ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
BSc (Hons)

ARE YOU STIRLING?
WHY STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE?

Environmental Science as a discipline has grown out of increasing concern for the environment and the need for a scientific approach to the study of human impacts on the natural environment.

Today’s environmental scientists are challenged to find solutions to some of the world’s most pressing problems, such as climate change, pollution, loss of biodiversity and the sustainable provision of energy, food, and clean water.

Our course provides the necessary grounding in the science and the technical training needed to investigate these problems and find appropriate management solutions.

COURSE DETAILS

This course will equip you with the analytical, field and laboratory skills to understand the complex interactions between people and the environment. You will also pick up valuable transferrable and employability skills. Research-led teaching ensures you are up-to-date with the latest knowledge. You will learn the core knowledge in years 1 and 2, and be able to select from more specialized modules in years 3 and 4. In year 4 you will embark on an independent research project (your dissertation).

TYPICAL MODULES STUDIED

Landscape Evolution in the first year teaches the geological and geomorphological ‘ground-rules’ for explaining landscape change. This course provides the foundation for more advanced studies of soils, landforms, environmental change and natural hazards and resources.

Geographical Information Systems (GIS) are computer-aided frameworks for managing, analysing and interpreting geographic datasets. We can use GIS to view, question and understand the world around us. This honours-level module introduces students to the fundamentals of GIS and provides training in basic spatial analysis techniques through a series of hands-on practical sessions using industry-standard software. GIS is widely used in academia, government, and non-governmental bodies and, as such, is a must-have skill for any graduate in the environmental sciences.

100% OF STUDENTS WERE SATISFIED WITH THE QUALITY OF THE COURSE

(unistats.direct.gov.uk)

REASONS TO CHOOSE THIS COURSE

1 GLOBAL OUTLOOK

Environmental Science deals with global issues and does not stop at borders. We offer field courses at overseas locations and opportunities to study abroad, for example at the University of Guelph in Canada.

2 FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

Fieldwork is embedded throughout the course and allows you to immerse yourself in different environments to understand how they work.

3 PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

This course is accredited by the Institution of Environmental Sciences and the Committee of Heads of Environmental Sciences.

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FIELDWORK
Fieldwork is integrated throughout the course. Stirling provides an ideal location for studying the environment – the campus has a loch and woodlands set against the backdrop of the Ochil Hills. There is also easy access to landscapes as diverse as the Scottish Highlands, the Forth Estuary and land degraded through past industrial activities.

A residential field class is held in Year 2, and we offer a choice of optional field trips to southern Spain or Iceland in Year 3 to study unfamiliar environments and develop an understanding of how these landscapes have evolved and of the environmental management issues they present (students must pay most of the costs of their travel, accommodation, and subsistence for the field courses).

“The degree is taught with the perfect balance of theory and practical application. The wide range of modules allowed me to focus on the areas which interested me the most and, as the staff members were all experts in their field, I was provided with high quality teaching.”
Raeannon Sinclair
(BSc Hons Environmental Science, 2012-2016)

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
Many graduates directly gain employment in research institutes, environmental consultancies, environmental protection agencies, water authorities and conservation bodies. Others take a route via postgraduate study, for example, in environmental management, education, information technology, remote sensing and waste management or research towards the award of a PhD.

95% OF OUR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE STUDENTS ARE IN EMPLOYMENT OR FURTHER STUDY WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF GRADUATING
(unistats.direct.gov.uk)

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
stir.ac.uk/46
F900

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

YEAR 1 ENTRY – FOUR-YEAR HONOURS
SQA Highers:
AABB – one sitting
AAAB – two sittings
GCE A-levels:
BBB
IB Diploma:
32
BTEC (Level 3):
DDM
Essential subjects:
To include one of Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geography, Geology, Mathematics or Physics.

YEAR 2 ENTRY – THREE-YEAR HONOURS
SQA Adv Highers:
ABB
GCE A-levels:
ABB
IB Diploma:
35
Essential subjects:
To include one of Biology, Environmental Science, Geography or Geology.

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS
Scottish HNC/HND:
Minimum entry: Bs in graded units.
Access courses and other UK/EU and international qualifications are also welcomed.
Advanced entry
Please visit: http://stir.ac.uk/ay

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
General entry requirements apply. Please visit:
http://stir.ac.uk/av

PART TIME, ADVANCED ENTRY AND STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS AVAILABLE
**TYPICAL TIMETABLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>SEMESTER</th>
<th>MODULE 1</th>
<th>MODULE 2</th>
<th>MODULE 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Building Planet Earth</td>
<td>Laboratory Skills</td>
<td>Option Subject</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Landscape Evolution</td>
<td>Field Skills</td>
<td>Option Subject</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Biogeography: An Ecological and Evolutionary Approach</td>
<td>Residential Field Course* or Environmental Science Option</td>
<td>Option Subject</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>The Biosphere</td>
<td>Statistical Techniques</td>
<td>Option Subject</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Environmental Policy and Management</td>
<td>Geographical Information Systems</td>
<td>Environmental Science Option</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Methods and Application in Environmental Sciences</td>
<td>Environmental Science Option</td>
<td>Environmental Science Option</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Individual Research Project (3 modules)</td>
<td>Stream 1: Sustainable Water Management + Option</td>
<td>Stream 2: 2 x Environmental Science Options</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>Stream 1: 1 x Environmental Science Option</td>
<td>Stream 2: Energy &amp; Society</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**COMPULSORY MODULES**

Building Planet Earth; Laboratory Skills; Landscape Evolution; Field Skills; Biogeography; The Biosphere; Statistical Techniques; Environmental Policy and Management; Geographical Information Systems; Methods and Application in Environmental Science; Sustainable Water Management or Energy & Society.

**OPTIONAL MODULES**

Environmental Science Field Course*; Soil Quality and Protection; Geoarchaeology: Soils, sediments, landscape history; Habitat Management and Restoration; Glaciers and Landscape; Plant Ecology; Drainage Basins; Spain Field Course*; Iceland Field Course*; Earth Observation; Environmental Hazards; Population and Community Ecology; Sustainable Water Management; Statistics Using R; Energy and Society. Options may vary.

*Requires student contribution to field course costs.

**CONTACT**

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**ARE YOU STIRLING?**

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY