

Programme Specification

MSc in Environment and Development (full-time)
MSc in Environment and Development (part-time)

PFTENVDEVM
PPTENVDEVM

For students entering in September 2019

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

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| Awarding Institution | University of Reading |
| Teaching Institution | University of Reading |
| Length of Programme | 12 months (full time), 24 months (part time) |
| Accreditation | N/A |
| Programme Start Dates | September |

Programme information and content

- To provide both a global overview and nuanced, in-depth analyses of the drivers of change and complex inter-relationships between the environment and development at the global, regional, national and local levels.
- To develop a critical, interdisciplinary understanding of the complex nature of drivers, interactions and trade-offs between the well-being of people and the state of the environment broadly construed, and how, for example, institutions, economic and political structures, decision-making and actions can both create environmental problems and provide pathways to their resolution.
- To provide sophisticated and stimulating insights into the key elements of environmental management and policymaking in a converging - i.e. both developing and developed worlds - global context.

Students will develop evidence-based, critical understandings of how environmental challenges in the converging global context are framed, interpreted and addressed in multi-scalar policy-making and development arena. They will be assisted to develop the requisite conceptual and analytical skills to recognise, understand and interrogate the complex relationships between development, poverty and the environment. The programme is designed for students interested in pursuing careers in environmental policy, planning and development in multilateral/bilateral organisations, government and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), academia and development communications. Students with backgrounds in either applied sciences or social sciences are encouraged to apply.

Module information

The programme comprises of 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules are listed.

Compulsory Modules:

| Module | Name | Credits | Level |
|---------|--|---------|-------|
| IDM099 | Global Environmental Change, Justice and Development | 20 | 7 |
| APMA102 | Ecosystem Services | 10 | 7 |
| IDM095 | Theories and Practices of Development | 20 | 7 |
| IDM071 | Research and Study Skills for Independent Learning | 10 | 7 |
| APME75 | Energy, Climate Change and Development | 20 | 7 |
| IDM072 | Dissertation | 60 | 7 |

The remaining credits will be taken from a list of optional modules from the School of Agriculture, Policy and Development or from an approved list of modules from across the University.

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

The programme can be taken part-time over two years (for Home/EU students only). In the first year of study, a student will normally be required to complete optional modules totalling no less than 50 credits and no more than 80 credits. In the second year of study, a student will normally be required to complete the coursework for the compulsory module IDM071 Research and Study Skills for Independent Learning (although students should attend the taught sessions in the first year of study), the IDM072 Dissertation module and any remaining optional modules. The programme may not be completed over more than two years.

Additional costs of the programme

During your programme of study, you will incur some additional costs.

Where applicable, core textbooks recommended for student purchase may cost around £15 to £25 per module; there may be other books/resources which you would find it convenient to buy. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs. A wide range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks, more specialist studies, and electronic resources, are available through the library.

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost per A4 page of £0.05 (black and white) and £0.30 (colour). Essential costs in this area will be low as most coursework is submitted electronically.

A few optional modules may include study trips. For each participating student, the cost of transport and accommodation is not expected to exceed £350.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

The estimates were calculated in 2018.

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 any additional costs associated with the optional modules will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the programme. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability. 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

With the agreement of their dissertation supervisor, students may be allowed to study abroad or take up placements during the Summer Term as part of their dissertation work. With the explicit agreement of the Programme Director, the Dissertation may be researched and written away from the University.

Teaching and learning delivery:

Teaching is organised in modules that typically involve a combination of lectures and seminars. Some lecture based modules are supported by workshops or computer lab sessions.

Total study hours for your programme will be 1800 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is – 240-260 hours. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

N/A

Assessment

Modules are assessed by a combination of course work and/or formal examination.

Progression

Classification

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

Mark Interpretation

70 - 100% Distinction

60 - 69% Merit

50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

Failing categories:

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

For Masters Degree

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Diploma

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits;
and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Certificate

To qualify for a **Postgraduate Certificate**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 60 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 10 credits.