MSc in Environmental Management
Distance learning degree qualification

GLOBAL STUDY
GLOBAL RECOGNITION
Qualification details

With this MSc course you can expand your knowledge of environmental management and develop the skills to participate in more effective, informed and creative environmental decision making.

From complying with environmental legislation to improving the competitive edge of a business and addressing the global challenges of climate change and energy conservation, environmental management is becoming increasingly important to everyone. Our environmental management postgraduate programme was established to meet the challenges of environmental decision making in the context of a changing world. It is designed to meet the needs of specialists, managers and the public for postgraduate level environmental education.

Everyday concerns of environmental protection, natural resource management and rapidly changing environmental legislation and policy are considered in global and local contexts. The modules teach the skills you need to unpack the issues and participate creatively in the process of improving environmental performance in all sectors of society.

Career relevance and employability
Our environmental management programme is for people who are interested in designing, managing and participating in more effective environmental decision-making processes. For example, if you are involved in setting up or responding to environmental or integrated management systems, planning new development projects or are trying to understand or manage sustainability.

Credit for previous study elsewhere
Credit transfer is not permitted for this MSc except for any awarded as part of the Postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Management.

Modules
For this 180-credit masters degree you require:
60 credits from the following compulsory modules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postgraduate compulsory modules</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental decision making: a systems approach (T863)</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Managing for sustainability (T867)</td>
<td>30</td>
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And 30 credits from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postgraduate optional modules</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental monitoring and protection (T868) NEW</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental responsibility: ethics, policy and action (TD866)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capacities for managing development (TU870)</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Changing cities: urban transitions and decision making (D837)</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental monitoring and protection (T868) NEW</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Managing systemic change: inquiry, action and interaction (TU812)</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Problem solving and improvement: quality and other approaches (TB889)</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thinking strategically: systems tools for managing change (TU811)</td>
<td>30</td>
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And 60 credits from either the Research route or the Professional route below:

Professional route

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postgraduate compulsory module</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The MSc professional project (T847)</td>
<td>30</td>
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And 30 credits from the optional modules listed above (excluding T868 and TD866).

Or

Research route

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postgraduate compulsory module</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research project (TB02)</td>
<td>60</td>
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For more information and to register go to www.openuniversity.edu, or call +44 845 241 6555
Modules

For a full list of modules available, please refer to our website, www.openuniversity.edu.

Assessment key

- EMA = End-of-module assessment
- ICMA = Interactive computer marked assessment
- TMA = Tutor-marked assignment

Environmental decision making: a systems approach (T863)

Credits: 30 at Postgraduate  
Assessment: 3 TMAs, 1 EMA

Many of our decisions and actions affect our environment, yet economic and political considerations often dominate. Defining environment to include biophysical, social, political, economic and other factors, T863 uses a systems framework to integrate ‘environment’ with other elements in environmental decision-making situations. You will learn techniques and skills in systems thinking including: modelling, evaluating, negotiating, formulating problems and opportunities, identifying feasible and desirable changes and taking action. The module features a case study on air travel and examples including water, energy, agriculture and climate change.

Managing for sustainability (T867)

Credits: 30 at Postgraduate  
Assessment: 2 TMAs, 1 EMA

This course will increase your understanding of delivering and supporting sustainability management. You will develop a multi-disciplinary perspective on resources, sustainability and health and safety management which will incorporate strategy, policy, data collection and knowledge management. It will introduce you to a systemic approach for studying organisational operations and methods for quantifying and optimising resource use and energy use while using tools to reduce environmental, societal and financial risk. You will also learn how to improve the efficiency and effectiveness with which your organisation can incorporate sustainability issues and to identify future trends and drivers for change in this area.

Environmental monitoring and protection (T868)

Credits: 30 at Postgraduate  
Assessment: 3 TMAs, 1 Examination

In many countries there is a legal requirement for a formal environmental impact assessment of infrastructure projects that are likely to have a significant impact on the environment. This online course equips you with the skills necessary to undertake environmental assessment work, interpret the results, and suggest appropriate remedial measures. The course covers water pollution control, air quality management, noise control, and solid waste management, using a rich variety of examples. It utilises computer modelling for prediction of impacts, and offers a range of remedial measures that can be selected for effective pollution control.

Capabilities for managing development (TU870)

Credits: 30 at Postgraduate  
Assessment: 3 TMAs, 1 Examination

Development management engages with the multiple challenges of ‘development’ - any development, anywhere - and this course sets out to build up the basic capacities for managing those challenges. It rests on the assumption that management is a political and ethical process, a matter of the use of power to bring about desired goals in contexts characterised by conflicts of interests, values and agendas. The course teaches a range of skills needed by any manager, skills to do in particular with strategic thinking, research, planning, policy making, and evaluation. It is of relevance to managers in any sector, anywhere.

Changing cities: urban transitions and decision making (DB837)

Credits: 30 at Postgraduate  
Assessment: 1 TMA, 1 EMA

How are cities responding to environmental change, economic instability, limited resources and other challenges? Can we make the towns, cities or neighbourhoods we live in fairer, safer and more fulfilling? This course looks at place-making decisions faced by planners, urban managers, activists and ordinary people. You will be introduced to forms of spatial and political thinking in relation to topical issues. Changing cities will guide you in the development of your own specialist area of decision making. You will develop independent research skills and put them into practice in relation to an urban or place-making issue of your own choosing.

Environmental responsibility: ethics, policy and action (TD866)

Credits: 30 at Postgraduate  
Assessment: 3 TMAs, 1 EMA

Have you ever wondered how to be a responsible environmental citizen? What it means to be responsible, to make a ‘right’ decision, or to achieve a ‘just’ outcome for our natural world that we share? Such questions affect many of us both on personal and professional levels. This course provides a framework for analysis, and innovative tools promoting individual and collective responsibility for decisions and action. You will examine how cultural traditions influence attitudes towards the environment, and develop skills in advocacy, argumentation, debate, evaluating direct action, and constructing and making sense of environmentally related documentation such as briefing papers and viewpoint articles.

Managing systemic change: inquiry, action and interaction (TU812)

Credits: 30 at Postgraduate  
Assessment: 3 TMAs, 1 EMA

This course views change as inescapable in everyday managing in situations ranging from personal to workplace to society in general. Rather than passively accepting change this course will equip you with skills to shape the nature and direction of change. It will develop your abilities to manage change with others so as to avoid systemic failures and improve joined-up actions amongst stakeholders along supply chains, in projects or, even, social activism. It is about learning to use systems thinking and practice to help you engage with change and act accordingly to recognise the interconnected nature of organisations and environments.

Problem solving and improvement: quality and other approaches (T889)

Credits: 30 at Postgraduate  
Assessment: 3 TMAs, 1 EMA

Problem solving is a necessary activity for all organisations. However, it is frequently ineffective: chronic problems that were supposedly solved re-emerge, and opportunities remain unrealised. Although many organisations have had early successes with mechanisms for problem solving and improvement, these have often foundered over time. This course provides a wide range of problem solving approaches, methods and techniques and examines their underpinning concepts, principles and theoretical backgrounds. It will enable you to investigate problems properly; and generate robust, effective solutions that are sustainable. The course also explores the nature of problems and solutions, and the management of problem solving and improvement.

Thinking strategically: systems tools for managing change (TU811)

Credits: 30 at Postgraduate  
Assessment: 3 TMAs, 1 EMA

This course is about managing complex situations. Managing is ultimately about taking action in complex interconnected situations, where others involved may have contrasting understandings, motivations and interests, and where conflicts inevitably arise. You will develop your understanding of complex situations using robust tools from the traditions of systems practice to think strategically about change and uncertainty. The situations that you choose to work with in the course to develop your practice with systems tools can either derive from your existing, or aspiring, professional capacity or simply be of general interest to you.

Research project (T802)

Credits: 60 at Postgraduate  
Assessment: 3 TMAs, 1 EMA

This research course builds on your existing postgraduate diploma to enable you to complete your MSc. You’ll design a research proposal by identifying and developing a research problem relevant to your MSc. Your research will involve a literature review, original data collection, data analysis and the drawing of conclusions. You will then communicate the outcome of your research by writing and submitting your dissertation. Support is available to you at every stage from the study materials, your supervisor and online forums. You will need to complete preparatory work before the course start, therefore early registration is strongly recommended.

The MSc professional project (T847)

Credits: 30 at Postgraduate  
Assessment: 3 TMAs, 1 EMA

This research-based course is your opportunity to investigate a topic of your choice in what is likely to be a ‘professional’ employment-related setting. Acting as an ‘informed investigator’ you will design, conduct, analyse and report on your chosen research project, applying relevant conceptual, theoretical and methodological material at all stages of your work. You will be expected to carry out your research in a rigorous fashion and to an appropriate academic standard. Spanning only six months, T847 provides a challenging but valuable opportunity to engage in – and learn from – a research scenario of your choosing.

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Can I study in any country?  
Please use the Course Finder menu at www.openuniversity.edu to see what courses are available in your country.

Is an OU qualification recognised in my country?  
An OU degree is equal in academic standard to a degree from any other British university. The University is subject to the same quality assurance procedures, through the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA), as all other British universities, and uses external assessors and examiners to ensure comparability of standard and level in its courses. A leaflet is available on how you can apply for formal recognition in your country. To download the leaflet, please go to www.openuniversity.edu/brochures/recognition.pdf.

What tutor support will I receive?  
The OU excels in its unrivalled support for students. You’ll have email and online support from a tutor and you will be able to discuss your study in online tutor group discussions, using our customised learning environment. Our community websites Platform and OpenLearn offer a different perspective on your subject, and a huge range of OU resources on YouTube and iTunes U can expand your understanding. In addition, you can tap into a range of enthusiastic and welcoming OU social network groups on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

Are there any entry requirements?  
To gain entry to our postgraduate programmes you’ll normally need an undergraduate degree or equivalent. However, your previous work experience and study, or qualifications from other higher-education institutions, may all count towards programme entry. As part of the registration process, however, you will be asked to confirm your proficiency in English (if you are unsure, you can take a short online test, please see our website www.openuniversity.edu for more information).

Can I count previous study towards an OU qualification?  
Credit transfer is not permitted for this MSc except for any awarded as part of the Postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Management.

How do you work towards a qualification?  
We measure the size of our qualifications in credits - you need 60 credits for the certificate, 120 credits for the diploma and 180 credits for the masters degree.

How long does it take?  
Our qualifications are designed to be flexible. So if you want to vary the amount of time you spend studying, you can. The table below is a guide on the time required, and therefore the time taken to complete your course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postgraduate qualifications</th>
<th>Credits required</th>
<th>Time required to complete</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>1 year part-time study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>2 years part-time study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters degree</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>3-4 years part-time study</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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For illustrative purposes only – in most cases you can vary the number of credits taken per year and therefore the time taken to complete the course.

How much will it cost?  
You pay for your postgraduate studies module by module, rather than for an entire programme up front. Therefore, the total cost of a qualification may vary according to which modules you choose and how long you take to complete your degree.

The EU fee for this qualification in 2012/13 is:  
£9,830 - £11,550

Please note: prices are approximate and subject to change. Please check our website or call us for latest details.
For information please go to www.openuniversity.edu and view the details on the Courses pages.

When can I start?  
This course starts in May each year.

Can I meet and network with other students?  
Definitely – when you start with the OU you automatically become a member of the Open University Student Association (OUSA). OUSA also runs a popular student forum site. For more information, go to www.ousa.org.uk.
Once you have gained your qualification, you can join the OU Alumni Association, our vibrant and active alumni community with 280,000 members worldwide. You will enjoy many membership benefits, including regular newsletters, good networking opportunities and access to the alumni website.

How is my privacy protected?  
We record your personal information when you contact us and use this to manage registration, study, examination and other services. When you register, we’ll tell you more about how we process and use your personal information.

When should I apply?  
Apply as early as you can – particularly if you wish to claim for credit for previous study. Registration open dates are shown in the Courses section on each qualification page at www.openuniversity.edu.
What do I need to do next?

It takes just 2 simple steps.
Begin the process to secure your place.
Here’s how easy it is.

1. Register now

Go to www.openuniversity.edu, select the Courses section and the degree you require. You will then be asked to select your first module to register.
Alternatively call us on +44 845 241 6555.
Don’t worry, you don’t need to pay anything at this stage.
As soon as you have registered you’ll get an email confirmation which contains your login details.

2. Choose your first module, make payment to enrol

Before you start studying you will need to choose and register on your first modules and arrange payment; instructions for this will be emailed to you.
Once complete you will officially be an Open University student – welcome!

For more information and to register go to www.openuniversity.edu, or call +44 845 241 6555