Programme Specification

MSc in Environmental Management (full-time)   PFTENVMGTM

MSc in Environmental Management (part-time)   PPTENVMGTM

For students entering in 2024/25

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	MSc in Environmental Management (full-time) - 1 years MSc in Environmental Management (part-time) - 2 years
Accreditation	Accredited by the Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES)
Programme Start Dates	September
QAA Subject Benchmarking Group	Earth Sciences, Environmental Sciences and Environmental Studies (ES3)

Programme information and content
This MSc aims to provide a thorough understanding of the key scientific and socio-economic principles of environmental management and their relationships with current policy and regulatory processes. It also aims to equip students with relevant technical, research and business skills that underpin the application of environmental management in society, industry and government. It is intended that students will gain an understanding of (i) the human impact on the natural environment and natural resources; and (ii) how that impact can be managed from a natural and socio-economic science perspective.

Programme Learning Outcomes
-MSc in Environmental Management (full-time)

During the course of the Programme, you will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills, knowledge and attributes (known as learning outcomes) For this programme, these are:

	Learning outcomes
1	The use of qualitative or quantitative research methods to inform primary research.
2	Obtain applied knowledge relevant to Industry in relation to environmental pollution (air, soil and water), sustainable land management, mitigation and adaptation of ecosystems and society to climate change, etc.
3	Obtain applied skills used by environmental managers: e.g., how to conduct and write an environmental risk assessment; the valuation of non-market goods and ecosystem services; drafting policy briefings and tenders; producing and presenting consultancy reports, etc.
4	Plan and conduct inclusive fieldwork and laboratory investigations competently, ethically, and safely.

5	Critically interpret and evaluate environmental information within the context of academic literature and other sources of information.
6	Plan, conduct, and report the outcome of an independent scientific investigation.
7	Communicate effectively with a variety of audiences using a range of formats and media.
8	Work effectively within a multidisciplinary and multicultural team, demonstrating behaviours that support equality, diversity, and inclusion.
9	Apply scientific concepts, techniques and expertise to problem solving.

You will be expected to engage in learning activities to achieve these Programme learning outcomes. Assessment of your modules will reflect these learning outcomes and test how far you have met the requirements for your degree.

To pass the Programme, you will be required to meet the progression or accreditation and award criteria set out below.

Module information

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

Compulsory modules

Module	Name	Credits	Level
ADMESN	Ecosystem Services and Nature Based Solutions	20	M
GVMEMFC	Environmental Management Field Class	20	M
GVMEWM	Environmental and Waste Management	20	M
GVMRP	Research Project	60	M
GVMSILR	Skills for Independent Learning and Research	20	M

There are 140 compulsory credits. The remaining credits (40) will be made up of optional modules available in the School of Archaeology, Geography and Environmental Science, and the School of Agriculture, Policy and Development. We use 'optional basketing'. All the statistical, quantitative/qualitative skills modules are in basket A (choose 20 credits); the other modules (theoretical and/or applied) will be in basket B (choose 20 credits).

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

The programme can be taken part-time over two years. Part time participants may either follow all the modules taught in the Autumn term in their first year and all the modules taught in the Spring term in their second years or alternatively may follow half the modules form the Autumn and Spring terms in both their first and second years. The most appropriate arrangements for the individual applications will be discussed with the Programme Director. Part time students will be encouraged to consider running a long-term research project over the two years that they are registered on the course but may carry out their research project in either their first or second year, again as is appropriate to their circumstances.

Placement opportunities

During their research projects, students may be based abroad or within the UK at consultancies, governmental agencies, research institutes or industrial bodies provided the Programme Director is satisfied that suitable facilities and supervision are available to them.

Study abroad opportunities

N/A

Optional modules

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your programme can be found online in the Course Catalogue. 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.

Teaching and learning delivery

Teaching is through a combination of lectures, seminars, practicals (laboratory and computer-based), computer-based self-taught exercises, fieldwork (including a residential fieldclass), site visits and talks by invited speakers.

Elements of your programme will be delivered via digital technology.

The scheduled teaching and learning activity hours and amount of technology enhanced learning activity for your programme will depend upon your module combination. In addition, you will undertake some self-scheduled teaching and learning activities, designed by and/or involving staff, which give some flexibility for you to choose when to complete them. You will also be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module study hours including 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

The MSc Environmental Management programme is accredited by the Committee of Heads of Environmental Sciences (CHES); this is, the education committee of the Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES). CHES is the collective voice of the environmental sciences academic community and serves to enhance the quality of environmental education worldwide. A programme accredited by CHES is assured to meet high standards, contain a strong component of practical, field and theoretical activities, and has excellent opportunities for training, work experience and links to the professional environmental sector.

Students enrolled on CHES accredited programmes can apply for free Student Membership of the IES and for a fast-track route to membership once they graduate, starting you on a route towards becoming a Chartered Environmentalist or Chartered Scientist.

Assessment

Assessment is predominantly through a combination of coursework, scientific reports, assessed practicals, class tests, and presentations. Only a limited number of modules will have an exam.

Progression

N/A

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

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Master's degree:

Award of a Master's degree

(i) an overall weighted average of 50% or more over 180 credits
(ii) a mark of 50% or more in at least 120 credits
(iii) not more than 20 credits with a mark below 40%
(iv) a mark of 50% or more for the Dissertation

In addition to the threshold conditions for the award of a Master's degree, the following **further** conditions must be satisfied for a classification of Distinction or Merit:

Distinction
An overall weighted average of 70% or more over 180 credits
OR
an overall weighted average of 68% or more over 180 credits and marks of 70% in at least 90 credits
AND
A mark of at least 60% in the dissertation

AND
No marks below 40%.

Merit
An overall weighted average of 60% or more over 180 credits
OR
an overall average of 58% or more over 180 credits and marks of 60% in at least 90 credits
AND
No marks below 40.

For Postgraduate Diploma

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma:

Award of a Postgraduate Diploma

(i) an overall weighted average of 50% or more over 120 credits
(ii) a mark of 50% or more in at least 80 credits
(iii) not more than 20 credits with a mark below 40%

In addition to the threshold conditions for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma, the following further conditions must be satisfied for a classification of Distinction or Merit:

Distinction
An overall weighted average of 70% or more over 120 credits
OR
an overall weighted average of 68% or more over 120 credits and marks of 70% in at least 60 credits
AND
No marks below 40.

Merit
An overall weighted average of 60% or more over 120 credits
OR
an overall average of 58% or more over 120 credits and marks of 60% in at least 60 credits
AND
No marks below 40.

For Postgraduate Certificate

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate:

Award of a Postgraduate Certificate
(i) an overall weighted average of 50% or more over 60 credits

Additional costs of the programme

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

Where applicable, there may be textbooks or other resources which you may find convenient to purchase, usually at a cost of around £15 to £35 per module. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs, or available online. 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 all course material is available online (bar textbooks) and most coursework is submitted electronically.

Additional costs amounting to approximately £100 may be incurred to purchase personal clothing and footwear appropriate for fieldwork and site visits in the UK. Note that the costs for the fieldtrip are included in your tuition fees.

Students may bear additional costs associated with their research project (GVMRP; e.g. travel to an external partner or fieldwork travel and accommodation costs) but these will be specific to individual projects and not required for most projects. Laboratory consumables, required for certain research projects, will be paid for by the Department.

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 2023.

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.

MSc in Environmental Management (full-time) for students entering in session 2024/25
21 August 2023