Environment, Politics and Society MSc /

The Environment, Politics and Society MSc programme explores the way scientific, political and cultural practices shape our understanding of the relationship between society and the environment. It is an academic rather than vocational programme with most students pursuing further education or careers in international organisations, the public sector, NGOs or charities.

Degree summary

The programme explores the social, economic, cultural and political processes through which expert and lay knowledges of environmental and political changes is acquired, communicated and incorporated in decision-making. It equips students with a range of social science methods and personal transferable skills which are essential for social and environmental politics, practices and policy.

The MSc offers core conceptual training and the ability to specialise your degree through optional modules and the dissertation. You will have the opportunity to learn from previous graduates and other academics and practitioners in seminars.

The programme encourages small-group discussions of conceptual debates about practices of environment and geo-politics, drawing on fellow students' diversity of nationalities and academic and work backgrounds.

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The programme is delivered through a combination of lectures, seminars, presentations, discussions, workshops, practical classes and field trips. Dissertation seminars provide opportunities to meet previous MSc students to discuss their dissertations and subsequent career. Assessment is through coursework and the research dissertation.

The Changing Landscapes optional modules have additional costs related to fieldwork.

Degree structure

Mode: Full-time: 1 year; Part-time: 2 years
Location: London, Bloomsbury

Students undertake modules to the value of 180 credits. The programme offers two routes: standard and research. Standard consists of four core modules (60 credits), options (60 credits) and a research project (60 credits). Research consists of five core modules to include both qualitative and quantitative methods modules (75 credits), options (45 credits) and a research project (60 credits).

A Postgraduate Diploma (120 credits) is offered.

CORE MODULES
- Geo-politics
- Environmental Knowledges
- Environment, Politics and Practice
- Social Science Methodologies (quantitative methods)
- Research route only: Social Science Methodologies (quantitative methods)
- All modules running are dependent on staff sabbaticals.

OPTIONAL MODULES
- Changing Landscapes - Nature Conservation
- Changing Landscapes - Nature, Culture and Politics
- Community Participation in City Strategies
- Conservation and Environment Management
- Geographies of Material Culture
- Marine Conservation
- Advanced Geopolitics
- Politics of Climate Change
- Social Science Methodologies
- Thinking Space
- Social Science Methodologies (standard route optional module only)
- Precarious Urban Environments
- Postcolonial Cultural Geographies
- Students may also select one module outside the department with the permission of the programme convenor.
- Module availability is dependent on staff sabbaticals.

DISSERTATION/REPORT
- All students undertake an independent research project which culminates in a dissertation of 15,000 words.
Your career

The first cohort of students on the Environment, Politics and Society MSc are due to graduate in 2017. The programme is fundamentally academic in character rather than vocational and we anticipate careers destinations to be broadly similar to the Environment, Science and Society programme which preceded it. Graduates of Environment, Science and Society have gone on to work for governments, environmental non-governmental organisations and consultancies, multi-lateral bodies, the media and think tanks, often in policy, research or communication roles. The MSc also provides an excellent foundation for PhD research.

Employability

The programme’s combination of core social science methodological training, detailed exploration of contemporary environmental issues and critical engagement with environmental science, policies and politics, provides a distinctive skill set for those wanting careers in the environmental sector that do not simply replicate current governance approaches. This holistic experience is different from more technical, managerial environmental programmes and facilitates access to careers in international organisations (UNDP, World Bank), government (UK DECC, UK Home Office, Lewisham Council), NGOs (WWF, Greenpeace), education (the Open University, UCL, and the University of Hong Kong) and a wide variety of charitable organisations.
Entry requirements

Normally a minimum of an upper second-class Bachelor’s degree in a relevant discipline from a UK university or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard.

English language proficiency level

If your education has not been conducted in the English language, you will be expected to demonstrate evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency.

The level of English language proficiency for this programme is: Good.

Information about the evidence required, acceptable qualifications and test providers is provided at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/english-requirements

Your application

Students are advised to apply as early as possible due to competition for places. Those applying for scholarship funding (particularly overseas applicants) should take note of application deadlines.

When we assess your application we would like to learn:

- why you want to study Environment, Science and Society
- why you want to study Environment, Science and Society at UCL
- what particularly attracts you to this programme
- how your academic and/or professional background meets the demands of a challenging academic environment
- where you would like to go professionally with your degree

Together with essential academic requirements, the personal statement is your opportunity to illustrate whether your reasons for applying to this programme match what the programme will deliver.

FEES AND FUNDING 2017/18 ENTRY

UK: £10,110 (FT), £5,085 (PT)
EU: £10,110 (FT), £5,085 (PT)
Overseas: £20,540 (FT), £10,430 (PT)

The tuition fees shown are for the year indicated above. Fees for subsequent years may increase or otherwise vary. Further information on fee status, fee increases and the fee schedule can be viewed on the UCL Current Students website.

ESRC funding exists for eligible students who wish to take the MSc as a prelude to a three-year PhD.

Overseas students may be eligible for: British Chevening Scholarships, Shell Centenary Scholarships and Karim Rida Said Foundation.

Full details of funding opportunities can be found on the UCL Scholarships website: www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applicants: 28 July 2017

Details on how to apply are available on the website at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/apply

CONTACT

Application procedure

Email: geog-masters@ucl.ac.uk

EU referendum

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to
www.ucl.ac.uk/eu-referendum