

MSc

Sustainable Business

Study mode

Full-time

Duration

12 months

Apply by: **11 September 2026**Starts on: **28 September 2026**

About this course

Discover how successful management of sustainability and business have the potential to transform organisations and society alike.

Introduction

This course provides an interdisciplinary perspective on sustainability and the factors necessary to effectively and responsibly shape business strategy and practice to benefit today's globally connected organisations, and society.

You will gain a profound understanding of the opportunities, challenges and the latest thinking in how integrating sustainability into discussions of business and management can create new market opportunities, more positive social outcomes, and transition business practices toward a more positive perspective on possible future achievement and contribution.

By graduating from this course, you will be equipped to positively impact global challenges such as climate change, resource depletion, and social inequality from within business and policy organisations.

Who is this course for?

This course is open to graduates from any discipline, or those with extensive professional experience, seeking to develop their understanding of the opportunities and challenges presented by sustainable business both as an engaging area of study and to improve their employment prospects.

What you'll learn

- Enterprise, Corporate Governance, and Sustainability
 - Environmental and Sustainability Policy
 - Responsible Marketing
 - Measuring and Disclosing Sustainability
 - Sustainable Supply Chain Management
 - Responsible Leadership
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Accreditation

The University of Liverpool Management School (ULMS) is one of an elite group of institutions worldwide to hold the gold standard 'triple-crown' accreditation from AACSB, AMBA and EQUIS.'

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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 the first semester, you will gain a strong foundation in the key concepts, theories, and debates surrounding sustainability and business. Modules are designed to allow you to understand the broader landscape of global sustainability challenges and the role of businesses in addressing these issues.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
ENTERPRISE, CORPORATE GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY (ULMS623)	20
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY (ULMS624)	20
RESPONSIBLE MARKETING (ULMS888)	20

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

Semester two

The second semester shifts the focus to the individual, allowing you to develop your personal approach to sustainable business and responsible leadership. Modules in this semester are designed to enhance applied skills and personal competencies, encouraging you to apply your knowledge to real-world scenarios.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
MEASURING AND DISCLOSING SUSTAINABILITY (ULMS625)	20
RESPONSIBLE LEADERSHIP (ULMS627)	20
SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT NETWORKS (EBUS712)	20

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

Final project

In the third semester, you enter the “capstone” phase of your studies, and have three options:

1. An applied sustainability project working with a real-world organisation
2. An industry-applied research project where secondary data from academic research is used to propose actionable solutions to sustainability challenges
3. A traditional dissertation, where you can conduct a more academic orientated study around a case, organisation or context of your choosing.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
MSC PROJECT (EBUS621)	60
BUSINESS SIMULATION AND ANALYSIS (EBUS635)	60
DISSERTATION (ULMS790)	60

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

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

This course is delivered through a combination of lectures, seminars, workshops, case studies, tutorials, and project work.

Lectures serve as the primary method of imparting core subject knowledge, complemented by substantial case study and practical work to demonstrate real-world application of theoretical principles. The programme's practical aspects include both team-based and individual exercises.

Designed to accommodate students with diverse industrial and business experiences, and to accommodate prior learning backgrounds from any subject, this interdisciplinary programme is built around six 20-credit modules, and one final 60-credit module.

Three modules are taught in each of the first two semesters, punctuated by four, week-long enhancement weeks delivered in weeks one and six of each semester. The enhancement weeks integrate industry exposure, alumni and networking events, employability skills development opportunities, and programme-specific events (guest talks, hackathons, consultancy challenges).

At the end of semester two, students can select from three 60-credit modules and undertake an applied project or research dissertation.

Teaching time will account for an average of 10 hours per week, and you should anticipate an additional 20 hours of self-directed study and group work.

How you're assessed

In semesters one and two, you will take modules totalling 120 credits. The Business Simulation and Analysis module, MSc Project or Dissertation option completed during the summer period is worth 60 credits and students will be supported by their academic supervisor.

Students are required to complete 180 credits to achieve a full MSc.

Subject to meeting specific criteria outlined by the University, students will graduate with a Pass, Merit or Distinction.

Assessment tasks are varied, and some may be designed specifically to meet the learning outcomes of a particular programme of study, including through presentations, digital business analyses and traditional timed exams. The weighting of individual components will vary from one module to another.

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

The MSc in Sustainable Business will provide you with a competitive edge in the job market by demonstrating a commitment to sustainability, the ability to align strategies with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and be equipped to positively impact global challenges such as climate change, resource depletion, and social inequality from within business and policy organisations.

From the moment you start your master's programme, you'll have access to a specialist, in-house careers team and one-to-one careers guidance, workshops, seminars and employability initiatives as such as our wide-ranging and rewarding Enhancement Week events and benefit from the School's close ties with local, national and international organisations.

As well as developing a range of subject-specific and technical skills in sustainability and business, students will also gain more general skills to enhance their employability. These include:

- Knowledge and awareness of business organisations
- Numerical and quantitative skills
- Problem-solving and analytical skills
- Oral and written communication skills
- The ability to construct an argument as a basis for building a commercial case and for developing negotiation skills
- Knowledge of global business issues and business language skills.

Graduates from this course will be equipped to meet the growing demand from diverse industries for professionals who can integrate sustainable practices into business operations.

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 – £15,000

International fees

Full-time place, per year – £30,000

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

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 buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

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 can be in any subject discipline. 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.

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 6.0

Hong Kong use of English AS level

C

Cambridge Proficiency

C

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.

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-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 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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