

BSc (Hons)

Environmental Science

UCAS code F750

Entry requirements	Study mode	Duration
A level: ABB	Full-time	3 years

Apply by: **29 January 2025**

Starts on: **22 September 2025**

About this course

Our Environmental Sciences BSc (Hons) degree focusses on real-world issues such as climate change, pollution, and resource exploitation and will prepare you to play your part in tackling those challenges.

Introduction

Understanding the complex interactions between the physical and biological environment and how humans influence them both is essential if we are to find solutions to the increasing global environmental challenges that face us today.

Our degree is accredited by the Institution of Environmental Sciences and will give you an in-depth understanding of both natural and human-induced environmental problems. All of our modules centre on real-world issues and application including climate change, pollution, and natural hazards.

The key strength of our programme is the unique breadth of staff expertise in the School of Environmental Sciences. This allows you to choose from an extensive range of modules delivered by experts in their field using state-of-the-art equipment and techniques. Your choices are guided by one of five module pathways themes: digital environments, ecology, oceans, society, sustainability, and the environment, and earth and surface processes.

These pathways ensure that our students graduate with the specialist skills and knowledge needed for their future careers, while also having the benefit of a wide-ranging education in Environmental Science.

From your first week to your final year, field classes are an integral part of your learning, giving you a chance to experience the environments that you are learning about and practice using industry-standard sampling and surveying approaches. In addition to making the most of Liverpool's coastal location, you will also have the opportunity to undertake fieldwork in locations such as Snowdonia, Pembrokeshire, and the Peak District as well as options in Portugal.

A number of the School's degree programmes involve laboratory and field work. Fieldwork is carried out in various locations, ranging from inner city to coastal and mountainous environments. We consider applications from prospective disabled students on the same basis as all other students, and reasonable adjustments will be considered to address barriers to access.

What you'll learn

- Small tutor groups (typically six-eight students) through all years
- High levels of field and lab-based teaching within the School of Environmental Sciences and in Europe's most advanced teaching laboratories
- An emphasis on active, problem-based learning (learning by doing)
- Hands-on experience with cutting-edge laboratory technologies
- Opportunities to study abroad throughout your course
- Supervised independent and group project work, including a final year independent research-based dissertation supervised by a dedicated expert in the field.

Accreditation

Our Environment Sciences BSc (Hons) course is accredited by the Institution of Environmental Sciences.

Accreditation in detail

Institute of Environmental Sciences

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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

Year one

Year one is based on five core modules that provide key skills and knowledge across the School of Environmental Sciences in the classroom, online, field and laboratory. These are supported by two optional modules to allow you to begin to explore what interests you most.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>EXPERIMENTS IN PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY (ENVS120)</u>	15
<u>LABORATORY AND FIELD TECHNIQUES FOR ECOLOGISTS (ENVS171)</u>	15
<u>STUDY SKILLS AND GIS (ENVS100)</u>	30
<u>THEORY AND LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS IN EARTH SURFACES PROCESSES (ENVS165)</u>	15
<u>QUANTITATIVE SKILLS FOR ECOLOGY AND MARINE BIOLOGY (ENVS128)</u>	15
Optional modules	Credits
<u>CLIMATE, ATMOSPHERE AND OCEANS (ENVS111)</u>	15
<u>ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION (ENVS157)</u>	15
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMISTRY (ENVS153)</u>	15

Optional modules	Credits
<u>SEDIMENTARY ROCKS AND FOSSILS (ENVS118)</u>	15
<u>LIVING WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE (ENVS119)</u>	15
<u>LIFE IN THE SEAS AND OCEANS (ENVS121)</u>	15
<u>MARINE ECOSYSTEMS: DIVERSITY, PROCESSES AND THREATS (ENVS122)</u>	15
<u>INTRODUCTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND MITIGATION (ENVS189)</u>	15
<u>EARTH MATERIALS (ENVS185)</u>	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Year two

Year two is comprised of three core modules (including a week-long field class), two modules from your chosen pathway, and three optional modules that you can choose from any pathway.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE FIELD CLASS (ENVS285)</u>	15
<u>RESEARCH SKILLS (GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS203)</u>	15
<u>STATISTICS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTISTS (ENVS222)</u>	15

Optional modules	Credits
<u>KEY SKILLS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DATA ANALYSIS (ENVS202)</u>	15
<u>UNDERSTANDING MARINE AND TERRESTRIAL SPATIAL ECOLOGY USING GIS (ENVS255)</u>	15
<u>POPULATION AND COMMUNITY ECOLOGY (LIFE214)</u>	15
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ENVS218)</u>	15
<u>GIS FOR HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS257)</u>	15
<u>CATCHMENT HYDROLOGY (ENVS217)</u>	15
<u>GEOMORPHOLOGY: ICE, SEA AND AIR (ENVS252)</u>	15
<u>CHANGING ENVIRONMENTS (ENVS214)</u>	15
<u>CLIMATOLOGY (ENVS231)</u>	15
<u>MARINE ECOPHYSIOLOGY, ECOLOGY AND EXPLOITATION (ENVS251)</u>	15
<u>MARINE POLLUTION (ENVS232)</u>	15
<u>AN INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY (ENVS223)</u>	15
<u>BIODIVERSITY PRACTICAL SKILLS (LIFE233)</u>	7.5
<u>BIRD ECOLOGY, IDENTIFICATION AND CONSERVATION (LIFE243)</u>	7.5
<u>OCEANOGRAPHY, PLANKTON AND CLIMATE (ENVS245)</u>	15
<u>SOILS, SLOPES AND THE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS238)</u>	15
<u>SEDIMENTARY PROCESSES AND DEPOSITIONAL ENVIRONMENTS (ENVS219)</u>	15

Optional modules	Credits
<u>VOLCANOLOGY AND GEOHAZARDS (ENVS284)</u>	15
<u>EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SCIENCE (ENVS229)</u>	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Year three

Your final year dissertation is the only compulsory module, where you conduct a piece of original research on a topic of your choice. You have the option to take one of our field courses, which recently have included destinations such as the Cairngorms and the Algarve. You will have two core modules from your chosen pathway and up to four optional modules.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>DISSERTATION (GEOGRAPHY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS321)</u>	30
<u>WORK-BASED DISSERTATION (GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS323)</u>	30

Optional modules	Credits
<u>GEOGRAPHIC DATA SCIENCE (ENVS363)</u>	15
<u>SIMULATING ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS (ENVS397)</u>	15
<u>GLACIOLOGY PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE (ENVS330)</u>	15

Optional modules	Credits
<u>NATURAL HAZARDS AND SOCIETY (ENVS319)</u>	15
<u>CONSERVATION BIOLOGY (LIFE326)</u>	15
<u>POLITICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS325)</u>	15
<u>SURVIVING THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS310)</u>	15
<u>OCEAN DYNAMICS (ENVS332)</u>	15
<u>ADVANCED TOPICS IN ECOLOGY (LIFE337)</u>	15
<u>CLIMATE CHANGE – A CRITICAL REVIEW (ENVS389)</u>	15
<u>FLUVIAL ENVIRONMENTS (ENVS372)</u>	15
<u>CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN OCEAN AND CLIMATE SCIENCES (ENVS366)</u>	15
<u>HUMAN-ENVIRONMENTAL INTERACTIONS (ENVS315)</u>	15
<u>CARBON, NUTRIENTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION (ENVS381)</u>	15
<u>GLOBAL CARBON CYCLE (ENVS335)</u>	15
<u>FIELD CLASS (ALGARVE, PORTUGAL) (ENVS380)</u>	30
<u>FIELDWORK: LIVERPOOL & ITS REGION (ENVS365)</u>	15
<u>THE LIVING, EVOLVING EARTH (ENVS320)</u>	15
<u>GEOENERGY (ENVS337)</u>	15
<u>COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS: SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL CHANGE (ENVS376)</u>	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

You will be assigned an academic adviser in each of the three years who will provide pastoral care and help you develop your skills for your chosen career path.

To help you meet the intellectual and practical challenges of studying Environmental Science, our programmes are taught using a student-centred approach, involving a range of learning experiences. These include:

- Small tutor groups (typically six-eight students) through all years
- High levels of field and lab-based teaching within the School of Environmental Sciences and in Europe's most advanced teaching laboratories
- An emphasis on active, problem-based learning (learning by doing)
- Hands-on experience with cutting-edge laboratory technologies
- Supervised independent and group project work, including a final year independent research-based dissertation supervised by a dedicated expert in the field.

How you're assessed

Assessment methods are tailored to the specific needs of each module, and student progression from year to year. A key consideration is that they are designed around the styles of communication, types of problems encountered, and the skills needed, in commercial, research and public sector jobs. Methods include exams, assessed essays, laboratory and computer practicals, online tests, field assignments including field notebooks, poster presentations, research reports and oral presentations. Many assessments involve group work. You will complete a compulsory research project (dissertation) in the final year on a topic of your choice. This is your opportunity to develop skills as an independent researcher, supported on a one-to-one basis by an expert in the field.

Liverpool Hallmarks

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

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Careers and employability

Environmental Science at Liverpool is focused on providing you with the key knowledge and practical skills to be successful within the environmental sector, such as report writing, field and laboratory practical skills, oral presentations, project planning, and coding and modelling skills.

Recent Environmental Science graduates have been employed in roles within the sector such as:

- Conservation management
- Environmental consultancy
- Geotechnical surveying
- Sustainability consultancy.

Other roles outside of our immediate sector have included Accountancy and Education.

As part of your degree the following work experience opportunities are available:

- Work-based dissertation in your final year, where you work with a local business on a project applied to environmental sciences
- Year two semester one: studying abroad with one of our exchange partners across North America
- 'Year in China' option: where you are taught about Chinese language and culture in addition to studying environmental science-related modules at Liverpool's sister university, XJTLU.

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Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year – £9,535

Year in industry fee – £1,905

Year abroad fee – £1,430 (applies to year in China)

International fees

Full-time place, per year – £29,100

Year in industry fee – £1,905

Year abroad fee – £14,550 (applies to year in China)

The tuition fees shown are correct for 2025/26 entry. Please note that the year abroad fee also applies to the year in China.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support. [Learn more about paying for your studies.](#)

Additional costs

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This includes the cost of your dissertation/project, and optional field classes in year three.

Students should expect to cover the following costs.

Year three optional field class:

Year three optional field class:

- Option A: Europe. One-week residential field class (eg to the Algarve). Students will cover the full cost of the field class, including travel, accommodation, food, and the price of the field class (around £800)
- Option B: North America. Two-week residential field class. Students will cover the full cost of the field class, including travel, accommodation, food, and the price of the field class (around £1,300).

Project/dissertation costs:

The School may provide a budget of up to £200 for specific field / lab-based projects. Desk-based projects receive no budget from the School.

[Find out more about additional study costs.](#)

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Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

A levels

ABB including one Science A Level.

You may automatically qualify for reduced entry requirements through our contextual offers scheme. Based on your personal circumstances, you may automatically qualify for up to a two-grade reduction in the entry requirements needed for this course. When you apply, we consider a range of factors – such as where you live – to assess if you're eligible for a grade reduction. You don't have to make an application for a grade reduction – we'll do all the work.

Find out more about [how we make reduced grade offers](#).

If you don't meet the entry requirements, you may be able to complete a foundation year which would allow you to progress to this course.

Available foundation years:

- [Geography BSc \(Hons\) \(4 year route including a foundation year at Carmel College\)](#) BSc (Hons)

T levels

T levels are not currently accepted.

GCSE

4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics

Subject requirements

We are happy to accept the following A levels: Geography, Geology, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Mathematics and Further Mathematics, Environmental Science/Studies/Environmental Technology*, Applied Science (Double Award), Economics, Computer Science.

*Not in combination with each other.

For applicants from England: For science A levels that include the separately graded practical endorsement, a "Pass" is required.

BTEC

BTEC National Extended Diploma: D*DD in a relevant diploma such as Applied Science (Forensic Science is not accepted)

BTEC National Diploma: DD plus grade B in one A level (to include an acceptable science subject)

BTEC National Extended Certificate: Distinction plus BB in two A levels (to include an acceptable science subject)

International Baccalaureate

33 points, with no score less than 4 including 1 Science at Higher Level.

Irish Leaving Certificate

H1, H2, H2, H3, H3, including H2 or above in one science

Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher

Not accepted without Advanced Highers at grades ABB, including one science subject.

Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced

Welsh Baccalaureate accepted at grade B alongside A level grades AB (including one science subject)

Access

45 Level 3 credits in graded units, including 30 at Distinction and a further 15 with at least Merit. 15 Distinctions are required in one science subject.

International qualifications

Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.

If you hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent, but don't meet our entry requirements, you could be eligible for a Pre-Master's course. This is offered on campus at the [University of Liverpool International College](#), in partnership with Kaplan International Pathways. It's a specialist preparation course for postgraduate study, and when you pass the Pre-Master's at the required level

with good attendance, you're guaranteed entry to a University of Liverpool master's degree.

English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a [majority English speaking country](#).

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 5.5

TOEFL iBT

88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 17, writing 17, reading 17 and speaking 19. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

TOEFL Paper

Grade 6 at Standard Level or grade 5 at Higher Level

Duolingo English Test

115 overall, with speaking, reading and writing not less than 105, and listening not below 100

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 60

Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0500

Grade C overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking and listening. Speaking and listening must be separately endorsed on the certificate.

Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0990

Grade 4 overall, with Merit in speaking and listening

Cambridge IGCSE Second Language English 0510/0511

0510: Grade B overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking. Speaking must be separately endorsed on the certificate. 0511: Grade B overall.

Cambridge IGCSE Second Language English 0993/0991

0993: Grade 6 overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking. Speaking must be separately endorsed on the certificate. 0991: Grade 6 overall.

Cambridge ESOL Level 2/3 Advanced

176 overall, with no paper below 162

LanguageCert

Grade 4 at Standard Level or grade 4 at Higher Level

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or [the equivalent score in selected other English language tests](#), to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5	6 weeks	On campus
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.5	10 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	12 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no component below 4.5	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no component below 4.5	30 weeks	On campus
4.5 overall, with no more than one component below 4.5, and no component below 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

If you've completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to [Pre-sessional English entry requirements](#) for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 5.5, for further details.

Alternative entry requirements

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, [contact us](#) for advice
- [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.

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