

**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES,
HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY**



Birkbeck
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

**GEOGRAPHY,
ENVIRONMENT
AND
DEVELOPMENT
STUDIES**

COURSES ACROSS ALL LEVELS

Geography, Environment and Development Studies

This brochure is designed to help you choose the right course at a suitable level for you. Whether you want to advance your career or satisfy your thirst for knowledge, Birkbeck has a range of programmes to choose from. We encourage applications from students without traditional qualifications and offer opportunities for everyone to progress to the next stage of study.

The Department of Geography, Environment and Development Studies is a great place to study. Our interdisciplinary approach offers a unique understanding of how the physical and social sciences relate to each other.

We specialise in teaching part-time and distance learning students, many of whom start

with varied work experience and flexible entrance qualifications. This contributes to a dynamic and stimulating learning experience.

Our innovative courses will help you gain up-to-date specialised skills to give you a competitive edge in the workplace.

The following pages give you details of all the courses we offer in the area of Geography, Environment and Development Studies.

For up-to-date information about our programmes visit our website at www.bbk.ac.uk/geds and sign up to the email newsletter to keep you in touch with the Department.

Contents

Why Birkbeck?	4
The department	6
Certificates of Higher Education	8
Preparing for study	10
Foundation degrees	13
Undergraduate courses	14
Postgraduate courses	16
MPhil/PhD Research	22
Now you've found your course	26
How to find Birkbeck	27

Why Birkbeck?

Founded in 1823, Birkbeck is a world-class research and teaching institution, a vibrant centre of academic excellence and London's only specialist provider of evening higher education. We encourage applications from students without traditional qualifications and we have a wide range of programmes to suit every entry level. Our academic reputation attracts many full-time postgraduate and research students.

Over 19,000 students study with us every year. They join a community that is as diverse and cosmopolitan as London's population.

World-class research reputation

Recognised as a global elite university, Birkbeck ranks among the top 200 in the *Times Higher Education* World University Rankings 2010. Over 90 per cent of Birkbeck academics are research-active and many are renowned experts in their fields.

In the 2008 Research Assessment Exercise, Birkbeck ranked in the top 25 per cent of UK multi-faculty institutions. Research in 11 subject areas was rated as 'internationally excellent' and 'world-leading'.

Recognised as number one for teaching

Shortlisted as one of five institutions for the *Times Higher Education* University of the Year award 2010, Birkbeck is recognised for providing the highest quality teaching that is informed by our outstanding research excellence. The College has consistently ranked number one in the National Student Surveys for overall student satisfaction (2005–2009). By studying with us, you can feel confident that you are studying at a quality institution and getting the best higher education experience.

Prestigious University of London qualifications

As a member college of the University of London, Birkbeck offers internationally respected University of London qualifications.

An affordable education and financial support

At Birkbeck we believe that higher education should be accessible to everyone, so we do our best to make studying at Birkbeck as affordable as possible. By studying with us in the evening, you can continue to work during the day and graduate without debt. We also offer a range of financial support packages for those in need. For further information about financial support, please visit www.bbk.ac.uk/money

Why Birkbeck?

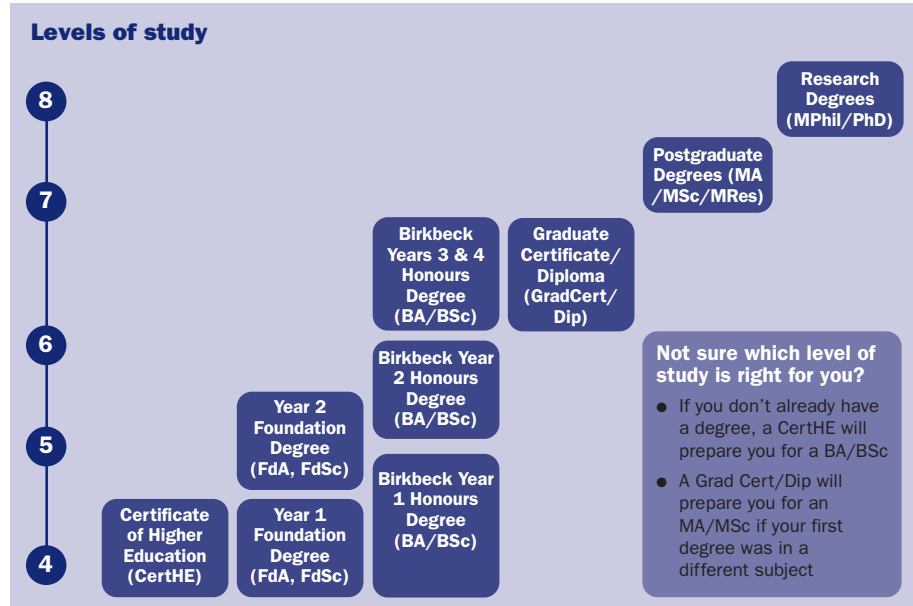
Central and east London locations, with excellent transport links

Birkbeck's main campus is located at the heart of the University of London's central London campus in Bloomsbury (WC1). We are five minutes from the British Museum and the British Library is a 10-minute walk away. We also offer programmes in Stratford, east London, which is at the centre of the city's preparations for the 2012 Olympics. Both campuses have excellent transport links, including tube, rail, bus and DLR services. So, wherever you live or work in London, you'll find it easy to get to us.

Excellent library facilities and student support services

In addition to our own five-floor library, you can access libraries across London and the UK, including the British Library and Senate House Library.

Our My Birkbeck student support services help you in every aspect of studying with us. There is a My Birkbeck student support website (www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck) and a helpdesk with a team of friendly staff.



The department

Programmes in the department span the pressing issues of environmental change, economic development, globalization and sustainability: all amongst the most pressing challenges facing the world today.

Academic staff in the department come together in teaching these programmes to bring diverse expertise across the natural, social and biological sciences which aims to give students a powerful interdisciplinary understanding of these issues as well as the ability to apply that understanding to the wider world.

Within the Department of Geography, Environment and Development Studies we have a vibrant student community, supported by academic staff who are internationally-recognised researchers in their field.

You could join this active and enthusiastic student community by studying for one of our programmes offered at levels ranging from Certificate of Higher Education to PhD.

In addition to our teaching, we host a wide variety of events, such as public lectures, workshops, seminars and our popular field trips.

What can you study?

- Certificates of Higher Education
- Foundation degree
- Undergraduate degrees
- Postgraduate qualifications and research degrees.

“”

It was too expensive to study for a Master's full-time, so it was great to continue to gain work experience while I studied. I think studying at Birkbeck can be more satisfying than at other universities; you look back and feel proud of having worked and got a qualification simultaneously.

**Harriet Cooper
MSc Development Studies**



The department

Our teaching

All of our programmes can be taken part-time. We attract students from many different backgrounds and offer them the unique opportunity to fit evening university study around their busy lives. Our academic reputation also attracts many full-time postgraduate and research students.

Our programmes

Our academic staff are highly research active, making particular contributions in a number of research areas, in addition to offering expert supervision for the MPhil/PhD.

Our research culture

We have a strong research focus that is reflected in the fact that the majority of our academic staff have been included in recent RAE submissions. Much of our research is funded by the UK research councils, EU and other public and third sector organisations.

Each research centre in our department draws on a broad range of staff expertise to support a programme of research projects, seminar series, workshops and public events.

We provide a wide range of opportunities for students, postgraduates and academics from Birkbeck and further afield to meet, discuss and exchange ideas.

Certificates of Higher Education

What is a Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE)?

CertHEs are ideal if you are interested in getting back into studying, want to study for the first time, or want an introduction to a new subject area. Qualifications in their own right, you may also use this programme to prepare for further studies.

For a CertHE you need to complete modules worth a total of 120 credits at Level 4, which is equivalent to first-year undergraduate study.

What qualifications do I need?

We encourage applications from students without traditional qualifications, and for most of our CertHEs you do not need formal entry requirements if you are over 21.

Development Studies

This interdisciplinary programme will develop your understanding of the social effects of development processes and institutions on individuals, groups and communities at a local and national level, using case studies, your own experiences and practical work.

Each module offers a critical evaluation of concepts of development and underdevelopment in different regions of the world. Most lecturers have fieldwork and project experience, integrating a conceptual understanding of the issues with a practical approach.

You will explore questions of power and inequality by looking at wealth and poverty, the position of women, minority groups, age, disability and class, as well as the role of multinationals, the not-for-profit sector and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Geographic Information Science (GISc) (New for 2011)

GISc is the theory, practice and effective use of technologies such as Geographical Information Systems (GIS) for the description, explanation, and prediction of spatial patterns and processes.

The programme is tailored for people without previous experience with GIS as well as those who have had some experience but want to further develop their theoretical and practical knowledge.

The programme's delivery blends components of learning of theory, principles and methodology as well as a series of hands-on labs using the state-of-the-art GIS software package in each session, thus allowing you to solidify your knowledge from the lectures.

Our GISc programmes build on over 20 years of experience in one of the UK's leading geographical information research centres, hosting large GIS projects for several government departments.



I had a very demanding job, and there was no way that I would have been able to support myself if I'd chosen to do full-time study. I really liked the flexibility that Birkbeck gave me.

**Johanna Kwiatkowska
Certificate in
Social Anthropology**



Visit our dedicated GISC website www.bbk.ac.uk/gisc for more information.

Social Anthropology

In a world where cultural and social interaction is both increasing and diversifying, social anthropology raises important questions about people, societies and cultures. Traditionally, anthropologists focused on 'other' people in small-scale societies, examining their myths, rituals, kinship patterns, and political and economic systems. Today, cross-cultural perspectives enable us to gain a critical insight into our own lives and those of others, both as they were seen in the past (by anthropologists and others) and as they are today.

You will explore a wide range of subjects including anthropological theory and method and questions of power and resources, as well as the construction of the self,

Certificate courses

identity, belonging, material culture, rationality and witchcraft, religion, and gender.

For detailed information about our CertHE programmes visit www.bbk.ac.uk/geds/prospective-students

For other Birkbeck CertHE programmes, visit www.bbk.ac.uk/study/ce

Preparing for study

Higher Education Introductory Studies (HEIS)

This Certificate of Higher Education is designed specifically for those who do not have the usual university entry qualifications or who have been away from education for some time. The modules which make up this part-time award provide a good way to prepare for progression to an undergraduate degree.

You will gain a broad experience of what it is like to study in higher education as you consider topics and themes relevant to your experience of contemporary social life. The exploration of your previous learning experiences and the development of learning processes and skills that will help with your studies are an important part of the course.

The programme can be studied intensively over one academic year or more steadily over two academic years. HEIS is ideal if you want to try out a range of subjects before deciding on your degree subject.

There will also be opportunities for guided planning towards achievement of your study, personal and career/professional aims and exploration of how to use new computer technologies to get the most from your studies.

HEIS certificate pathways are available in:

- Social Sciences
- Health
- Business
- Arts and Humanities
- Social Work.

Classes are offered in the evenings in central London and Stratford (E15) and during the day in a range of other venues across London. You can begin your studies in the spring, summer, or autumn terms. You may take this programme in full or combine modules from this programme with modules from other Birkbeck specialist Certificates of Higher Education.

For advice and guidance on how Higher Education Introductory Studies can best prepare you for future study, come to one of the Higher Education Introductory Studies' advice and guidance evenings which are held regularly throughout the year.

What our students say

“One of the best choices I have ever made in my life! Without taking the course I do not think I would have ever started my degree.”

Leela Trikamji



The flexibility of the course enabled me to manage my time efficiently, plus studying locally made it instantly more achievable. I am the happiest I have been in a long time and it is all thanks to Birkbeck.

Patricia Murray



‘Introductions’ modules

Try out Birkbeck’s unique pattern of evening study by taking one of our 30 credit ‘Introductions’ modules. As with all HEIS modules, exploration of the learning process and of how to learn most effectively is a key topic on an ‘Introductions’ module.

You are encouraged to relate your experiences outside formal education to the readings and debates that you are introduced to as part of the course.

Having successfully completed 30 credits of ‘Introductions’, you may be able to use this credit towards a variety of certificate, foundation or undergraduate degree awards at Birkbeck. Choose from:

- Introductions: Understanding the Social World
- Introductions: Learning to Look (Visual Arts and Media)
- Introductions: Understanding Humanities
- Introductions: Personal Development in the Arts

Preparing for study

- Introductions: Exploring Environmental Issues
- Introductions: Community and Local Government Studies
- Introductions: The Business World.

For further information and advice about taking an ‘Introductions’ module, come to one of our advice and guidance evenings which are held regularly throughout the year. Information on these evenings can be found on our website.

For further information on Higher Education Introductory studies, visit

www.bbk.ac.uk/ce/prephe

Preparing for study

Academic English

We run a programme of short, intensive courses to help you develop the English language skills you need for work or for university study. Many of the courses are specifically designed for people whose first language is not English.

Each course lasts 10 weeks, with one class a week, and most of the classes are held in the evenings or on Saturdays, either in central London or in Stratford (E15). There is a reduced fee for all these courses if you are also enrolled on a degree course at Birkbeck.

If you would like to improve your English language skills, particularly in reading and writing, we recommend that you start with one of the English Language Booster courses.

If your concern is about your spoken English, you can choose from courses that concentrate on pronunciation, on presentation skills and on public speaking.

We also offer courses in English for Academic Purposes and in Academic Writing that you can take at the same time as your undergraduate or postgraduate course, as well as highly intensive preparation courses before you start your degree.

We offer an Academic Writing course designed for people whose first language is English. If you are undertaking a research degree, there is a course to provide you with support for the process of writing a PhD thesis.

We also run courses to help you prepare for internationally recognised English language examinations: Cambridge English Advanced (CAE), the Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) and IELTS.

All these certificates are accepted by Birkbeck to meet the English language requirements for entry to university degrees (please check individual programme entry requirements for details).

For advice on which is the best course for you, contact us at academicenglish@bbk.ac.uk



The course has helped me see what aspects of my English I have to improve in order to study at Birkbeck.

Julio Segura
IELTS Preparation



Foundation degrees (FDs)

What is a Foundation degree?

Foundation degrees (FD) are shorter than traditional undergraduate BSc and BA degrees and are designed to be more vocational in nature and give you the practical and transferable skills required for employers needs. FDs also provide the necessary academic and theoretical knowledge that allow you to follow on and study BSc and BA degrees. Their focus is to provide an academic core that is applied to a practical working environment.

An FD consists of 240 credits at level 4 and 5, typically 4 modules at each level of 30 credits each.

The Foundation degree in Environmental Management is a part-time evening course taught over two years and one term which is designed to draw together academic study and professional skills development.

What qualifications do I need?

FDs are designed to enable students with few or no formal qualifications to gain entry to higher education, and so we ask prospective students to interview.

FdSc

Environmental Management

The Foundation degree in Environmental Management is a part-time evening course which is designed to draw together academic study and professional skills development.

This programme will appeal to those who wish to combine academic study with work experience – crucial for competing for jobs in the environmental sector – and those in the environmental sector who wish to reflect upon their current practice. There is increasing demand for well-trained and experienced applicants in both the public and private sector. This interdisciplinary Foundation degree is designed to respond directly to this need.

You will study social science, physical science and management approaches to environmental issues, including professional tools such as environmental impact assessments, environmental management systems and sustainability indicators.

The unique emphasis of the programme is to take this learning beyond the university context and apply it directly to the world of work, through embedded work experience modules. By gaining valuable work experience whilst achieving a university qualification, you will be well placed to enter and progress in the environmental sector employment market.

For the latest information about the Environmental Management Foundation degree visit www.bbk.ac.uk/geds/prospective-students

For other Birkbeck Foundation degree programmes, visit www.bbk.ac.uk/study/ug

Undergraduate courses

These first degrees are ideal if you don't already have a university qualification in the subject you wish to study. The vast majority of our undergraduate degrees are taught part-time, in the evening. We offer five BA/BSc degrees taught part-time over 4 years.

BSc

Development Studies with Environment

Development studies has in recent decades become increasingly bound up in the question of sustainability. This shift means that studying development in today's world requires a broad understanding of not only socio-cultural and political issues, but also how human societies and economics are situated in an environmental context.

This programme seeks to fill a new space in the study of development by providing a broad grounding across a range of topics spanning the social, biological and natural sciences.

You will study issues ranging from natural hazards, environmental change, environmental security to globalization, environmental philosophy and the politics of sustainable development. The programme also includes research methods (social science methods and GIS) training targeted at those interested working in the area of development.

The programme is taught by academic staff with international research track records in environmental studies and development. The Department also has links with London International Development Centre.

BSc

Environmental Management

This multidisciplinary programme brings together environmental experts from a number of Birkbeck departments. You can specialise in either social or physical science, or retain an interdisciplinary breadth. You will study physical science, social science and management approaches to environmental issues. You

can also gain experience of working with information technology, resource appraisal techniques, business strategies for environmental management and field surveying.

Environmental management is a fast-growing sector of the economy, both in the UK and Europe. Students who not only understand policy and strategy, but who also have a firm grounding in the science and politics of the environment, will be well qualified to enter this employment market.

Skills training and field trips are an integral part of this degree programme.

BSc

Environmental Science

This multidisciplinary programme brings together environmental experts from a number of Birkbeck departments to focus on the different aspects of Physical Earth and is ideal for students who enjoy aspects of science relevant to understanding the way the earth works. Students gain a scientific understanding of

Undergraduate degrees

the environment, by approaching it through the disciplines of ecology, geography and geology.

You will have the opportunity to attend field courses, and many classes involve a laboratory-based component. Techniques for studying the environment are an important area of study – you will use computers for data analysis and cover the establishment of geographical information systems.

BA/BSc

Geography and Environment

This programme considers issues such as environmental change, human-environment interactions, sustainability, globalisation, development, social exclusion, and management of sensitive environmental systems (such as river catchments and coasts). It adopts an interdisciplinary perspective on local, European, and global scales.

You will gain a high level of skills training, including GIS techniques, modelling, data

acquisition and manipulation, with a view to being able to carry out your own research towards the end of your degree programme. You will be given the opportunity to attend field trips to help with your skills training.

Our Geography and Environment graduates find employment in all sectors of the economy – employers welcome their broad mix of skills and knowledge and their wide-ranging perspective.

BSc

Social Science

This course is an innovative, interdisciplinary degree which introduces you to key social science concepts and theories. It allows you to focus on a specific subject area to gain the following specialisms:

- Communication
- Development Studies
- History
- Human Geography
- International Studies
- London Studies
- Politics

- Social Anthropology
- Social Policy.

It will also be possible to follow a specific Psychosocial Studies pathway within the BSc.

The BSc will enable you to become a competent, critical and responsible researcher of the social world, and will prepare you for postgraduate study and/or for career and professional opportunities in a range of fields. It provides an opportunity to study in Bloomsbury or Stratford, and to choose from a range of specialisms.

This programme is run collaboratively across several departments in the School of Social Sciences, History and Philosophy.

For the latest information about our undergraduate courses visit www.bbk.ac.uk/geds/prospective-students

For more Birkbeck undergraduate programmes visit www.bbk.ac.uk/study/ug

Postgraduate courses

What is a postgraduate course?

Postgraduate courses are all designed for graduates who want to develop their research skills and knowledge of a specialist field. Our programmes are modular and normally made up of some compulsory modules and some that you are able to choose. Most modules are taught at Level 7 and include some form of assessment. The results are accumulated towards the final degree result.

The PgCert, PgDip and MA or MSc represent varying amounts or types of study:

- a PgCert is 60 credits and is ideal for students who want to update their knowledge or who would like to try postgraduate study without committing to a full MSc
- a PgDip (120 credits) usually has all the taught components of a Masters without the final dissertation. In some cases, PgCerts and PgDips are stand-alone programmes, in other instances students can progress onto an MA, MSc or MRes

- an MA, MSc or MRes is 180 credits and includes a dissertation. This qualification develops students' independent research skills and knowledge of their specialist areas to a greater degree than the PgCert or PgDip. The MA, MSc or MRes is an ideal foundation for students wishing to progress to a PhD.

How long does a postgraduate course take at Birkbeck?

A PgCert normally takes one year. A PgDip normally takes two years. MAs, MScs and MRes take one to two years to complete depending on whether you study part- or full-time.

What qualifications do I need?

The normal minimum entry requirement for a PgCert, PgDip or an MA or MSc is a good second-class honours degree in an appropriate subject although we do take relevant experience into account. See www.bbk.ac.uk/geds/prospective-students for more information.

MSc/MRes/PgDip

Business Strategy and Environment

These programmes offer structured courses that analyse the relationship between business strategy and a range of environmental issues and challenges in today's world. Rather than focusing on the natural science of how pollution occurs or the technical practicalities of ameliorating it, the programmes explore how the environment has emerged as an important issue for business.

Engaging with the philosophy of environmentalism, environmental policy and the nature of scientific debates about the environment, they outline possible ways of developing effective strategies for addressing the business threats and opportunities posed by environmental issues.

Aimed at people from a wide range of backgrounds, these programmes are suitable for anyone who wishes to develop a deeper understanding of the key drivers of environmental policy developments in the UK and internationally. They will be

Postgraduate courses

particularly relevant if you are a manager with responsibility for environmental affairs in either a public or private sector organisations, or a member of a regulatory body, a member of an environmental pressure group, or if you have a general interest in environmental issues in an applied context.

MSc/PgDip/PgCert

Climate Change Management

The Climate Change Management programmes aim to meet the needs of both climate-change practitioners and those hoping to move into this fast-developing sector.

They will provide students with a comprehensive advanced level grounding in many areas of climate change and an opportunity to reflect on practice at both individual and corporate levels. As the programmes are offered through part-time, evening face-to-face study, they provide a distinctive opportunity for practitioners to combine study with a continuing career.

In the compulsory programme you will gain an informed understanding of the key issues

in the three main areas of science, policy and business by engaging with academic, professional and popular literature.

You will be able to critically evaluate scientific scenarios for future climates and landscape impacts, assess the effectiveness of different policy approaches and determine suitable business responses to the climate change challenge. Students will then be able to pursue their own interests, both within climate change and across the broad range of Masters-level environmental modules offered by Birkbeck. The research project will comprise in-depth study of real challenges arising from climate change, in a number of contexts.

MSc/PgDip/PgCert

Development Studies

This interdisciplinary programme aims to provide a critical and theoretical understanding of the issues, processes and institutions central to global poverty, inequality and development.

The programme's core modules introduce you to key debates that have shaped

thinking on international poverty and development and will equip you with knowledge of the conceptual and theoretical bases of development.

They aim to improve your skills of evaluation and analysis, enabling you to participate critically in debates on the changing nature of the multilateral, bilateral and non-governmental institutions designed to address development issues, the context in which they operate and the constraints they face.

You will also have the opportunity to choose from a range of thematic option modules, allowing you to tailor the programme according to your personal or career interests. MSc Development Studies can be taken either part- or full-time.

MSc/PgDip/PgCert

Development Studies and Social Anthropology

This programme will be of particular interest to anyone wishing to develop an anthropological understanding of global development, policy and practice and their local impacts.

Postgraduate courses

Its combination of anthropology with other development studies disciplines provides a good grounding for anyone wishing to use an anthropological perspective when working in multidisciplinary teams. It provides a solid base for those planning a career in development agencies, the non-governmental sector and other international organisations, and for those working in such institutions who wish to take a larger role in the direct provision of services or policy development. It is also relevant for people interested in policy research, journalism and in undertaking advanced research in development studies, anthropology and related fields.

The programme will introduce you to key debates that have shaped thinking on international poverty and development and will equip you with knowledge of the conceptual and theoretical bases of development. It will help you to develop a thorough understanding of theories and methods in anthropology and to apply these to the field of development studies. The programme's core modules aim to improve your skills in evaluation and analysis, enabling you to participate critically in debates on the changing nature of the

multilateral, bilateral and nongovernmental institutions designed to address development issues, the context in which they operate and the constraints they face.

You will also have the opportunity to choose from a range of thematic option modules and to undertake a dissertation that examines development from an anthropological perspective. The option modules and dissertation will allow you to tailor your programme according to your personal or career interests.

MSc/PgDip

Environmental Management (Protected Area /Countryside Management)

The Environmental Management programme will enable you to acquire and develop a broad understanding of the knowledge and skills needed for managing protected areas of the environment, including natural, cultural and recreational sites. With a wide range of professional training modules available it will provide you with the key skills and management tools necessary for resolving conflicting pressures and demands in protected areas.

The programme offers opportunities for career progression for anyone working, or planning to work, in the management of local, national or international protected areas. Flexible study pattern, with a mixture of core teaching based on occasional weekends in London and a spring residential school.

GradDip

Ecology and Conservation

This programme will be of interest and practical value to all who are concerned about the quality and future of the world in which we live. Ideal for people working or volunteering in wildlife conservation and environmental management, it provides a sound academic base to understand the principles and practice of wildlife conservation and environmental management, if you are working – or looking to work – in these fields, either professionally or as a volunteer.

It is designed for students who want to gain an informed and integrated understanding of the diversity and organisation of life, the interrelationships between organisms and their environment, the dynamics of natural

Postgraduate courses

and human-made ecosystems, and of the UK and international political, social, legislative and administrative framework of conservation.

It also provides valuable supplementary training for those professionally concerned with environmental design, management, planning and control, and education. One module studied at Level 5 with the remainder at Level 6. Includes practical courses held at field centres in the UK.

GradDip/GradCert

Environmental Systems Science

For those with some prior education in this field, this programme will refresh your knowledge of the manipulation of climate, environmental modelling, pollution and coastal processes, and management.

It highlights the benefits brought to resource management by technical advances in remote sensing and automated cartography, and introduces you to the principles of geographic information systems and environmental modelling. Our teachers are leading experts in hydrological modelling and environmental

change, remote sensing, and coastal management. We provide excellent computing facilities, used for a range of GIS applications and remote sensing/image processing functions.

MSc/PgDip/PgCert

Geographic Information Science by Distance Learning

Birkbeck has developed specialist part-time Distance Learning programmes that are delivered worldwide via the Internet.

This programme is tailored for professionals working with geographical information who have some practical knowledge of GISc but – in order to make informed technological choices – need a deeper understanding of spatial theory, a wider technological knowledge, new perspectives on the social and political context of spatial data, and insights into the process of organisational/societal decision-making with spatial data.

The teaching team includes external collaborators – researchers, private geographic information science (GISc) consultants, and GISc professionals working

in private industry and public bodies. Visit our dedicated GISc website for full details: www.bbk.ac.uk/gisc

MSc/PgDip/PgCert

Geographic Information Science

Even if you don't have previous experience with GIS, you can study our Evening Taught programme. The programme brings our longstanding expertise of GIS tuition to students that value face-to-face support and the convenience of being taught in central London. The programme is taught via an evening meeting once a week. Learning materials are delivered in advance using a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

This programme aims to introduce you to the principles and applications of GISc at an advanced level through the development of scientific knowledge, technical expertise and practical experience. You will be enabled to develop new skills that have real-world applications for your work and career. Visit our dedicated GISc website for full details: www.bbk.ac.uk/gisc

Postgraduate courses

GradCert/GradDip

Geography and Environment

If you already possess a background in geography but would like to update your understanding of the changing nature of the subject, including the economic and social geography of Britain and the European Union, then this programme is what you are looking for.

It provides an opportunity to get to grips with the principles of geographical information systems, contemporary debates about globalisation, development, the changing nature of British cities and various aspects of planning at both regional and urban levels. We provide excellent computing facilities, used for a range of GIS applications and remote sensing/image processing functions.

GradCert/GradDip

Globalisation, Environment and Development

Debates about globalisation, the future of the global environment and human development have become ever more pressing in the last decade or so. The

pressure of a rapidly changing global economy on nation states, on the natural environment and on people's everyday lives has become much more evident. It has also become the focus of popular debates and has climbed the political agenda in recent years.

This programme allows those with a broadly relevant first degree background to update and expand their understanding of some of the most pressing issues facing the world today. The fields of development studies and the academic debate around globalisation are fast-moving, and this up-to-date course provides a detailed and wide-ranging insight into both the theoretical and policy questions that lie at the centre of these fields.

Our interdisciplinary approach offers a unique understanding of how these various fields of social science relate to each other. It will enable you to develop a much more confident and broad-based understanding of the most profound changes taking place in human society at the start of the twenty-first century that will give you a competitive edge in the workplace.

MSc

International Childhood Studies

This programme aims to provide you with a critical historical and international perspective on the construction of childhood, and to enable you to understand childhood as a site of social inequalities that are racialised, classed and gendered.

It will be of interest to anyone working, or intending to work, with children in service provision or policy development, particularly in culturally diverse settings, or who has an interest in cultures of childhood.

The programme is made up of three core modules, an option module and a dissertation. Part-time students take their option module and the core research module in Year 2.

GradCert

Social Anthropology

This programme will prepare you for further postgraduate study in social anthropology and development studies even if you do not have a relevant social science degree.

Postgraduate courses

It introduces you to anthropological methods and perspectives, and will equip you with the conceptual, theoretical and intellectual skills to produce high-quality written work from an anthropological perspective. These skills will be developed, as you explore the key debates and issues in the anthropology of development and tourism and in the anthropology of space, architecture and landscape.

GradCert/GradDip

Spatial Information Science

This programme introduces you to Spatial Information Science disciplines, including: geographical information system methodologies and applications, remote sensing image processing techniques and applications, and environmental modelling philosophy and practice. You can also enhance your knowledge and skills in the areas of Applied Hydrology and Coastal Management.

Our teachers are leading experts in urban and regional problems and environmental change. This programme is ideal if you want to update a previous qualification or take prior to applying for postgraduate study.

PgCert/PgDip/MA

Gender, Sexuality and Culture

PgCert/PgDip/MSc

Gender, Sexuality and Society

These programmes are built around the interdisciplinary study of gender and sexuality, bridging the divide between the social sciences and the arts and humanities. They address the latest debates, using cutting-edge research from this exciting and growing area of study.

The interdisciplinary programmes consider competing theories and approaches to gender and sexuality, and explore the ways in which these intersect with concepts of race, ethnicity, age and class. They are flexibly designed to maximise student choice and you may opt for either the MA Gender, Sexuality and Culture or the MSc Gender, Sexuality and Society. The former is designed for those with special interests in the humanities, including literature, history, media and film, visual art, philosophy and cultural history. The latter focuses on political and social issues, including the diverse and changing nature of personal

relationships, economics and the workforce, and development and legal studies. PgCert/PgDip options are also available.

At MA/MSc level, you will take two core modules and two modules from a range of options that vary annually.

Options in previous years have included

- Contemporary Lesbian Fiction – Sexual/Textual Explorations
- Disciplining Sex – Sexuality, Society and Nineteenth-Century Culture
- Gender and Development
- Queer Histories/Queer Cultures.

This programme is run collaboratively across several departments in the School of Social Sciences, History and Philosophy.

For the latest information about our postgraduate courses visit

www.bbk.ac.uk/geds/prospective-students

For more Birkbeck postgraduate programmes visit www.bbk.ac.uk/study/pg

MPhil/PhD Research

Our MPhil/PhD programmes aim to train you to conduct research of the highest academic standard and to make an original contribution to the subject through your thesis.

Research students follow a programme of study that is supervised by leading experts in their fields. You will benefit from a range of research training events in the department and beyond. You will also have opportunities to attend and contribute to a variety of research seminars and other activities organised within the Department and by 25 research centres which serve as a focus for cross-disciplinary collaboration.

What is a research degree?

A PhD forms a distinct and original contribution to knowledge of a subject. It is usually a thesis of up to 100,000 words.

How long does a research degree take?

Normally a PhD takes three years full-time, including the initial period of MPhil registration (see below). Part-time study normally takes at least two years longer.

What qualifications do I need to get in?

The normal minimum entry requirement is a good second-class honours degree in an appropriate subject from a UK university, or an equivalent overseas qualification. Initial registration is for an MPhil, with upgrade to a PhD after a year of full time study or two years of part-time study.

Can I get any funding for my research?

There are a limited number of School Research Studentships available. See www.bbk.ac.uk/money for more information.

What resources for research are available?

Alongside Birkbeck's own five-floor library, we are surrounded by other University of London colleges with a vast range of specialist library collections. Within walking distance of Birkbeck there are world-class resources like the British library, the British Museum and Senate House library, with many art galleries, bookshops and cinemas on our doorstep.

What research training is available?

Birkbeck offers a range of courses and training through the Graduate Research School and Bloomsbury Skills network. We also have departmental events and your supervisor will be able to suggest more specialist training inside and outside the College if necessary.

As a research student, you will be able to attend research seminars held by the many research groups and centres in the College. There are events at lunchtimes and in the evenings as well as during the day and at weekends. Many of these are organized through the Birkbeck Institute of

MPhil/PhD Research

Social Research (BISR), including a dedicated seminar series for research students carrying out qualitative research.

How do I apply?

The most important parts of applying for a research degree are selecting your topic and identifying an appropriate supervisor. In order to do one of our MPhil/PhD degrees, we need to be sure that we have academics with the experience, knowledge and expertise to supervise your topic, and we cannot process applications until an academic has agreed to be your advisor - visit our website www.bbk.ac.uk/geds/prospective-students/mphil-phd for details.

You should contact the academic whose research interest aligns most closely with your own, and whom you would like to supervise you with a proposed research topic (in the form of an abstract of around 1000 words) before submitting an application. If you require further guidance you can discuss your application and research proposal with Admissions Tutor for Postgraduate Research, Rosie Cox (email r.cox@bbk.ac.uk). You can apply and start studying for a PhD at any time of the year, but if want to apply for a

scholarship you need to apply by specific deadlines.

What are the research interests of academic staff?

The following list gives a brief indication of the research specialisms of individual academics. Detailed profiles for each member of staff (including their publications, research activities and areas of potential research supervision), can be found at www.bbk.ac.uk/geds/our-staff/full-time-academic-staff

Kezia Barker, MA, MSc, PhD

Biosecurity policy and practices; environmental security; nonhuman geographies; urban agriculture, gardening and food growing practices.

Joana Barros, MSc, PhD

Computational models of urban systems; Latin American cities; complexity theory; urban planning in developing countries.

Becky Briant, BA, MSc, PhD

Climate change and river behaviour.

Susan Brooks, BA, PhD

Geomorphological processes; hydrology; hydrological modelling; soil erosion; soil development; slope stability; Holocene climate change.

Richard Clarke, BSc, MTech, FLS

Integrated conservation and management planning; protected areas and sociopolitical change; heritage, environment and transition in south-east Europe.

Rosie Cox, BA, MA, PhD

Social polarisation in London; paid domestic work; food consumption habits; gender and geography.

Paul Elsner, MMM, MPhil

Remote sensing and GIS techniques for environmental monitoring, climate change and renewable energy.

Martin Frost, BA, MSc, PhD

Urban and economic geography in Europe and the UK; local economies and labour markets; transport and travel to work.

MPhil/PhD Research

Maurizio Gibin, MSc, PhD

GIScience; spatial analysis; geographic data analysis of socio-economic and population data; health geography; geodemographics; methods to deploy geographic information effectively; cartography and analytical design in thematic mapping.

Jasmine Gideon, MA, PhD

Development geography; Latin America; globalization and healthcare.

Diane Horn, BA, MA, DPhil

Coastal geomorphology; experimental geomorphology; modelling coastal processes and sediment transport, especially waves and beaches; coastal policy.

Professor Andrew Jones, MA, MSc, PhD

Globalisation and transnational firms; social relations of business; global work; economic geography; international voluntary work.

Professor John Shepherd, BSc(Econ), MSc, PhD, FRICS, FRSA

Urban and regional planning; determinants of land use change.

Shino Shiode, BA, MEng, MPhil, PhD

Quantitative interpretation of the spatial-temporal changes of urban, criminal and epidemiological phenomena.

Sian Sullivan, BSc, PhD

Biodiversity, conservation, capitalism and social exclusion; epistemologies of human/non-human relationships; political ecology and social movements; dryland ecology, nomadism and non-equilibrium dynamics.

Paul Watt, BA, CertEd, MSc, MPhil, PhD

Urban geography and social inequality.

Karen Wells, BA, MSc, PhD

Cultural and social urban geography, particularly in relation to children and childhood; transnational spaces and identities.

PhD/MPhil

Development Studies

The PhD/MPhil in Development Studies offers supervision in theoretical and empirical research on practices and experiences of development. Students are co-supervised, giving access to supervision in a broad range of topics in the field of development studies, broadly conceived.

Students will be able to participate in development-specific doctoral workshops and will also have the opportunity to participate in the guest lectures and films organised by the development studies programme throughout the academic year. Students are also able to join the London International Development Centre, providing access to a wide range of development-related talks, conferences and activities.

Our research areas include gender and development, visual culture and development, health, ageing, rights, childhood, social policy, NGOs and political activism, migration, urban and rural

MPhil/PhD Research

poverty and regional specialism in Latin America and South Asia.

PhD/MPhil

Geographic Information Science

Geographic information science (GISc) can be understood as the theory, practice and effective use of technologies such as geographical information systems (GIS) for the description, explanation, and prediction of spatial patterns and processes.

The Birkbeck GISc academic team covers different areas of geographic information knowledge, including spatial analytical methods, cartography and visualisation, remote sensing, and geocomputation.

PhD/MPhil

Geography

Research study in geography can take a wide variety of forms across the social and physical sciences dependent on topic, but the common thread is the distinctive perspective, often interdisciplinary, that a

geographical approach to research offers. Our students benefit not only from the advisory insight of specialist academics within the Department, but also from a wider culture of support and advice from staff and other research students. It is this wide-ranging geographical perspective on a topic that often opens up new and fruitful avenues of work for our researchers.

We see our research students as a central part of our community, who play a key role in the vitality of the wider research process. Students are themselves involved in teaching opportunities, seminars and publications as they progress through these advanced degrees. All of these activities sit in the context of our respected national and international reputation in key areas of geographical research. Those completing our research degrees in the past have often moved on into highly skilled occupations in both the commercial and academic worlds.

Key research interests are: environmental policy, coastal geomorphology and policy, geographical information systems and geographical database development,

economic geography, globalisation and development, regional planning, remote sensing, social and urban geography, and hillslope hydrology.

PhD/MPhil

International Childhood Studies

The PhD/MPhil in International Childhood Studies offers supervision in theoretical and empirical research on practices and experiences of childhood. Students are co-supervised, giving access to supervision in a broad range of topics in the field of childhood studies, broadly conceived.

Our research areas include cultures of childhood, visual culture and representation of childhood, the governance of childhood, childhood and social identities, histories of childhood.

Now you've found your course

Now that you've found the course that's right for you, here's what to do next.

For up-to-date information about:

- entry requirements
 - application and enrolment procedures
 - fees and financial support;
- and to order printed prospectuses, visit:
www.bbk.ac.uk

Contact the My Birkbeck helpdesk team for advice and information about studying at Birkbeck:

Email: info@bbk.ac.uk
Tel: **0845 601 0174**

To learn more about student support services, library, IT and other facilities, visit:
www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck

Meet us at Open Evenings

Our Open Evenings are the perfect opportunity to:

- meet lecturers and find out more about the courses they teach
- meet former students and discuss what it's like to study at Birkbeck and the positive impact it can have on your life and career
- meet special advisers to discuss study skills and disability support
- meet student support staff to find out about the application process and drop off your application.

These events are held in both central London and in Stratford, east London.

Central London

- Wednesday 18 May 2011
- Thursday 23 June 2011
- Thursday 8 September 2011

The Royal National Hotel,
Bedford Way,
London WC1H 0DG.

Stratford, east London

- Thursday 28 July 2011
- Thursday 1 September 2011

Stratford Old Town Hall,
29 Broadway,
Stratford E15 4BQ.

You can also book your place at:
www.bbk.ac.uk/openeve

How to find Birkbeck



Main campus

Main building (in red) – entrance via Torrington Square

By tube

Central Line

Tottenham Court Road

Circle Line

Euston Square

Metropolitan Line

Euston Square

Northern Line

Euston
Goode Street
Tottenham Court Road
Warren Street

Hammersmith & City Line

Euston Square

Piccadilly Line

Russell Square

Victoria Line

Euston
Warren Street

By bus

10, 14, 24, 29, 73, 134
and **390** run South along
Gower Street and North
along Tottenham Court Rd

7, 59, 68, X68, 91,
168, 188
run to Russell Square

Other booklets in this series

Booklets are available with details of areas of study across the School of Social Sciences and Philosophy.



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Birkbeck is a world-class research and teaching institution, a vibrant centre of academic excellence and London's only specialist provider of evening higher education.