Course Specification

MSc Sustainability & Environmental Management
EECT009

Faculty of Engineering, Environment & Computing
School of Energy, Construction & Environment
Academic Year: 2021/22

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the course and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

We regularly review our course content, to make it relevant and current for the benefit of our students. For these reasons, course modules may be updated.

More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in the Module Information Directory (MID), student module guide(s) and the course handbook.

The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by the University and may be verified by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.

Coventry University's accreditation with CMI is currently ongoing for the relevant modules and is regularly reviewed and monitored by the CMI through their quality systems. Whilst Coventry University anticipates that these reviews will continue to be successful, if they were to be unsuccessful, the relevant module in this course would no longer be accredited and we would notify applicants and students of this change as soon as possible.

PART A Course Specification (Published Document)

MSc Sustainability & Environmental Management

1. Introduction

We live in a dynamic world where the impact of human activity on the environment and society is now recognised as needing urgent attention. In 2015, the UN launched its 17 Sustainable Development Goals which have quickly become adopted as the framework by which nations and organisations are measuring their progress. Demand for sustainability practitioners is growing and is likely to continue to grow.

This course will equip you with a range of knowledge, skills and experience integral to the sustainability and environmental professional. The MSc in Sustainability and Environmental Management course offered at Coventry University reflects the needs of the profession as well as the research interests and commercial background of the lecturing staff. As such, it is evolving to meet the needs of this important discipline. The course focusses on the environmental, technological, political and social issues associated with environmental management and sustainability issues that face organisations.

As part of this course you will undertake a professional development module which is currently accredited by the Chartered Management Institute (CMI) for the 2020-21 intake. Upon successful completion of the module, you will gain the CMI Level 7 Certificate in Strategic Management and Leadership Practice at no additional cost.

Innovative and distinctive features include:
- Use of the Simulation Centre, which facilitates activity-based learning alongside role-play and experience of fieldwork and research methods. The monitored and recorded environment allows students to develop skills and receive immediate feedback on their development to enhance their transferable skills, such as team working, communications and dealing with conflict.
- The positive interaction between students and staff through academic tutorials in each semester
- Fieldwork, site visits and guest speakers from industry and environmental technology, which supports students in putting theory into practice.
- Meeting the Graduate level learning outcomes of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment
- Opportunity to develop practical, analytical skills of measuring air, soil and water pollution.
- Study with active researchers and senior and experienced sustainability practitioners.
- Providing the opportunity to begin the journey towards becoming a Chartered Environmentalist.
- Being part of an international cohort and be able to develop knowledge from sharing global experiences.
- Opportunity to obtain the Chartered Management Institute Certificate in Creativity, Change & Innovation.

Work Placement
For students in today's competitive employment markets having work experience can significantly enhance employment prospects. For this reason, the course offers students the opportunity to undertake a work placement, extending the main provision to a two-year course. The work placement could be International or UK with a focus, which may be industry or research. Following a selection process within the first semester and subject to securing an approved placement opportunity, students would move onto the two-year course. International students who are interested in a work placement will be supported in completing an application for extending their Tier 4 visa by international student support services. Upon completion of their placement, students will return to complete the course and the final project for the full award.

2 Available Award(s) and Modes of Study

Title of Award	Mode of attendance	UCAS Code	FHEQ Level
• MSc Sustainability & Environmental Management	FT 1 year; PT normally 2 years 2 years with Work Placement		Level 7

3 Awarding Institution/Body	Coventry University.
4 Collaboration	N/A
5 Teaching Institution and Location of delivery	Coventry University
6 Internal Approval/Review Dates	Date of latest review: (February 2017)
	Date for next review: (Academic year 2026-27)
7 Course Accredited by	
8 Accreditation Date and Duration	
9 QAA Subject Benchmark Statement(s) and/or other external factors	There are no applicable QAA benchmark statements for this subject area. The QAA Qualifications Framework has been considered in developing this Course Specification.
	The course has been aligned to the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment Graduate learning outcomes. https://www.iema.net/membership/achieve-graduate-membership
10 Date of Course Specification	Jan 2021
11 Course Director	Dr Ben Vivian

12 Outline and Educational Aims of the Course

The course is designed to equip graduates and professionals, with the necessary knowledge to identify, critically analyse, evaluate and successfully manage an increasingly complex and dynamic range of sustainability and environmental risks and opportunities/innovation to operate confidently in management and consultancy. The overall aim, in line with the University's mission statement is to:

- ensure Coventry University maintains its established position in offering high quality educational provision in sustainability and environmental management;
- provide an educational experience that meets students' needs and expectations and those of the sectors' employers;
- provide an up-to-date curriculum that articulates the current challenges and good practice in sustainability and environmental management;
- make use of the Simulation Centre, a facility that allows activity based learning through the simulation of real life scenarios;
- develop a detailed understanding of the social, political, economic, technological, legal and environmental influences on organisations and sustainability;
- support students' capacity to evaluate, review and improve approaches and systems and apply learning effectively at an appropriate level using relevant methodologies, ensuring continuous improvement;
- prepare students for future challenges
- develop personal, technical and management skills to enable graduates to contribute with a high level of competence in a global context;
- develop abilities in rigorous and valid independent investigation and research;

13 Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the course, a student will be able to offer:

1. A critical awareness of current issues, legislation, risks & opportunities and practice in sustainability & environmental management.
2. The ability to apply sustainability principles to relevant stakeholders, organisations, products and services.
3. Analysis of the implications of global trends and governance for the environment, for society and for organisations.
4. Analyse the role of innovation in developing sustainable products and services and providing sustainable solutions.
5. An in-depth understanding of the importance of multi-stakeholder engagement, communication, co-operation and governance in aspects of policy, strategy development, implementation and management.
6. The ability to manage data and information taking into account uncertainty and complexity to make appropriate and justifiable decisions.
7. The ability to conduct research, in an ethical manner, and analyse data using appropriate methods and communicate the output effectively
8. Personal skills and competencies expected of a sustainability professional, in line with recognised standards.
9. Critically evaluate the principles of developing and proposing strategy for leading strategic change.

14 Course Structure and Requirements, Levels, Modules, Credits and Awards

14.1 Course Structure

All modules within the course, their status and credit value are identified in Table 1 below. The MSc in Sustainability & Environmental Management conforms to the University's regulations for taught post graduate degree courses. Within the parameters set by these regulations, the course has been designed to equip graduates with the core knowledge, skills and expertise within the field of sustainability and environmental management they need to help them to succeed in a range of careers.

Students will undertake two zero credit modules that support their academic and research skills. These modules will normally include laboratory, GIS and social science skills.

Table 1. MSc Sustainability & Environmental Management modules

Module Code	Module Title	Credits	MSc in Sustainability & Environmental Management	Semester*
7000EXQ	Stakeholder Engagement and Communication	15	M	1
7004EXQ	Governance and Law	15	M	1
7006EXQ	Social & Environmental Impact Assessment	15	M	1
7005EXQ	Climate and Carbon	15	M	1
7084EXQ	Supporting Transition to Postgraduate Study	0**	M	1
7167EXQ	Environmental Management Systems and Auditing	15	M	2
7008EXQ	Pollution Prevention & Control	15	M	2
7010EXQ	Sustainable Water	15	M	2
7011EXQ	Sustainable Energy	15	M	2
7074EXQ	Preparing to Research	0**	M	2
7051CRB	Leading Strategic Change through Creativity and Innovation	10	M	3
7165EXQ	Research Project	50	M	3

* - modules normally run in this pattern and can be subject to change
** Credit bearing modules are supplemented by two zero credit modules which act as support for the technical content and for academic and professional skills. These may not be resat or repeated. Failure will not stop progression & completion, but will be listed on the degree transcript.

Cascade of Awards:

MSc Sustainability & Environmental Management
↓
Postgraduate Diploma (unnamed)
↓
Postgraduate Certificate (unnamed)

Conditions for the award of an honours degree
The award of an MSc degree from this course requires students to pass all 180 credits.

Conditions for fall back award
The award of an unnamed PG Diploma from this course requires students to pass any 120 credits.
The award of an unamed PG Certificate from this course requires students to pass any 60 credits

Work Placement
During semester 1, students who have expressed an interest in undertaking a work placement should begin the application process for placement opportunities. Students have the responsibility for securing a placement, but they will be supported throughout the application process by a specialist employer engagement team. The university will work with employers to identify opportunities. Subject to securing a placement, the International Student Support team will work with international students to obtain UK study visa extensions. Visas required to work in other countries will be the responsibility of the student.

The course is structured so that students complete two semesters of taught modules and then spend three semesters on placement. During this time students would be enrolled onto modules 7102CEM Extended Masters Work Placement A, 7103CEM Extended Masters Work Placement B and 7104CEM Extended Masters Work Placement C. The modules are zero credit and do not contribute to the classification or name of the award but

must be passed to complete the placement. Upon completion of the work placement, students are expected to return to Coventry to complete the final semester during which time they undertake their project module. Successful completion of the Work Placement is reflected in the final student transcript.

Module credit level	Module Code	Title	Credit Value	Mandatory/ Optional	Course Learning Outcomes
7	7000EXQ	Stakeholder Engagement and Communication	15	M	1,5,6,7,8
7	7167EXQ	Environmental Management Systems and Auditing	15	M	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8
7	7004EXQ	Governance and Law	15	M	1,5,6,7,8
7	7005EXQ	Climate and Carbon	15	M	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8
7	7006EXQ	Social & Environmental Impact Assessment	15	M	1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8
7	7008EXQ	Pollution Prevention & Control	15	M	1,4,5,6,7,8
7	7010EXQ	Sustainable Water	15	M	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
7	7011EXQ	Sustainable Energy	15	M	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
7	7165EXQ	Research Project	50	M	6,7, 8
7	7051CRB	Leading Strategic Change through Creativity and Innovation	10	M	4, 8, 9
7	7084EXQ	Supporting Transition to Postgraduate Study	0*	M	6, 7, 8
7	7074EXQ	Preparing to Research	0*	M	6, 7, 8

Students will study eight mandatory modules and undertake a mandatory research project.

* Zero credit modules cannot be resat or deferred. They are pass/fail. Failure will not affect degree classification, but it will be listed on the degree transcript.

Credit level	Module Code	Title	Credit Value	Mandatory/ Optional	Course Learning Outcomes
Subject to securing an appropriate placement opportunity and fulfilling the selection requirements, students will be transferred to the two-year course and the Work Placement modules listed below are to be taken.					
7	7102CEM	Extended Masters Work Placement A	0	Optional	
7	7103CEM	Extended Masters Work Placement B	0	Optional	
7	7104CEM	Extended Masters Work Placement C	0	Optional	

The work placement is to be taken over three semesters and prior to the final semester of the course.

15 Criteria for Admission and Selection Procedure

Normally, the entrance requirement is a second-class honours degree in a relevant discipline.

Applicants are normally invited to visit the University as part of the postgraduate open days in the Faculty of Engineering, Environment and Computing. This offers an opportunity for either party to evaluate each other and to ask questions. It also offers the applicant an opportunity to view the facilities on offer at the University.

International applicants with an equivalent of a second-class honours degree or demonstrated experience at an appropriate level will be considered for admission. Applicants whose first language is not English or who have not completed a first degree in which English was the main language of tuition must provide evidence of English language ability. An IELTs score of 6.5 or higher (and at least 5.5 in each component) or equivalent qualification is the criterion for admission.

The course team encourage students to seek recognition of their prior experience and learning. There are opportunities for a student to demonstrate prior knowledge of Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) and where a student can demonstrate that their knowledge and skills meet all intended learning outcomes of a module that student may receive the credits for that module. Evidence may include some or all of the following as required.

- Transcript from previous level 7 study including each module's intended learning outcomes and mark
- 2-page analysis of professional experience and knowledge against module intended learning outcomes
- CPD non-assessed course (content detailed)

In calculations for an award these modules will be handled in accordance with University Academic Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Courses.

16 Academic Regulations and Regulations of Assessment

This Course conforms to the standard University Regulations Mode R

The programme is managed by the School of Energy, Construction and Environment Board of Study of the Faculty of Engineering, Environment and Computing.

The Programme Assessment Board (PAB) for the Faculty of Engineering, Environment and Computing is responsible for considering the progress of all students and making awards in accordance with both the university and course-specific regulations.

The assurance of the quality of modules is the responsibility of the Boards of Study which contribute modules to the programme.

External Examiners report annually on the programme and their views are considered as part of the Course Quality Enhancement Monitoring report (CQEM). Details of the CQEM process can be found on the Registry's web site. https://share.coventry.ac.uk/staff/ps/Registry/qeu/Pages/Process%20%20Landing.aspx

Students are represented on the Student Forum, Boards of Study and Faculty Board, all of which normally meet two or three times per year.

Student views are also sought through module and course evaluation questionnaires.

17 Indicators of Quality Enhancement

The course evaluates and improves quality of standards and learning via.
- A strong portfolio of industry-related research and consultancy.
- Alumni have gained graduate employment in a wide variety of private and public agencies around the world.
- The energy, environment and geoscience provision at Coventry has been consistently praised for its high standards and quality by external examiners.
- Outcomes from the PTES and University Student Satisfaction Survey (SSS) (82%).
- The QAA's Higher Education Review undertaken in February 2015 confirmed that Coventry University meets the UK expectations regarding the:
  - setting and maintenance of the academic standards of awards;
  - quality of student learning opportunities;
  - quality of the information about learning opportunities;
  - enhancement of student learning opportunities

- There is a diverse and active range of research activities influencing courses in most areas of the Faculty.
- All of the existing courses carry external professional recognition.
- Strong and regular industry input to the subject-base. This is achieved in many ways, for example through the long-standing advisory boards, industry-focused collaborative research initiatives and use of guest speakers from industry.
- In the 2014 Research Excellence Framework, the Unit of Assessment was shown to demonstrate 95% of research as recognised internationally in terms of originality, significance and rigour.

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18 Additional Information

Enrolled students have access to additional, key sources of information about the course and student support including:

- Student Handbook
- Course Handbook
- Module Guides
- Module Information Directory https://webapp.coventry.ac.uk/MidWebNext/Main.aspx
- EEC Student Portal
  https://share.coventry.ac.uk/students/EC/Pages/Home.aspx
- Coventry University Student Portal
  https://share.coventry.ac.uk/students/Pages/Index.aspx