

Studying BSc (Hons) Ecology and Environmental Science



Key Features:

- Small class sizes (typically 15-30 students)
- Exceptional staff contact time (typically 12-16 hours per week)
- Numerous field sites within 45 minutes of the University campus
- Strong emphasis on students attaining field and lab based skills
- Authentic assessments that prepare students for the real world
- Training in state-of-the-art equipment
- Strong links with the environmental and conservation sector
- Flexibility in the degree programme to tailor your course



The Course

Studying Ecology and Environmental Science at the University of Worcester will ensure you are on track for a successful and rewarding career in the environmental and conservation sector.

Through our flexible programme you focus on key areas of ecological and environmental science, such as population and community ecology, restoration ecology, atmospheric pollution, climate change and its mitigation, the contamination of soil and water, and the biomeasurement of toxicity. Studying Ecology and Environmental Science at the University of Worcester means you will get the degree you want!

At Worcester, the Ecology and Environmental Science joint honours degree programme is highly contemporary ensuring our students receive training in advanced and cutting-edge techniques.

These will include the use of camera traps to assess animal populations, atmospheric sampling using drones, forecasting the movement and abundance of airborne pollen and pathogens, the detection of pesticides using Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS), mapping using GIS software, measuring responses of plants and invertebrates to climate change, and animal trapping and handling techniques.

The strong emphasis on field and laboratory work complements the in-depth underpinning knowledge of ecology, environmental science and related subjects. The success of which is evident from the achievement of our graduates in securing highly relevant graduate jobs. Some of our students are also inspired to continue their education on Masters or Doctorate courses.

What will you study?

Year One Mandatory

- Introduction to Ecology
- Introduction to Environmental Science
- Classification and Species Identification
- Basis of Biological Surveying
- Environmental Change - Past and Present
- Environmental Skills and Applications

Year Two Mandatory

- Ecology - Individuals to Ecosystems
- Environmental Analysis & Interpretation
- Research Practice & Professional Development

Year Three Mandatory

- Mediterranean Environments Field Course
- Restoration Ecology
- Landscape Ecology
- Environmental Pollution & its Detection
- Independent Research Dissertation





The Student Experience

Teaching & Learning

- Research-informed and Research-led teaching
- Research context for many practical activities
- Emphasis on specialist & transferable skills
- Innovative teaching strategies

Assessment

- Focus on authentic assessments - real-world examples
- Feedback to students within 20 working days
- Greater emphasis on coursework than exams

Student Opportunities

- Earn As You Learn e.g. Student Ambassadors
- Research projects - Summer Vacation Bursary Scheme
- Excellent contacts within the conservation and environmental sector
- Students as Academic Partners

Student Support

- Outstanding Support for Students
- All students assigned a Personal Academic Tutor

What will you study?

Year Two Optional

- Animal Behaviour
- Natural Hazards
- Geographical Information Systems
- River Monitoring & Assessment
- Field Techniques & Identification Skills
- Work Experience

Year Three Optional

- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Atmospheric Processes and Pollution
- Environmental Geology
- Project Management
- Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
- Applied GIS and Remote Sensing
- River Conservation & Management
- Zoo-based Conservation





Graduate Feedback



Peter Case: Worcester provided the “ideal course for me as it provided the option to study a diverse range of disciplines all broadly related to the environment and my particular area of interest, conservation. The beauty of studying a modular course was that I could tailor each semester to my interests as they evolved over the three years of study.”

After Your Degree

Employment Opportunities:

- Wildlife Trusts
- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA)
- Environmental laboratories
- Environmental consultancy
- Freshwater Habitats Trust
- Marine Conservation Society
- Water companies
- Media and public relations
- Environmental Research
- Post-Graduate Study e.g. MSc, MRes, PhD
- Teacher training



Will Stiles: After graduating with a first class BSc (Hons) degree, Will spent 6 months at Cranfield University before being awarded a scholarship to study for a PhD at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth.

“The emphasis on practical skills and fieldwork within the degree course at Worcester was one of the keys to success”.



Beth Jasper: Joined the degree course at Worcester in the second year and achieved a first class honours, “Worcester has been welcoming from day one and the support I was offered from lecturers was above and beyond what any other university could have offered me”.



Rory Dimond: “The guest lectures’ delivered by staff from Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, County Council, ecological consultancies, Forestry Commission, etc., add value and relevance to the experience and expertise of the University lecturers and links the knowledge and case studies covered in lectures to real life .”

