

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College
3	Programme Title(s)	MSc Environment and Sustainability, PG Dip Environment and Sustainability,
4	Programme Code(s)	TMSENSUS_C TMSENSUJ_C (January start) TPDENSUS_C
5	UCAS code (if applicable)	N/A
6	Home Department	Geography
7	Exit Award(s)	PG Cert, PG Dip
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	N/A
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	N/A
13	QAA Benchmark Group	N/A

14	Programme Rationale & Aims
	<p>The MSc in Environment and Sustainability 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.</p> <p>Compulsory modules will be undertaken in the first year in Environment and Policy; Environmental Science for Environmental Management; and Sustainable Business Practice. 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.</p> <p>In the second year of the programme, students will further develop their research skills in the module GEDS Research Methods and choose options to take their own interests further (e.g Environmental Reporting and Management Systems, Energy and Climate Change, Critical Geographies of Nature, Readings in the Environment or other Birkbeck modules) and research for a dissertation to conduct an in-depth study of real environmental challenges.</p>

15	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.

16	Learning Outcomes
	<p><i>On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:</i></p> <p>Subject Specific:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>Intellectual:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Understand, summarise and discuss research articles relating to both science and social science aspects of the environment. 5. Communicate environmental concepts and issues to academic, professional and lay audiences. 6. Undertake a substantial independent research project. Communicate and collaborate effectively with other students. <p>Practical:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Master a range of research methodologies and data analysis tools and apply one or more to their own research project. <p>Personal / Social:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Actively take part in discussions with tutors and peers. 9. Plan effectively and organise work schedules. 10. Complete work in accordance with deadlines. 11. Communicate and collaborate effectively with other students.

17	Learning, teaching and assessment methods
	Teaching will take place in lectures and seminars. 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 engaging with key experts and stakeholders in guest sessions within the programme.

18	Programme Structure
	<p>Description:</p> <p>The MSc in Environment and Sustainability comprises 6 taught modules, 3 at 30 credits, the others at 15 credits. A 60 credit dissertation is also required, making 180 credits in total. The</p>

PGDip in Environment and Sustainability comprises 120 credits of taught modules, without a dissertation. Students can also exit the degree with a PGCert in Environment and Sustainability which comprises 60 credits of taught modules.				
1 year programme full-time, October start				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
7	SSGE011S7	Environment and Policy	30	Compulsory
7	SSGE025S7	Environmental Science for Environmental Management	30	Compulsory
7	SSGE110S7	Sustainable Business Practice	30	Compulsory
7	SSGE083Z7	GEDS Research Methods Training (unaccredited)	0	Compulsory
7	Various	Various (e.g. Environmental Reporting and Management, Energy and Climate Change, Readings in the Environment, Introduction to Geographic Information Systems, GIS Data and Databases, Remote Sensing and Environmental GIS, Spatial Analysis and Statistics, non-GEDS options (CSR, Development Policy))	15	Option
7	Various		15	Option
7	SSCE061D7	Dissertation Environmental MSc	60	Compulsory
2 year programme part-time, October start				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
7	SSGE011S7	Environment and Policy	30	Compulsory
7	SSGE025S7	Environmental Science for Environmental Management	30	Compulsory
7	SSGE110S7	Sustainable Business Practice	30	Compulsory
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status
7	SSGE083Z7	GEDS Research Methods Training (unaccredited)	0	Compulsory
7	Various	Various (e.g. Environmental Reporting and Management, Energy and Climate Change, Readings in the Environment, Introduction to Geographic Information Systems, GIS Data and Databases, Remote Sensing and Environmental GIS, Spatial Analysis and Statistics, non-GEDS options (CSR, Development Policy))	15	Option
7	Various		15	Option
7	SSCE061D7	Dissertation Environmental MSc	60	Compulsory

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
Full-time – 1 year, January start					
7	SSGEO11S7	Environment and Policy	30	Comp	Spring, (T1 for Jan Start)
7	SSGEO25S7	Environmental Science for Environmental Management	30	Comp	Spring (T1)
7	SSGEO83Z7	Research Methods Training	0	Comp	Spring/Summer (T1/T2)
7	Various	Optional Module: (e.g. Climate Change, Programming for Geospatial Science and Visualisation, Living with Climate Change, Surviving Catastrophic Times)	30	Option	Summer (T2) or Autumn (T3)
7	SSGE110S7	Sustainable Business Practice	30	Comp	Autumn (T3)
7	SSCEO61D7	Dissertation Environmental MSc	60	Core	Summer, Autumn (T2, T3)
Part-time – 2 years					
Year 1 – Jan 23 start					
7	SSGEO25S7	Environmental Science for Environmental Management	30	Comp	Spring (T1)
7	Various	Optional Module: Surviving Catastrophic Times	30	Option	Y1 Summer (T2) (Or Yr 2 see below)
7	SSGE110S7	Sustainable Business Practice	30	Comp	Autumn (T3)
Year 2					
7	SSGEO11S7	Environment and Policy	30	Comp	Spring (T1)
7	SSGEO83Z7	Research Methods Training	0	Comp	Spring (T1)
7	SSCEO61D7	Dissertation Environmental MSc	60	Core	Summer and Autumn (T2 & 3)
7	Various	Optional Module: (e.g. Surviving Catastrophic times (summer) or Climate Change, Living with Climate Change, Introduction to Geographic Data Science, Programming for Geospatial Science & Visualisation, Spatial Data Analytics (all Autumn))	30	Option	Y2 Summer (T2) OR Yr 2 Autumn (T3)

Note: students taking the January start route take the same compulsory modules but may have more limited access to options or access to different options than on the October start.

19	Regulations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admissions This programme adheres to the College Admissions Policy: http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/admissions-policy.pdf • Credit Transfer Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on Accredited Prior Learning http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/accreditation-prior-learning.pdf • Programme Regulations This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations • Programme Specific Regulations (or not applicable) N/A
20	Student Attendance Framework – in brief
	<p>The full version of the ‘Student Attendance Framework’ is available http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/rules/Attendance-Framework.pdf .</p> <p>Principle</p> <p>Consistent and regular student attendance in class (or equivalent) promotes and affords student success. Inconsistent and irregular attendance is less likely to result in student success and is consistent with lower marks and degree classifications being achieved and awarded.</p> <p>Attendance expectation</p> <p>Birkbeck, University of London expects you to consistently attend all timetabled sessions, including lectures, seminars, group and individual tutorials, learning support sessions, workshops, laboratories, field trips, inductions and demonstrations.</p> <p>E-Registers</p> <p>All Birkbeck students are issued with student cards. Students are expected to take them to classes and to assessment venues and to present them to a member of staff if requested. This is for the purpose of identifying Birkbeck students.</p>
21	Student Support and Guidance
	<p>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</p>
22	Methods of Enhancing Quality and Standards
	<p>The College has rigorous procedures in place for the monitoring and enhancing its educational provision. This includes regular monitoring of programmes drawing on</p>

<p>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.</p> <p>For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality</p>
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23	Programme Director	Dr Aideen Foley
24	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	Autumn 2013
25	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2013
26	Date approved by Academic Board	Spring 2013
27	Date(s) updated/amended	September 2022 (for Jan 2023 start route)