

School of International Development

# MSc Environment and International Development



# MSC ENVIRONMENT AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT INTRODUCTION



*“Our era is unique. We’ve never before experienced anything like the human pressures on the environment as well as the human successes in sustained and broad-based improvements of well-being. Ensuring that we can continue those successes without going right over the cliff will prove to be our generation’s greatest challenge.”*

Jeffrey D. Sachs, Director of The Earth Institute, May 2007

## **MSc Environment and International Development**

Interest in the global environment and development has never been so intense. Environmental issues and problems have long been on local and national agendas, but increasingly over the last thirty years, on international agendas too.

All environmental issues derive from natural processes, but at the same time are social and political, and it is this unique interdisciplinary approach which drives the ESRC-recognised MSc Environment and International Development.

The interaction between environment and development is studied through analysing policy processes at local, national and international levels, as played out by a large cast of actors: policymakers, politicians, business administrators, non-governmental organisations, and rural and urban resource users.

We use a wide range of critical and constructive skills, analytical techniques and contextual knowledge to forward our understanding of these processes.

## **Who is the Course For?**

The course is for two broad groups of people. The first are professionals with some background in development or environmental management who wish to improve and broaden their knowledge of these two areas and the many important linkages between them.

The second are those who have recently completed undergraduate study and wish to build on and apply their learning in the areas of the environment and international development.

Students come from across the world – from developed countries such as the US and UK and developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Applicants should have a good academic background in a related field (natural or social sciences), or significant professional experience in any type of agency involved in environment and development issues.

Once qualified, past students have joined national and international organisations, non-governmental organisations and scientific institutes in both developed and developing countries. Some of our students continue to study for research degrees.



**“The Research Assessment Exercise (RAE 2008) rated the School as one of the top three leading research departments in the UK.”**

### **The School of International Development**

The School of International Development is an excellent place to study your Masters degree. We offer subject-related learning, research methods training and professional skills training which will equip you for development work or further research.

- Courses are taught by dedicated academic staff, lecturers and professors. We are known for our high quality of teaching informed by development research and practice.
- We offer over 30 modules from which to build your Masters course.
- With approximately 40 teaching and support staff, the School offers students a friendly and supportive environment.
- We welcome a diverse multicultural student body of about 150 postgraduate students each year - you will meet and work with fascinating people.
- Particular attention is given to supporting international students. English and academic skills tuition, and computer training are provided.
- We provide a vibrant research environment with weekly seminars given by Faculty and external speakers.
- We cater for 'professional development skills' via a number of workshops.
- Internships with development organisations are supported by the School in various ways.
- Our social activities bring together students within each programme and across the whole cohort.
- We are proud of our large number of Alumni who are in frequent contact with the School.

In summary, our approach is backed up by nearly 40 years of experience of teaching international development. We work in an attractive campus environment and Norwich is a wonderful place to live. Studying a Masters here is a very memorable and enjoyable life-enhancing year.

### **Course Structure**

Students following the MSc programme are required to gain 180 credits, as follows:

#### **Coursework: 120 credits**

Six 20 credit taught modules are taken between October and May. Details of compulsory and optional modules are listed on the next page.

#### **Examination: 20 credits**

One examination paper is taken in April/May.

#### **Dissertation: 40 credits**

A dissertation of 8,000 to 12,000 words - researched and written from May to September - is a requirement of this course.

Students have complete freedom to choose their dissertation topic and supervisor, with the stipulation that the topic should address an issue of broad relevance to Environment and International Development.

Overseas students who wish to work on issues from their home country are encouraged to organise potential projects and data sources prior to arrival at the University.

# MSC ENVIRONMENT AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSE MODULES



“UEA is among the top 25 universities in the United Kingdom.”

*The Times Good University Guide*

## Course Modules

All students take six modules, four of these are compulsory modules:

- Understanding Global Environmental Change
- Research Techniques and Analysis
- Political Ecology of Environment and Development
- Tools and Skills in Environment and Development

### Autumn Semester:

#### Understanding Global Environmental Change

The aim of this module is to provide students with an interdisciplinary introduction to the analysis of the diverse perceptions and the understandings of global environmental changes, their meanings and implications, and of the relationships between environment and development.

#### Research Techniques and Analysis

The module offers an introduction to the design and implementation of field and survey methods of data collection in development research.

### Spring Semester:

#### Political Ecology of Environment and Development

This module aims to develop critical awareness and analytical skills with reference to the policy and practice of environmental management and sustainability via a political ecology framework.

#### Tools and Skills in Environment and Development

This module will introduce the range of tools and frameworks for analysis used by research and government agencies, businesses and NGOs to inform and develop their environmental management strategies.

The two remaining modules may be selected from over 20 postgraduate modules offered by the School. These include:

### Autumn Semester:

- Climate Change Policy for Development
- Development Perspectives
- Gender Concepts for Development
- Governance, Democracy and Development
- Rural Livelihoods and Agrarian Change
- Introduction to Education and Development
- Microeconomics of Development
- Econometric Methods for Development
- Perspectives on Globalisation

### Spring Semester:

- Conflict, Peace and Security
- Contemporary World Development
- Educational Policy and Practice in Development
- Gender, Difference and Social Policy
- Globalisation, Industrialisation and Development
- Health and Development
- International Economic Policy
- Macroeconomics of Development
- Media and International Development
- Rural Policies and Politics
- Research Skills for Social Analysis



**“Our relaxed, compact campus is home to over 2,000 international students from more than 100 countries worldwide.”**

### **Esteve (Spain)**

“The reason why I joined the course was that I felt a need to acquire more knowledge and analytical skills to understand global environmental problems and development challenges.

The course fulfilled my expectations and both teachers and research colleagues were extraordinary. In fact, that year at UEA was so intense that I decided to study for a PhD in Development Studies!

I now work for the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research examining the development implications of mitigation policy in Latin America and Africa.”

### **Stuart (United Kingdom)**

“I earned my MSc in Environment and Development in 2005. When I entered the job market, I became aware of how much this degree had helped to provide me with the right skills and knowledge in securing employment at the level I was seeking.

I thoroughly enjoyed Norwich and the University of East Anglia and look back with great appreciation at the friends and experience I gained.

Today, I work as a Freshwater Policy Officer with WWF, working with business and development audiences to better understand risk and security issues in international water management.”



### **A Safe and Friendly Campus**

Built on 130 hectares of beautiful parkland on the outskirts of Norwich, the campus is one of the most innovative in the country, combining natural beauty with architectural flair. The campus has won more than 20 architectural awards, and ongoing multi-million pound investment continues to enhance teaching and research facilities. The university library meets the academic needs of all students and also provides IT support.

Virtually no part of the campus is more than a few minutes' walk from anywhere else, and almost every student need is catered for on site – there's a large food shop, a newsagent, a post office, two banks, two launderettes, a pharmacy and a travel agent. The Sportspark is one of the finest sports complexes in Britain, housing a 50 metre swimming pool. There is a bookshop on campus which is kept well-stocked with core texts. There are plenty of places to eat and drink on campus, including three bars.

UEA boasts some of the best student accommodation in the country. There are more than 3,400 study bedrooms available, many with en suite facilities.

### **Norwich - A Fine City**

Norwich is a friendly, easy-going, and safe place to live with all the facilities of a major commercial and cultural centre.

It is the UK's most complete medieval city, and is consistently voted one of Britain's top cities for quality of life and prosperity, offering two cathedrals, a Norman Castle as well as the stunning centrepiece, the Forum, which houses the finest regional public library in the country. The city centre has a wide variety of arts and entertainment venues, including six theatres, two multiplex cinemas and an independent cinema. Many of these venues offer discounts to students.

The city centre is only a 15-minute bus ride from the UEA campus. In between, there is an area called the 'Golden Triangle' where many UEA students live and where you'll find lively and cosmopolitan pubs, shops and cafés.

Norwich is a safe, economical, and vibrant place to live, plus it has good bus and rail connections to London and the rest of the UK. Norwich International Airport offers easy access to both the UK and Europe with connections to 200 cities worldwide.

**UEA Shortlisted for University of the Year  
by the Sunday Times**

[www.uea.ac.uk/dev](http://www.uea.ac.uk/dev)

Cover photograph: James Smith, TV Producer, CBA-DFID Travel Bursar:  
Fishermen in Kerala, Southern India, return with their catch.

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