to the solutions presented by the environmental challenges facing modern society.

Entry Requirements

This course follows the standard University entry requirements. Please see the website for further information.

Fees and Additional Costs

The tuition fees for 2024/2025 are £9,250 for full-time undergraduate courses.

As well as your tuition fees, you need to consider the cost of key texts for the degree, which are approximately £200. You are also expected to pay for any fieldtrips (both compulsory and optional) – costs vary depending on the location but usually they total approximately £400. For the fieldtrips you will need fieldwork equipment such as boots and a waterproof jacket, we estimate these to cost around £100.

There is a small cost for Student CIEEM membership, and once you graduate, there is a registration fee and annual fee thereafter for Graduate Membership – full details of costs can be found at: www.cieem.net

You will also need to consider the cost of your accommodation each year whilst you study at university. Visit our accommodation webpages for further details about our Halls of Residence: www.hope.ac.uk/halls

Applicants will need access to a computer if course delivery is switched to online. The University has a laptop lending service if remote study is necessary.

Accreditation

This degree is accredited by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management. If you successfully complete this accredited degree you are eligible for graduate membership of CIEEM and use the letters Grad CIEEM after your name. Visit: www.cieem.net



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Curriculum

Year One

Ecosystems and Ecology

You will be introduced to principles and theories of ecology, world biomes and the diversity of life (biodiversity). You will also undertake investigations into, for example, ecological niches and dichotomous keys.

Conservation Biology and Environmental Physiology

You will investigate approaches to conservation, practical conservation and, conservation management using Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs). You will be introduced to biotic and abiotic interactions and physiological functions between organisms and their environment.

Developmental and Evolutionary Biology

You will investigate the development of life on Earth and the key evolutionary advances of species.

The Dynamic Earth

An introduction to key concepts in geoscience/geology; the geological history of the Earth, and the geological processes in landscape development.

Applied Environmental Geoscience

You will study topics such as environmental change, environmental resources and environmental resource management.

Earth Materials

Discover the formation and significance of selected Earth materials e.g. minerals, rocks, fossils, and sediments/soils.

Laboratory- and field-based Environmental Investigations

Fieldwork

Year Two

Principles of Ecology

You will develop your understanding of theories and principles of Ecology.

Habitat Management

You will explore habitat management practice with the aim to conserve, protect and restore natural and semi-natural habitats. You will develop your knowledge and understanding of species action plans.

Biodiversity Conservation

You will develop an in-depth and critical understanding of the value, importance

and urgency of protecting species and their habitats from key threats.

Environmental Policy, Planning and Management

An exploration of, for example, legislation; policy; planning; environmental impacts and management.

Landscape Assessment

An exploration of applied dimensions of environmental geoscience through landscape assessment (eg. Landscape Character Assessment).

Geospatial Data Analysis and GIS

An exploration of geospatial data analysis/ GIS that includes practical applications.

'Experiential Learning Block'

An applied project based study block that can be undertaken as one of several formats e.g. fieldwork based (residential and/or non-residential); problem-based task; work placement related; or a block of work-based learning.

Fieldwork

Year Three

Applied Ecology

Advanced studies of ecology through investigations of specific examples of applied ecological practice.

Current Research and Practice in Ecology and Conservation

An exploration of the current knowledge, research and practice in ecology and/or conservation.

Sustainable Futures

A consideration and evaluation of themes and debates surrounding the human-environment nexus.

Environmental Change

An exploration of environmental change, including consideration of global environmental change throughout Earth history cryosphere. A key focus will be on environmental change in the Quaternary.

International Fieldwork

You will undertake fieldwork internationally. Past countries have included Malta.

Honours Project (dissertation)

COURSE STRUCTURE

Teaching on this degree is structured into lectures, seminars, and tutorials. There are also a number of fieldtrips each year, as well as the opportunity to have a one-to-one meeting with your tutor each week.

In your first year there are approximately 12 teaching hours each week, which reduces to approximately 10 teaching hours in your second and third years. On top of teaching hours, you are also expected to spend a number of hours studying independently each week, as well as group study to prepare for any group assessments you may have.

ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

You will be assessed in a number of ways, including written exams, coursework, portfolios, a literature review, academic posters, and presentations. In your final year you will also complete a dissertation. You will be given written feedback on your assessments, which you can discuss this with your tutor in more detail.

WORK PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

In your final year, your Honours Project can be completed through a work placement. This placement enables you to gain relevant environmental work experience so that you can apply your environmental knowledge and experiences into a work setting. Please note that you must organise this work placement yourself.



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