

Programme Specification

MEnvSci Environmental Science

For students entering Part 1 in September 2017

UCAS Code: F754

UFENVSCIM

UFENVSCIWPEM

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	4 years
Length of Programme with placement/year abroad	MEnvSci Environmental Science with Professional Experience - 5 years (UCAS Code: F755)

Programme information and content

The programme aims to provide you with a sound scientific understanding of the processes operating in the Earth system, and to apply this science to the understanding of current and future environmental issues. It also aims to provide you with the scientific and transferable skills that are relevant to the application of environmental science in research, industry and other areas such as government policy.

Part 1: Introduces you to a range of different aspects of Environmental Science, as well as related disciplines such as Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics. A wide range of subject options is available, depending on the particular pathway chosen.

Part 2: Provides you with opportunities to develop your knowledge, with particular emphasis on understanding key environmental processes and their interactions. Options are designed to give you more detailed knowledge of technical and methodological skills in selected subject areas.

You may be permitted to undertake a placement year or a study abroad year between Part 2 and Part 3 of the programme. In such cases you will transfer to a 5-year programme. The placement or study abroad year should not normally be shorter than nine months full-time.

Part 3: Gives you the opportunity to specialise your knowledge through the selection of optional modules.

Part 4: Aims to provide you with the intellectual skills required by professionals in environmental consultancy, contaminated land management and land remediation. An independent research project provides you with the opportunity to demonstrate your ability to conduct and report on a detailed research investigation, drawing on your understanding of the fundamental concepts in Environmental Science.

Graduates from the course will have an in-depth knowledge of the chemical, physical and biological principles of Soil Science, experience of the major types of soil contamination, familiarity with regulatory and commercial aspects of contaminated land and land management and problem solving skills in relation to soil management and remediation.

Module information

Each part comprises 120 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Part 1 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits
GV1A3	Chemistry of the Earth and Environment	10
GV1B1	Introduction to Environmental Science	10
GV1DE	Our Dynamic Earth	10
GV1E1	Soils in the Environment	10
GV1TGE	Techniques in Geography & Environmental Science	20

Students will choose further modules, to achieve a total of 120 credits. Students may take a maximum of 60 credits (including compulsory modules) in any one term. Alternative modules may be chosen from the School of Archaeology, Geography and Environmental Science or, exceptionally, from other Schools. Timetable restrictions may apply.

Part 2 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
GV2ECH	Environmental Chemistry	10	5
GV2F4	Soil Ecology and Functions	10	5
GV2FCA	Geography & Environmental Science Field Class 1	20	5
GV2GIS	Geographical Information Systems	10	5

Students will be required to select further credits to total 120 credits for the academic year from subject specific lists provided by the School of Archaeology, Geography and Environmental Sciences.

Modules during a placement year or study year (if applicable):

Students on the 5 year version of the programme will take one 120 credit module during their placement year.

Students may be permitted to undertake a placement year between Part 2 and Part 3 of the programme. In such cases students will transfer to a 5-year programme. The placement year should not normally be shorter than nine months full-time.

If you take a year-long placement or study abroad, Part 3 as described below may be subject to variation.

Part 3 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
AP3AE70	Environmental Management in Practice	10	6
GV3EVP	Environmental Pollution	10	6
GV3GEP	Geography & Environmental Science Literature Project	10	6
GV3I7	Carbon and Global Change	10	6
GVMPEM	Environmental and Pollution Microbiology	10	M

Students must select a minimum of 20 credits of optional modules from the Department of

Geography and Environmental Science.

Students will be required to select further credits to total 120 credits for the academic year from subject specific lists provided by the School of Archaeology, Geography and Environmental Sciences.

Part 4 Modules:

Module	Name	Credits
GVMIMP	Independent Project	40
GVMQAD	Quantitative Analysis of Environmental Data	10
GVMREM	Remediation	10
GVMSWQ	Soils and Water Quality	10
GVMWEM	Waste and Environmental Management	10

Students will be required to select further credits to total 120 credits for the academic year from subject specific lists provided by the School of Archaeology, Geography and Environmental Sciences.

Additional costs of the programme

You will be required to make a contribution to costs for your food and board at a compulsory Part 1 field class of approximately £75 and a contribution to a compulsory Part 2 field class of approximately £300. Bursaries and other forms of financial support are available for students in financial difficulty. You will be expected to be equipped with suitable outdoor clothing and footwear for field classes. There are no compulsory textbooks and the library has an extensive collection to support your curriculum, including textbooks and electronic resources, are available through the library. Reading lists and module specific costs are listed on the individual module descriptions. You may want to budget around £75/year to purchase your own copy of core course books. Discounted second hand copies may be available. Depending on your module choices, you may choose a non-compulsory Part 3 field class, which will require a financial contribution of approximately £750. Bursaries and other financial support for students in financial difficulty are also available for non-compulsory field classes.

Costs are indicative, but will vary according to module choice and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. The estimates were calculated in 2016.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of optional modules for each part, including any Additional Costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the Part in which they are to be taken and you will be given an opportunity to express interest in the optional modules that you would like to take. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability and may be subject to pre-requisites, such as completion of another module. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Placement opportunities

You may be provided with the opportunity to undertake a credit-bearing placement as part of your Programme. This will form all or part of an optional module. You will be required to find and secure a placement opportunity, with the support of the University.

Teaching and learning delivery: You will be taught through a combination of lectures, seminars, practicals, fieldtrips and laboratory based sessions.

The contact hours for your Programme will be approximately 1080 hours and will depend upon your module combination; however information about module contact hours can be located in the relevant module description.

Assessment

The programme will be assessed through a combination of written examinations, coursework, presentations and practical exercises.

Progression

The University-wide rules relating to 'threshold performance' as follows

Part 1

- (i) obtain an overall weighted average of 40% in 120 credits
- (ii) obtain a mark of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 100 credits taken in Part 1.

In order to progress from Part 1 to Part 2, a student must achieve a threshold performance; and

- (iii) obtain an overall weighted average of at least 40% in the compulsory modules taken in Part 1.

The achievement of a threshold performance at Part 1 qualifies a student for a Certificate of Higher Education if they leave the University before completing the subsequent Part.

Part 2

To gain a threshold performance at Part 2, a student shall normally be required to:

- (i) obtain a weighted average of 40% over 120 credits taken at Part 2; and
- (ii) obtain marks of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to at least 80 credits; and
- (iii) obtain marks of at least 30% in individual modules amounting to at least 120 credits, except that a mark below 30% may be condoned in no more than 20 credits of modules owned by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

In order to progress from Part 2 to Part 3 a student must achieve a threshold performance; and

- (iv) an overall weighted average of at least 50% over 120 credits; and
- (v) a mark of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits; and
- (vi) a mark of at least 35% in individual modules amounting to not less than 120 credits; and
- (vii) successful completion of specified coursework and/or examination components of relevant modules as described in the module descriptions.

Students who do not meet the above requirements for progression to Part 3 but gain a threshold performance may be eligible to transfer to another programme or leave with a DipHE.

Part 3

In order to progress from Part 3 to Part 4 a student shall normally be required to achieve the following in Part 3;

- (i) an overall weighted average of at least 40% over 120 credits taken in Part 3; and
- (ii) a mark of at least 40% in individual modules amounting to not less than 100 credits; and
- (iii) a mark of at least 35% in individual modules amounting to not less than 120 credits; and
- (iv) successful completion of specified coursework and/or examination components of relevant modules as described in the module descriptions.

Students who do not meet the above requirements for progression to Part 4 will be considered for a BSc Environmental Studies.

The classification for this exit award will be based on 33% from the overall weighted average in Part 2 and 67% on the overall weighted average in Part 3.

To be eligible for Honours, students must normally pass all compulsory modules in both Parts 3 and 4.

Classification

Masters degrees

The University's honours classification scheme is based on the following:

Mark	Interpretation
70% - 100%	First class
60% - 69%	Upper Second class
50% - 59%	Lower Second class
40% - 49%	Third class
0% - 39%	Fail

The weighting of the Parts/Years in the calculation of the degree classification is:

Integrated Masters programmes (MEng, MMath, MChem, MEnvSci etc)

4 year programme

Part 2 20%

Part 3 40%

Part 4 40%

5 year programme

Part 2 20%

Placement/Study Abroad Year abroad not included in the classification

Part 3 40%

Part 4 40%

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

MEnvSci Environmental Science for students entering Part 1 in session 2017/18

8 November 2016

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