UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

Courses may close earlier than the advertised application deadline if the course is full.
Browse more courses for 2026 entry

BSc (Hons)

Environmental Science

UCAS code F750

Entry requirements	Study mode	Duration	
A level: ABB	Full-time	3 years	Apply by: **30 June 2026** Starts on: **28 September 2026**

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
- 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

Back to top

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
EXPERIMENTS IN PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY (ENVS120)	15
LABORATORY AND FIELD TECHNIQUES FOR ECOLOGISTS (ENVS171)	15
STUDY SKILLS AND GIS (ENVS100)	30
THEORY AND LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS IN EARTH SURFACES PROCESSES (ENVS165)	15
QUANTITATIVE SKILLS FOR ECOLOGY AND MARINE BIOLOGY (ENVS128)	15

Optional modules	Credits
CLIMATE, ATMOSPHERE AND OCEANS (ENVS111)	15
ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION (ENVS157)	15

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

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change. As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we are currently reviewing all of our programmes. This may include refining study pathways, strengthening links with employers, integrating generative AI, developing students' research skills, and enhancing alignment with our research strengths. The course content currently shown on this page reflects the programme as it is running in September 2026. This page will be updated for students beginning in September 2027 by 1 September 2026 at the latest.

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
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE FIELD CLASS (ENVS285)	15

Compulsory modules	Credits
RESEARCH SKILLS AND EMPLOYABILITY (ENVS203)	15
STATISTICS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTISTS (ENVS222)	15

Optional modules	Credits
KEY SKILLS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DATA ANALYSIS (ENVS202)	15
UNDERSTANDING MARINE AND TERRESTRIAL SPATIAL ECOLOGY USING GIS (ENVS255)	15
PLANNING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ENVS218)	15
GIS FOR HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS257)	15
CATCHMENT HYDROLOGY (ENVS217)	15
GEOMORPHOLOGY: ICE, SEA AND AIR (ENVS252)	15
CHANGING ENVIRONMENTS (ENVS214)	15
CLIMATOLOGY (ENVS231)	15
MARINE ECOPHYSIOLOGY, ECOLOGY AND EXPLOITATION (ENVS251)	15
AN INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY (ENVS223)	15
OCEANOGRAPHY, PLANKTON AND CLIMATE (ENVS245)	15
SOILS, SLOPES AND THE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS238)	15

Optional modules	Credits
SEDIMENTARY PROCESSES AND DEPOSITIONAL ENVIRONMENTS (ENVS219)	15
VOLCANOLOGY AND GEOHAZARDS (ENVS284)	15
EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SCIENCE (ENVS229)	15
ANIMAL ECOPHYSIOLOGY (BIOS222)	15
ADVANCED PRACTICAL SKILLS IN EVOLUTION, ECOLOGY, AND BEHAVIOUR (BIOS208)	15
MARINE POLLUTION (ENVS232)	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change. As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we are currently reviewing all of our programmes. This may include refining study pathways, strengthening links with employers, integrating generative AI, developing students' research skills, and enhancing alignment with our research strengths. The course content currently shown on this page reflects the programme as it is running in September 2026. This page will be updated for students beginning in September 2027 by 1 September 2026 at the latest.

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 up to two core modules from your chosen pathway and up to five optional modules.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
DISSERTATION (GEOGRAPHY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS321)	30

Optional modules	Credits
GEOGRAPHIC DATA SCIENCE (ENVS363)	15
MODELLING ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS (ENVS397)	15
GLACIOLOGY PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE (ENVS330)	15
NATURAL HAZARDS AND SOCIETY (ENVS319)	15
POLITICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS325)	15
SURVIVING THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS310)	15
OCEAN DYNAMICS (ENVS332)	15
CLIMATE CHANGE - A CRITICAL REVIEW (ENVS389)	15
FLUVIAL ENVIRONMENTS (ENVS372)	15
HUMAN-ENVIRONMENTAL INTERACTIONS (ENVS315)	15
CARBON, NUTRIENTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION (ENVS381)	15
OCEAN CARBON AND CLIMATE (ENVS335)	15
FIELD CLASS (ALGARVE, PORTUGAL) (ENVS380)	30
FIELDWORK: LIVERPOOL & ITS REGION (ENVS365)	15

Optional modules	Credits
THE LIVING, EVOLVING EARTH (ENVS320)	15
GEOENERGY (ENVS337)	15
COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS: SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL CHANGE (ENVS376)	15
CONSERVING THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS361)	15
ECOLOGY FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE (BIOS325)	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change. As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we are currently reviewing all of our programmes. This may include refining study pathways, strengthening links with employers, integrating generative AI, developing students' research skills, and enhancing alignment with our research strengths. The course content currently shown on this page reflects the programme as it is running in September 2026. This page will be updated for students beginning in September 2027 by 1 September 2026 at the latest.

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 Learning Framework

At Liverpool, we take a distinctive approach to education through the Liverpool Learning Framework. This means teaching that is engaging, inclusive and designed to help you succeed during your studies and beyond.

You'll develop specialist subject knowledge alongside the skills employers value most, including:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three Liverpool Hallmarks:

- Research-connected teaching - learning informed by the latest ideas and discoveries
- Active learning - taking part, applying knowledge and learning by doing
- Authentic assessment - assessments designed around real-world tasks and challenges

We also embed key priorities across our curriculum, including AI literacy, employability, and sustainability, helping you prepare for the future and make a positive impact in the world.

We're committed to creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive.

Back to top

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.

Back to top

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 - £9,790
Year in industry fee - £1,955
Year abroad fee - £1,465 (applies to year in China)

International fees

Full-time place, per year - £32,000
Year in industry fee - £1,955
Year abroad fee - £16,000 (applies to year in China)

The fees shown are for the academic year 2026/27. Please be advised that tuition fees may increase each year for both UK and international students. For UK students, this will be subject to the government's regulated fee limits.

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 could include expenses such as field clothing and sustenance (food and drinks) during fieldwork.

Find out more about the additional study costs that may apply to this course.

Back to top

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

Accepted science subjects:
Applied ICT
Biology (and Human Biology)
Chemistry
Computer Science
Economics
Electronics

Environmental Science
Further Mathematics
Geography
Geology
ICT
Life and Health Sciences
Mathematics
Psychology
Physics
Statistics.

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

32 points overall with no score less than 4 and including 5 in one HL science subject, or pass the IB Diploma plus 6,5,5 in three HL subjects including one HL science subject.

Irish Leaving Certificate

H1, H2, 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

B in the Welsh Baccalaureate, plus AB at A level (including one science subject).

Access

Pass Access to HE Diploma in a relevant subject with 45 Level 3 credits, with 33 at Distinction (including 15 credits in one science subject) and 12 at Merit.

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.

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.

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

If you took a TOEFL test on or before 20 January 2026, you'll need 88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 17, writing 17, reading 17 and speaking 19. If you took a TOEFL test from 21 January 2026 onwards, when a new scoring system was introduced, you'll need 4.5 overall, with 4 or above in all components. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

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

International Baccalaureate English A: Literature or Language & Literature

Grade 4 at Standard Level or grade 4 at Higher Level

International Baccalaureate English B

Grade 6 at Standard Level or grade 5 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 or online
5.5 overall, with no more than one component at 5.0	10 weeks	On campus or online

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.0	12 weeks	Online
5.0 overall, with no component below 5.0	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 at 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.

Back to top