



MSc

Environmental Sciences

Study mode

Full-time
Part-time

Duration

12 months
24 months

Apply by: **11 September 2026**

Starts on: **28 September 2026**

Join us at our Postgraduate Open Events

Meet us on campus or online in March 2026 to find out more about master's degrees and research opportunities at Liverpool.

[Register now](#)

About this course

You will develop a high-level understanding of the physical environment and how society interacts with it, building on what you learned during your undergraduate degree. This master's programme will help you improve your critical analysis and team working skills and your written and oral presentation skills.

Introduction

You'll develop a high-level understanding of the physical environment and how society interacts with it, building on what you learned during your undergraduate degree. This master's programme will help you improve your critical analysis and team working skills and your written and oral presentation skills. This programme can be studied full-time or part-time

You'll have the flexibility to design your own postgraduate degree by drawing on the expertise of many experts in the School of Environmental Sciences.

With optional modules, you can choose to focus on areas like:

- Understanding how the environment has changed over time and how to measure it
- Studying the latest methods of monitoring things like air pollution and sea level rise
- Learning about conservation biology and how to apply it
- Gaining skills in Geographical Information Science with hands-on training from our Data Science Lab

- Examining the connection between the environment, politics, and business.

To earn your MSc qualification you will work on a dissertation based on your research project or placement with an organisation.

What you'll learn

- The reciprocal relationship between the environment and anthropogenic activities
- An overview of the processes that govern the physical environment (past, present and future)
- Independent thinking, critical insights, leadership, team work and a sound understanding of environmental issues (from global to local)
- How to acquire knowledge of regulations and policies from local government to international level
- Acquiring data through field work, laboratory work, literature searches and analysis to assess environmental conditions in the past and present.

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Course content

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

Semester one

In Semester one, you'll learn lab techniques, environmental history and field examples of sedimentary deposits. You'll also choose three optional modules where you can explore how geographical information science can be used to create digital representations of the world; how to influence policy on sustainability and the environment; or how the evolution and response of marine environments relates to climate change.

Please see below for semester one modules. Click on the next tab for semester two modules.

If you've taken ENVS325, ENVS329, or ENVS376 as part of a previous degree at the University of Liverpool, you can't take ENVS525, ENVS529, or ENVS576.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>FIELD SKILLS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (ENVS425)</u>	15
Optional modules	
<u>RESEARCH IN ANTHROPOCENE ENVIRONMENTS (ENVS485)</u>	15
<u>COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS: SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL CHANGE (ENVS576)</u>	15
<u>QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES (ENVS433)</u>	15
<u>POLITICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS525)</u>	15

Optional modules	Credits
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF POLICIES, PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS (ENVS529)</u>	15
<u>APPLIED GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE (ENVS609)</u>	15
<u>CONSERVING THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS361)</u>	15

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

Semester two

Semester two's compulsory module is all about research: how to generate research ideas, plan a research project and create your proposal. You'll develop important research design skills, as well as time management and independent thinking.

Through your choice of three optional modules, you could get the opportunity to dig into large climate data sets from ocean, atmosphere and paleoclimate records; how environmental issues intersect with businesses; or the connections between ecological theory and management of marine communities and ecosystems.

If you've taken ENVS360 as part of a previous degree at the University of Liverpool, you can't take ENVS560.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>PROJECT DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT (ENVS484)</u>	15

Optional modules	Credits
<u>CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT (ENVS423)</u>	15
<u>INTRODUCTION TO QUATERNARY MICROPALAEONTOLOGY (ENVS542)</u>	15
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT (ENVS560)</u>	15
<u>MONITORING URBAN AIR POLLUTION (ENVS666)</u>	15
<u>BUSINESS AND THE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS470)</u>	15
<u>ANALYSING CLIMATE PROCESSES AND VARIABILITY (ENVS475)</u>	15

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

Final project

In this semester, you'll focus solely on your dissertation, using the skills and knowledge you have built over the previous semesters to deliver a dissertation that demonstrates the ability to describe and interpret findings in light to the wider knowledge base and academic literature.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>DISSERTATION – ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES (ENVS490)</u>	60

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

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

You'll get to experience a diverse range of learning methods, from engaging lectures to hands-on practical classes, fieldwork, workshops, self-study, and even supervised projects.

To kick off your first semester, you'll join us for a week-long residential field class in the UK, where you'll get to put your skills into practice. Throughout both semesters, you'll also have access to laboratory and computer practicals, seminars, and workshops, tailored to your specific module choices.

Not only will you deepen your understanding of environmental issues, from a global to local perspective, but you'll also develop key skills like study skills, presentation skills, data handling, analysis skills, and group work. This combination of modules is carefully designed to foster independent thinking, critical insight, leadership, teamwork, and much more.

How you're assessed

You'll be assessed through a variety of methods, tailored to the modules you choose. This might include exams, essays, practicals, field assignments, group work, reports, oral presentations, and dissertations.

Some modules will be fully assessed through practical reports, and when possible, you'll get to demonstrate your skills in real-world situations, like writing consultancy reports, academic posters, abstracts, and presentations. Plus, for your dissertation, you'll have the option of writing an academic paper or scientific/consultancy report.

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

There are a wide range of career options for you in the field of Environmental Science.

Previous graduates of the this programmes have gone on to work in positions ranging from Environmental Scientist at CSA Group to Environmental and Sustainability Coordinator at Inghams Group Limited.

You can influence policy through further research at PhD or post-doctoral level or even get hands on with roles such as:

- Policy Officer
- Clean Water Scientist
- Technologist Environmental Advisor
- Environmental Risk Assessor
- Environmental Consultant
- Waste Strategy Consultant.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

Career planning

From education to employment

Networking events

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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 – £14,000

Part-time place, per year – £7,000

International fees

Full-time place, per year – £30,000

Part-time place, per year – £15,000

Tuition fees are for the academic year 2026/27.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can pay your tuition fees in instalments.
- All or part of your tuition fees can be funded by external sponsorship.
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to pay a tuition fee deposit.

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,167 to help with course fees and living costs. [Learn more about paying for your studies](#).

Additional costs

Field trip costs which include, travel, accommodation and the majority of subsistence costs as well as all meals are covered by school through tuition fees.

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

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Entry requirements

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

Postgraduate entry requirements

We accept a 2:2 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution. This degree should be in a relevant subject.

Non-graduates with very extensive professional experience and/or other prior qualifications may also be considered.

International qualifications

[Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.](#)

Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our entry requirements. Completing your Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the [University of Liverpool International College](#), means you're guaranteed a place on your chosen course.

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 6.0

TOEFL iBT

If you took a TOEFL test on or before 20 January 2026, you'll need 88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. 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

125 overall, with writing not less than 125, speaking and reading not less than 115, and listening not below 110. For academic year 2025/26 only, we will also accept the production, literacy, comprehension and conversation score set: 120 overall, with no component below 105.

Pearson PTE Academic

61 with minimum scores of 59 in each component

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 65

PSI Skills for English

B2 Pass with Merit in all bands

INDIA Standard XII

National Curriculum (CBSE/ISC) - 75% and above in English. Accepted State Boards - 80% and above in English.

WAEC

C6 or above

Pre-session 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 writing at 6.0 and no component below 5.5	6 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with writing at 5.5 and no component below 5.0	10 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with no more than one component at 5.0	12 weeks	Online
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no more than one component at 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 6.0, for further details.

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