

Masters in Sustainable Development also Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma

Programme Requirements

Postgraduate Certificate:

30 credits: SD5001 or SD5003

30 credits: 5000-level modules chosen in consultation with the Programme Director and any other School involved. Permission may occasionally also be given to take some or all of these credits at 3000 or 4000 level.

Postgraduate Diploma: *(this is also the Taught element of the MSc programme):*

75 credits: SD5001, SD5003, SS5101

45 credits: 5000-level modules chosen in consultation with the Programme Director and any other School involved. Permission may occasionally also be given to take some or all of these credits at 3000 or 4000 level.

MSc:

120 credits, as for the Postgraduate Diploma (taught element), plus SD5099 (60-credit Dissertation module)

MRes:

Taught Element:

60 credits: SD5001 and SD5003

60 credits from: GG5002, GG5003, SD5023, SS5101 - SS5104. Permission may occasionally also be given to take some or all of these credits at 3000 or 4000 level.

120 credits from the MRes Taught Element plus SD5099 (60-credit Dissertation module)

Semester 1 modules:

SD5001 Interrogating Sustainable Development				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	3.00 pm - 4.00 pm Tue, 9.00 am - 10:00 am Wed, 9.00 am -10:00 am Fri			
<p>This module provides an introduction to sustainable development. First, it introduces the history and application of the concept of sustainable development. Second, there is a series of disciplinary-based lectures that describe the nature and functioning of the social, political, economic and physical , and systems that combine to create the world that we can observe around us. Specific material will also be presented that links these various aspects together and explores their interactions.</p> <p>In addition, this module will have a short induction component to it during the pre-sessional week of term which has a three-fold purpose: (i) to introduce students to the shape of the degree program and St Andrews, (ii) allow students to explore their existing skill base and identify what skills require further work and (iii) provide a context (in the form of a field trip) within which to start an investigation of what inter-disciplinarity entails. This will entail two one-day seminars.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for the Postgraduate Diploma, MSc and MRes Sustainable Development and MSc Sustainable Energy Postgraduate Programmes.			
Required for:	SD5023			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 3 x 1-hour seminar			
Assessment pattern:	2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr D McCauley			

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SS5101 Being a Social Scientist				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	3.00 - 5.00 pm Fri			
<p>Through a series of interactive seminars this two-part module explores the fundamental skills required by all social scientists. In part one, the module will focus on how to design and produce a research dissertation. Assessment will be in the form of a critical essay that analyses the research design of papers from your disciplinary field. In part two, issues of professional development (e.g. ethics, careers, grant writing) will be addressed. Assessment will be in the form of a class test in which you will review and comment on two research proposals.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MRes in Human Geography Compulsory for MRes and MSc in Sustainable Development and MSc in Sustainable Energy Compulsory for various other MRes Programmes			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr T Stojanovic			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	Dr S McGarrol and Dr M Kesby			

SS5104 Quantitative Research in Social Science				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	1
Planned timetable:	1.00 - 5.00 pm Mon			
<p>This module provides a user-friendly introduction to the fundamental concepts of quantitative analysis. It will cover underlying principles, terminology, research design, sampling strategies, uncertainty and missing data, computerised data management and analysis and univariate and multivariate approaches to data analysis. The assessment will be in the form of weekly practical tasks completed in class and/or independently.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MSc Psychology (Conversion). Compulsory for MRes in Human Geography. Compulsory for various other MRes Programmes. Optional for the MRes in Psychology.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 3-hour combined lecture and practical session.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr T Stojanovic			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	TBC			

Semester 2 modules:

SD5003 Master Class in Sustainable Development				
SCOTCAT Credits:	30	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	2.00 pm - 5.00 pm Tue			
<p>This module has four elements: (i) a series of presentations by academic experts in their chosen field of sustainable development along with structured reflection and further exploration of these various topic areas, (ii) the development and presentation (in groups) of case studies of sustainable development problems and/or exemplars of excellence in sustainable development, and (iii) two field trips to examine examples of sustainable development in practice, (iv) the completion of a master class review essay in a specialised area of sustainable development. This module is designed to provide you with an ability to critically reflect on the potential and limitations of sustainable development.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for the Postgraduate Diploma, MSc and MRes Sustainable Development and MSc Sustainable Energy Postgraduate Programmes.			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 3-hour seminar weekly plus field trips			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr R Streeter			

SD5023 Economics for the Environment				
SCOTCAT Credits:	20	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm Thu			
<p>This module introduces students to the contributions that environmental economics can make to helping us understand and manage a wide range of environmental problems. We also study the insights which economics provides on the relationship between economic growth and environmental quality, and the measurement of sustainability. No prior knowledge of economics is presumed, and a course textbook is available which is co-written by one of the course lecturers.</p>				
Programme module type:	Optional for the Postgraduate Diploma, MSc and MRes Sustainable Development and MSc Sustainable Energy Postgraduate Programmes.			
Pre-requisite(s):	SD5001			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 2-hour seminar weekly plus field trips			
Assessment pattern:	2-hour Written Examination = 50%, Coursework = 50%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof N Hanley			

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GG5002 Being a Human Geographer 2 - Research Design				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
This is an independent study module linked to the research interests of the student. After an introductory lecture, students discuss possible topics with a member of staff, who will agree the topic and supervise the development of a research proposal.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Human Geography Postgraduate Taught Programme. Optional for Sustainable Development Postgraduate Taught Programme.			
Pre-requisite(s):	SS5101, GG5001			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 tutorial and occasional lectures and seminars.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof A M Findlay			

GG5003 Advanced Geographical Research Methods				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	To be arranged.			
Advanced Geographical Research Methods is a compulsory core module for the MRes in Human Geography. It is largely project-based and allows students to specialise in a research area using a research method or technique that most interests them. After an introductory lecture, students discuss possible research methods/techniques with a member of staff, who in discussion with the student will identify a small project designed to operationalise a piece of research using a particular method or technique. The project supervisor will provide the necessary training and guidance for the student to undertake the project. The module is assessed by two pieces of work: (a) a presentation to staff and other post-graduate students in the human geography internal seminar series; (b) a 3,500 word report, which presents preliminary research findings but mainly focusses on providing a reflective and critical account of the methods and techniques used.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for Human Geography Postgraduate Taught Programme. Optional for Sustainable Development Postgraduate Taught Programme.			
Co-requisite(s):	SS5103 and SS5104			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 hour supervision weekly and 1 lecture and 1 seminar over the semester.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Prof A M Findlay			

SS5102 Philosophy and Methodology of the Social Sciences				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	3.00 - 5.00 pm Wed			
This seminar based module will introduce you to the basic theoretical approaches in the social sciences, encourage you to make connections between the methodological and epistemological issues involved in conducting social scientific research, and inspire you to reflect critically your own experience. The module will cover modern philosophy's historical evolution, positivism, feminism, critical theory and post-structuralism among other topics. Assessment will involve a one short review and one longer essay.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for various MRes Programmes			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr T Stojanovic			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	TBC			

SS5103 Qualitative Methods in Social Research				
SCOTCAT Credits:	15	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	2
Planned timetable:	10.00 am - 12.00 Tuesday			
This seminar-based module offers both a theoretical and practical introduction to the collection, analysis and writing of qualitative social science research. Among other things, the module will cover positionality/ethics, archives, participant observation, participatory approaches, semi-structured interviewing and the use of NVIVO/computer aided qualitative data analysis. Assessment will involve a short reflection on field experience and a longer critical essay on a chosen aspect of qualitative research.				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MRes in Human Geography Compulsory for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Energy Postgraduate Programmes. Compulsory for various other MRes Programmes			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 2-hour seminar.			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr T Stojanovic			
Lecturer(s)/Tutor(s):	Dr K McKee and various others			

Compulsory module for MSc or MRes - Whole Year:

SD5099 Dissertation in Sustainable Development				
SCOTCAT Credits:	60	SCQF Level 11	Semester:	Whole Year
Planned timetable:	12.00 noon - 1.00 pm Tue			
<p>This module creates the context within which students are able to investigate a substantive sustainable development topic in considerable depth. It is the capstone module of the Masters degree in sustainable development. The dissertation is an academic evaluation and exploration of a key debate in sustainable development. Its format is an empirically or theoretically driven essay with an upper limit of 15,000 words. The selection of the topic is negotiated between the student and relevant potential supervisors.</p>				
Programme module type:	Compulsory for MRes or MSc Sustainable Development			
Learning and teaching methods and delivery:	Weekly contact: 1 x 1-hour seminar			
Assessment pattern:	Coursework (Dissertation) = 100%			
Module Co-ordinator:	Dr A Davies			