

# Ecology BSc (Hons)



This Joint Honours programme allows you to combine your interest in ecology with another subject area, e.g. Environmental Management or Geography.

Ecology is the science that examines the inter-relationship between the living environment and the physical environment. For those not wishing to specialise on our Conservation Ecology BSc, this Joint Honours programme allows you to combine your interest in ecology with another subject area, e.g. Environmental Management or Geography.

At Worcester, the University is well placed geographically to take advantage of the many environments and habitats in the area. Also, we look further afield at contrasting environments, for example in the Mediterranean region and the Cairngorms, during residential field trips. There is a strong emphasis on fieldwork, as we believe that students learn best by experiencing the environment and practising skills at first hand.

In the final year you will undertake an independent research project. This is an opportunity to research a topic of interest to you over the academic year, supported by your Independent Study tutor. Past topics have included the impact of introduced species, uptake of heavy metals by maize (allied to phytoremediation studies), effects of trampling on species diversity on footpaths, and the study of flooding events in local rivers.

You can also enter directly into year 2 or 3 if you have the appropriate prior learning either in earlier years or at other HE Institutions.

## UCAS code

This degree is only available in combination with another course. For the latest information, check the UCAS website at [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

## Study options

### Joint Honours

Ecology must be studied as part of a joint degree with another subject.

The combination subjects available are: [Animal Biology](#), [Archaeology and Heritage Studies](#), [Biology](#), [Environmental Management](#), [Geography](#), [Human Biology](#), [Human Geography](#) and [Physical Geography](#).

The University of Worcester's degree combinations add breadth to your studies and enhance your employability.

## Get in touch

**Dr. Rob Herbert**

Course Leader

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**Institute of Science and the Environment Admin Office**

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240 to 280 UCAS tariff points

240 must include A2 Biology and A2 in another Science (includes Environmental Science)

260 must include A2 Biology and A1 in another Science

270 must include A1 Biology and A2 in another Science

280 must include A1 Biology

The University will consider each application on its individual merits and will recognise a range of qualifications not currently included in the Tariff, including Access courses, European Baccalaureate and pre-2002 qualifications such as GNVQ.

If your qualifications are not listed, please contact the Admissions Office for advice on 01905 855111 or email [admissions@worc.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@worc.ac.uk) for advice.

Further information about the UCAS Tariff can be obtained from <http://www.ucas.com>

## Modules

### Year One

Biological Diversity

Introduction to Ecology

Basics of Biological Surveying

### Year Two

Conservation Ecology of Habitats & Species

Populations & Community Ecology

Field Techniques in Ecology

### Year Three

Independent Study

Restoration Ecology

Behavioural Ecology

Landscape Ecology

Residential Ecology Field Course

## Assessment

There are a wide range of assessment types including coursework, essays, field and laboratory reports, presentations, examinations and project work.

## Dr John Dutton

Course Leader, Ecology BSc (Hons)

"This course allows students with an interest in Ecology to combine this with another subject, such as Biology, Animal Biology, Environmental Management or Geography."

## Academic department

[Institute of Science & the Environment](#)

"The Institute's acclaimed research in areas such as river management, rural issues, forensic biology, nutrition and archaeology has a common thread: our belief that science should be centred around its impact on people."

Professor John Newbury, Head of Institute

## Employability

As an Ecologist at the University of Worcester, you will be able to develop a wide range of intellectual, practical and social skills that are much in demand by employers. These include primary research and critical evaluation skills, communications skills, both written and oral, and a range of technical and IT skills such as the use of DNA technology, IT-based vegetation analysis, data analysis, and applied statistics.

You will also learn how to gather environmental or physiological data in the laboratory and/or the field using logging equipment, controlled environment cabinets and a range of physiological monitoring devices.

Ecologists, who can solve problems, look at evidence and make measured and reasoned arguments, are not only required in scientific fields but also in other fields - such as the media, retailing and finance - to ensure there is a balanced view relating to new technology and that any risks are neither under nor over stated.

Graduation from this course prepares you for a career with such organisations as Natural England, the Environment Agency, Local and County Councils, business and industry, e.g. consultancies, or undertaking research.

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<http://www.worcester.ac.uk/courses/ecology-bsc-hons.html>