Programme Specification

1. Awarding body: University of London
2. Teaching Institution: Birkbeck College
3. Programme Title(s): PG Dip Environment and Sustainability with Geographic Information Science
4. Programme Code(s): See PG Dip Environment and Sustainability
5. UCAS code (if applicable): N/A
6. Home Department: GEDS
7. Exit Award(s): PG Cert Environment and Sustainability
8. Duration of Study (number of years): 1 (FT) or 2 (PT)
9. Mode of Study (FT/PT/DL): FT/PT
10. Level of Award (FHEQ): 7
11. Other teaching depts or institution (if applicable): None
12. Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body (PSRB) details (if applicable): None
13. QAA Benchmark Group (if applicable): N/A

14. Programme Rationale & Aims

The PG Dip in Environment and Sustainability with Geographic Information Science aims to provide an advanced-level grounding in sustainable responses to a broad range of environmental issues. It explores the relationship between policy, practice and the ecological environment and the development of effective strategies for addressing the threats and opportunities posed by environmental issues. The programme does this in the context of developing skills in Geographic Information Science (GIS) map-based data analysis techniques.

Compulsory modules will be undertaken in the first year in Environment and Policy; Environmental Science for Environmental Management; Sustainable Business Practice and environmental Reporting and Management Systems. By engaging with academic, professional and popular literature students will gain an informed understanding of the key issues in the two important areas of science and policy. They will be able to assess the effectiveness of different policy approaches and critically evaluate different environmental issues.

In the second year of the programme, students will develop research skills in Geographic Information Science (Introduction to GIS and GIS Data and Databases or Remote Sensing and Environmental GIS or Spatial Analysis and Statistics).

This programme combines modules from two ongoing MSc programmes in Environment and Sustainability (was Business Strategy and the Environment) and Geographic Information Science that run within GEDS. Students on the MSc in Climate Change Management have produced a number of extremely good Geographic Information Science-based dissertations and we expect that the introduction of this new programme will enable this to happen in relation to broader environmental issues as well.
Entry Criteria

A good first degree in a relevant discipline (usually a 2:1 or higher 2:2). Professional qualifications or work experience may be accepted in place of formal academic qualifications, but this is at the discretion of the admissions tutor and will be subject to College approval.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:

Subject Specific:
1. Demonstrate an understanding of central global environmental problems.
2. Assess the effectiveness of different environmental policy approaches.
3. Develop in-depth knowledge in particular specialist areas of environment.
4. Understand and apply Geographic Information Science-based techniques to environmental research questions.

Intellectual:
5. Understand, summarise and discuss research articles relating to both science and social science aspects of the environment.
6. Communicate environmental concepts and issues to academic, professional and lay audiences.
7. Undertake a substantial independent research project.

Practical:
8. Master a range of Geographic Information Science-based research methodologies and data analysis tools.

Personal / Social:
9. Actively take part in discussions with tutors and peers.
10. Plan effectively and organise work schedules.
11. Complete work in accordance with deadlines.
12. Communicate and collaborate effectively with other students.

Learning, teaching and assessment methods

Teaching will take place in lectures, seminars and, for the Geographic Information Science modules, practical sessions of various types. Substantive content will also be delivered through the Moodle Virtual Learning Environment. Student learning, as well as taking place within formal face-to-face sessions, will involve reading and assimilating the considerable literature on this subject and undertaking appropriate practical exercises and engaging with key experts and stakeholders in guest sessions within the programme.
Programme Description

The PG Dip in Environment and Sustainability with Geographic Information Science comprises 6 taught modules, 2 at 30 credits, the others at 15 credits. This is 120 credits, without a dissertation.

Programme Structure

2 year programme part-time, 1 year programme full-time

Year 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Module Code</th>
<th>Module Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>SSGE011S7</td>
<td>Environment and Policy</td>
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<td>SSGE025S7</td>
<td>Environmental Science for Environmental Management</td>
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<td>GGPH033H7</td>
<td>Sustainable Business Practice</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>NEW</td>
<td>Environmental Reporting and Management Systems</td>
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Year 2

<table>
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<td>GGPH035H7</td>
<td>Introduction to Geographic Information Systems</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>SSGE043H7</td>
<td>GIS Data and Databases OR</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SSGE049H7</td>
<td>Remote Sensing and Environmental GIS OR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>SSGE044H7</td>
<td>Spatial Analysis and Statistics</td>
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Regulations

Admissions
This programme adheres to the College Admissions Policy
http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/rules/Admissions%20Policy.pdf/view

Credit Transfer
Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on Accredited Prior Learning
http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/rules/AccreditedPriorLearning.pdf

Programme Regulations
This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme
http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/rules/casregs.pdf

Programme Specific Regulations (if applicable) N/A
Student Support and Guidance

All Birkbeck students have access to a range of student support services, details can be found on our website here: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities

Methods of Enhancing Quality and Standards

The College has rigorous procedures in place for the monitoring and enhancing its educational provision. This includes regular monitoring of programmes drawing on feedback from various sources including external examiner’s reports, student feedback, student achievement and progression data. In addition, departments are reviewed every four to five years through the internal review process that includes external input.

For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website www.bbk.ac.uk/quality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme Director</th>
<th>Dr Becky Briant</th>
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<tr>
<td>Start Date (term/year)</td>
<td>Autumn 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date approved by TQEC</td>
<td>Spring 2013</td>
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<td>Date approved by Academic Board</td>
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