

Sustainable Development

Important Degree Information:

B.Sc./M.A. Honours

The general requirements are 480 credits over a period of normally 4 years (and not more than 5 years) or part-time equivalent; the final two years being an approved Honours programme of 240 credits, of which 90 credits are at 4000 level and at least a further 120 credits at 3000 and/or 4000 levels. Refer to the appropriate Faculty regulations for lists of subjects recognised as qualifying towards either a B.Sc. or M.A. degree.

B.Sc./M.A. Honours with Integrated Year Abroad

The general requirements are 540 credits over a period of normally 5 years (and not more than 6 years) or part-time equivalent; the final three years being an approved Honours programme of 300 credits, of which 60 credits are gained during the integrated year abroad, 90 credits are at 4000 level and at least a further 120 credits at 3000 and/or 4000 levels. Refer to the appropriate Faculty regulations for lists of subjects recognised as qualifying towards either a B.Sc. or M.A. degree.

Other Information: In the case of students who spend part of the Honours programme abroad on a recognised Exchange Scheme, the Programme Requirements will be amended to take into account courses taken while abroad.

Degree Programme:	Programme Requirements at:
(B.Sc. Honours or M.A. Honours): Sustainable Development	<p>Single Honours Sustainable Development:</p> <p>Level 1: 20 credits comprising passes in SD1002; <i>plus</i> 100 credits from other 1000 modules appropriate to chosen B.Sc./M.A. path.</p> <p>Level 2: 60 credits comprising passes at 11 or better in SD2001 and SD2002; <i>plus</i> 60 credits from two or more other modules, these normally being from a partner discipline appropriate to the chosen B.Sc./M.A. path, and in modules suitable to allow the further study of that subject at Honours level. Entry to Honours with passes at 11 or better in SD2001 or SD2002 and only one other suitable 2000 level module may be permitted at the discretion of the Head of School.</p> <p>Level 3 & Level 4: 120 credits comprising passes in SD3001, SD3002, SD4001 and SD4002; <i>plus</i> 120 additional 3000 and 4000 level credits appropriate to chosen B.Sc./M.A. pathway. Of the 240 credits required for an Honours degree, 90 credits must be at 4000 level and there must be no more than 30 credits at sub-honours level.</p>

Alongside the core SD modules students will normally select modules mainly from one other discipline area. For example, for a B.Sc. Single Honours Degree, modules will typically be selected from partner disciplines such as geography and /or biology and/or chemistry and/or maths & statistics. For an M.A. Single Honours Degree, modules will typically be selected from management and/or philosophy and/or economics and/or modern history and/or international relations and/or social anthropology. While many students will identify a principal partner discipline to accompany SD, it is possible for a student to select modules from more than one other disciplinary area to develop their sustainable development pathway so long as their overall selection conforms with the regulations laid down for M.A./B.Sc Honours degrees, their choice meets with the approval of the Head of Schools in question, and appropriate prerequisites for their selected modules are in place.

Sustainable Development (SD) Modules

SD1002 Sustainability: ensuring our common future

Credits: 20 Semester: 2

Description: Sustainability and sustainable development have been described as ‘the green narratives of our time’. But what do these much-used terms actually mean? Can they provide frameworks for solving real problems, or are they mere rhetoric? This module explores the diverse interpretations and critiques of sustainability, and discusses its application at local, national and global levels. It uses a wide range of case studies to illustrate sustainable solutions to pressing global issues (e.g. water resources; biodiversity; transport; energy). The module is collaboratively taught by staff from right across the University (Geography & Geosciences, Economics, International Relations, Biology, Chemistry, Divinity, History), reflecting the great breadth and relevance of sustainability concepts in today’s world.

Class Hour: 9.00 am Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday.

Teaching: Four lectures each week, two tutorials

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 2 Hour Examination = 100%

SD2001 Sustainable Development: Ecological and Environmental Aspects

Credits: 30 Semester: 1

Prerequisites: normally SD1002

Description: This module takes students through a range of ecological and environmental issues associated with sustainable development. This interdisciplinary module is taught collaboratively by staff from the Schools of Biology, Chemistry, Geography & Geosciences and Mathematics & Statistics. The module explores five main themes: ecosystem functions and services (biodiversity, ecosystems, the role of soils, climate and water), the anthropogenic effects on ecosystem functions and services (habitat change, agriculture, forestry, atmospheric change, harvesting wild animals, urbanisation), conservation of biodiversity (extinctions, species and habitat protection, protected area design, community participation), technology and the environment (energy supply and use, genetically modified organisms, mining), and environmental monitoring and assessment techniques. Case studies at local and global levels are used to illustrate the above.

Class Hour: 1.00 pm

Teaching: Five lectures per week, one seminar and one tutorial per fortnight

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 2 Hour Examination = 100%

SD2002 Sustainable Development: Social and Economic Aspects

Credits: 30 Semester: 2

Prerequisite: normally SD1002

Description: This module explores a broad range of social justice and development issues associated with sustainable development. This interdisciplinary module is taught collaboratively by staff from the Schools of (Geography & Geosciences, Management, History, International Relations, Biology, Philosophical, Anthropological & Film Studies, Divinity and Medicine). There are four central themes explored in the module: values, philosophy and history of sustainability and development (definitions, education for sustainability and ecology and empire); policy, decision making and governance (environmental security and threats to the state, history of waste and pollution management, EIAs and SEAs, organizations and managing for sustainable development, governance in UK); markets and institutions (ethical investment, corporate reporting, branding, science ethics); development, cultures and social justice (anthropology and development, indigenous peoples, gender, mining and health). Local and global examples from around the world are used to illustrate the above. Assessment includes a social audit, practical project and a seminar on a topic of the student’s choice.

Class Hour: 1.00 pm

Teaching: Four lectures and one tutorial per week, one seminar per fortnight

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 2 Hour Examination = 50%

Re-Assessment: 2 Hour Examination = 100%

The details of the Honours modules – that is 3000-level and 4000-level modules – which relate to the programmes listed in this section, are available in the Honours Course Catalogue.