

**Programme Specification for Programme Leading to:
MRes Environmental Sciences
MRes Environmental Management**



Applicable for all postgraduate students starting on or after 1st September 2021

Version No.	Date	Notes –QA USE ONLY	QA
1	Nov-20	New programme for September 2021	RJC

Postgraduate Taught & Research Programme	
1. Awarding institution	Brunel University London
2. Teaching institution(s)	Brunel University London
3. Home college/department/division	College of Health, Medicine and Life Sciences/Department of Life Sciences/Division of Environmental Sciences
4. Contributing college/department/division/ associated institution	None
5. Programme accredited by	Not accredited
6. Final award(s) and FHEQ Level of Award	MRes Environmental Management (FHEQ level 7) MRes Environmental Sciences (FHEQ level 7)
7. Programme title	MRes Environmental Management MRes Environmental Sciences
8. Programme type (Single honours/joint/major minor)	N/A
9. Normal length of programme (in months) for each mode of study	MRes Environmental Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Time: 12 months • Part Time: 24 Months MRes Environmental Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Time: 12 months • Part Time: 24 Months
10. Maximum period of registration for each mode of study	Normal or standard duration plus 2 years.
11. Variation(s) to September start	None
12. Modes of study	Full time and Part time
13. Modes of delivery	Standard
14. Intermediate awards and titles and FHEQ Level of Award	Postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Management FHEQ Level 7 Postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Science FHEQ Level 7

15. UCAS code	N/A
16. HECoS Code	100381 Environmental Science 100469 Environmental Management
17. Route Code	
18. Relevant subject benchmark statements and other external and internal reference points used to inform programme design.	UK Quality Code for Higher Education which includes the English Framework for Higher Education Qualifications within Part A on Setting and Maintaining Academic Standards QAA Subject Benchmark Statement (Environmental Sciences) Brunel 2030
19. Admission Requirements	Details of PGT entry requirements are provided on the University's and College website. Levels of English for non-native speakers are outlined on Brunel International's language requirements pages.
20. Other relevant information (e.g. study abroad, additional information on placements)	Entry to the programme is via two routes: 1. Direct entry of students meeting the admission requirements in section (19) above 2. Entry of AIT MSc Environmental Management students undertaking 1+1 MSc and meeting the admission requirements in section (19) above
21. Programme regulations not specified in Senate Regulation 2. Any departure from regulations specified in Senate Regulation 2 must be stated here and approved by Senate.	N/A
22. Further information about the programme is available from the College website.	Link to programme information on the College website.

23. EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The educational aims of the programme are:

- To provide training and a detailed insight into environmental research
- To equip students with a range of research skills to enable them to successfully complete environmental research
- To allow students to undertake individual research, under the supervision of a supervisory team, consisting of a Principal Supervisor and a Second Supervisor
- To provide a strong theoretical and practical introduction to environmental research
- To provide the student with a range of general academic research skills and expertise expected of the professional researcher in the environmental sciences/environmental management

The MRes programme aims to develop students' skills as scientific researchers in Environmental Management or Environmental Sciences. During this course, students will receive training in research skills and develop extensive skills in research methodology. Students will spend a large proportion of their time planning and conducting research which can be desk based, in the laboratory or in the field. Students will develop skills to prepare for a future career as environmental researchers, managers and consultants. The main focus of the programme is an extended research project, with in-year assessments and progression points.

MRes Environmental Management and MRes Environmental Science students will have project specialisms that can be broadly categorised as follows in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Generic categorisation of research projects suitable for the degree of MRes Environmental Sciences and Environmental Management

Environmental Management	Environmental Sciences
Pollution and waste management	Environmental Toxicology
Climate change management	Environmental Chemistry
Environmental design	Environmental Engineering
Corporate and industrial environmental compliance	Environmental Biology
Public safety and regulation	Ecology
Non-governmental environmental advocacy	Climate Science
Environmental Law	Environmental Health
Environmental modelling	Environmental analysis

24. PROGRAMME AND INTERMEDIATE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding (K) cognitive (thinking) skills (C) and other skills and attributes (S) in the following areas:

Level	Category (K = knowledge and understanding, C = cognitive (thinking) skills, S = other skills and attributes)	Learning Outcome	Associated Assessment Blocks Code(s)	Associated Study Blocks Code(s)	Associated Modular Blocks Code(s)
Environmental Management					
	K	i. In depth and critical knowledge of practices in environmental research applied to environmental management			All
	K	ii. Planning and executing practicable, effective research designs			All
	K	iii. Recognise and use appropriate quantitative and/or qualitative research methods			All
	C	iv. Apply subject knowledge to address environmentally relevant problems			All
	C	v. Reflect and evaluate upon their learning and intellectual development, by acting on constructive feedback			All
	C	vi. Analyse and interpret data and scientific literature			All
	S	vii. Formulate and conduct an in-depth research project in Environmental Management			ES5622
	S	viii. Communicate scientific data and literature			All
	S	ix. Apply advanced tools and concepts required for self-			All

		managed professional development			
Environmental Sciences					
	K	i. In depth and critical ii. knowledge of practices in in environmental research applied to Environmental Sciences			All
	K	iii. Planning and executing practicable, effective research designs			All
	K	iv. Recognise and use appropriate quantitative and/or qualitative research methods			All
	C	v. Apply subject knowledge to address environmentally relevant problems			All
	C	vi. Reflect and evaluate upon their learning and intellectual development, by acting on constructive feedback			All
	C	vii. Analyse and interpret data and scientific literature			All
	S	viii. Formulate and conduct an in-depth research project in Environmental Sciences			ES5623
	S	ix. Communicate scientific data and literature			All

Learning/teaching strategies and methods to enable learning outcomes to be achieved, including formative assessments

- **Knowledge and understanding (K)** of (i), (ii) and (iii) are acquired by means of lectures (Research and Analytical skills compulsory study block) and supervisor-led activities, seminars, group discussion and guided independent study (Research Project compulsory block). The emphasis will be to develop in-depth, advanced knowledge in relevant subject areas as well as the ability to use the appropriate techniques to acquire and further that body of knowledge.
- **Cognitive skills** of (iv), (v) and (vi) are developed concurrently with knowledge and understanding, through the medium of the teaching and learning block and through research supervision outlined above. Seminars/Presentations and feedback on coursework/progress reports (for which there is a standard proforma) provide formal mechanisms for students to reflect on their own learning and intellectual development, and make use of constructive feedback. Students will be encouraged to critically appraise research articles in the taught and dissertation modules and through independent study.
- **Systematic knowledge** and understanding of the field (vii) is consolidated by a dissertation.
- Students will be encouraged to engage fully/actively with the key concepts within the subject materials to help them learn facts in the context of meaning. Practical Skills (including safety) are developed through laboratory supervision. Tutor-led debates will allow students to develop their ability to debate societal issues from a scientific and ethical standpoint. Student-led oral and poster presentations will allow them to develop transferable communication and interpersonal skills.

Summative assessment strategies and methods to enable learning outcomes to be demonstrated

Assessment will allow students to demonstrate their abilities in a range of styles relevant to professional Environmental Managers and Environmental Scientists. These will include:

- Assessment of the candidate's knowledge and understanding is assessed through a combination of formal written reports and coursework assignments (including a poster presentation)
- Formal coursework assignments will assess knowledge, understanding, analysis and problem-solving skills, as well as competency in data analysis and interpretation.
- Transferable and research skills are assessed through reports and assessment of oral and poster presentation. Research skills are assessed in the research project and the research skills assessment block.

25. Programme Structure, progression and award requirements

Programme structures and features: levels, assessment blocks, credit and progression and award requirements

- **Compulsory block:** one which all students registered for the award are required to take as part of their programme of study. These will be listed in the left hand column;
- **Optional block:** one which students choose from an 'option range'. These will be listed in the right hand column;
- A **core assessment** is an assessment identified within an assessment block or modular block (either compulsory or optional) which must be passed (at grade D- or better) in order to be eligible to progress and to be eligible for the final award. All core assessments must be specified on the programme specification next to the appropriate assessment or modular block:

Where students are expected to pass the block at D- or better, but not necessarily all elements, then the block itself is core.

e.g. AB3000 Project (40)
Core: Block

Where only some elements of assessments are required to be passed at D- or better, these will be identified by listing each element that is core

e.g. ABXXX1 Title (XX credits)
Core: 1 & 4

Where students are expected to pass all assessments in a block then this will be identified. By setting the assessment this way, students are also required to pass the block by default. This will be identified thus:

e.g. ABXXXX Title (XX credits)
Core: All, Block

- A **non-core assessment** does not have to be passed at grade D- or better, but must be better than a grade F, in order to progress and to be eligible for the final award.

Level 7	
<p>Compulsory assessment block codes, titles and credit</p> <p>ES5806: Analytical Skills for Environmental Managers and Environmental Scientists (30 Credits)</p>	<p>Optional assessment block codes, titles and credits</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Compulsory study block codes, titles and credit volume</p> <p>ES5700: Research and Analytical Skills – Compulsory Study Block (30 Credits)</p>	<p>Optional Study block codes, titles and credit volume</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Compulsory modular block codes, titles and credits</p> <p>ES5621 Research planning and Communication skills (30 credits) – Core Block</p> <p>Students in Environmental Management: ES5622: Research Project in Environmental Management (120 credits) - Core Block</p> <p>Students in Environmental Sciences: ES5623: Research Project in Environmental Sciences (120 Credits) - Core Block</p>	<p>Optional modular block codes, titles and credits</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p>Part-time students will complete taught components in Year 1 and the research project in year 2.</p>	

Please note: this specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods can be found in the modular block, assessment and study block outlines and other programme and block information. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University from time to time and whenever a major modification occurs.