The Environment Department is at the forefront of teaching and research on sustainable solutions to real environmental problems. These solutions need to be scientifically sound, economically viable and consistent with human aspirations at scales from local to global.

If you want to make a difference to our planet, you will have the opportunity to learn from leading experts whose cutting-edge research into environmental issues is influencing the world’s future.

While studying Environment at York you will also develop transferable skills that will give you the edge in the environmental jobs market. We have a member of staff dedicated to developing placement opportunities for students and a well developed programme of study-abroad opportunities.

We pride ourselves on our friendly, informal approach, which enables us to get to know our students well, in addition to providing an environment conducive to learning. Our approach is reflected in the student feedback we receive. For instance, when graduates from July 2013 were questioned for the National Student Survey, Environment received a 95% satisfaction rating, well above the national average of 85%.

Over the past decade we have become one of the leading centres in the UK for interdisciplinary teaching and research and 2015 sees the Department move into a new £12m Environment Hub combining state-of-the-art teaching, laboratory and collaboration facilities.

If your aspirations match ours, then we look forward to welcoming you to join us at York.

Professor Colin Brown
Head of Department and Chair in EcoChemistry

“If you want to make a difference to our planet, you will have the opportunity to learn from leading academics whose research is influencing the world’s future”

Professor Colin Brown
Head of Department and Chair in EcoChemistry

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The University of York is one of the success stories in UK higher education. Since 1963, we have achieved a consistent top ranking in the UK and are the only one of the UK’s younger universities to be ranked in the World Top 100. Now in the prestigious Russell Group of universities, our reputation has been built on an ethos of equal opportunity and advancement for all and academic excellence.
York is ranked by Times Higher Education as 2nd in the UK and 17th in the world for the impact of our research in the area of environmental and ecological sciences.

Our spectacular new building, opening in 2015, will house state-of-the-art science and physical geography laboratories, student spaces and a lecture auditorium.

We have a track record of providing a springboard to a wide range of careers and postgraduate research.

We offer field trips in the UK (eg the East Yorkshire coast and the Lake District) and overseas (eg Tenerife and Iceland).

We are a friendly department with experienced academic staff who enjoy teaching: in 2013, 94% of Environment students agreed that staff were enthusiastic about their teaching.

Our staff are active in leading areas of research and undergraduates are actively encouraged to take part in ongoing research.

Our staff sit on national and international committees, bringing further experience to their teaching, and we have strong links to global policy makers such as the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organisation.

We have a well-developed programme of study-abroad opportunities and placements.

As well as our own range of degrees, we can offer modules from other university departments, giving you an even greater amount of flexibility and choice.

Partnering with York College, we provide the choice of an extended degree to encourage wider participation in higher education.

“Many of the skills you will learn in the courses offered by the Environment Department, such as decision-making, mathematical and statistical analysis and scientific method, are considered very valuable in a wide range of occupations. Environment students have an excellent track record of employment, going into employment or further study within the first six months of graduating”

Dr Samarthia Thankappan
Lecturer in Human Geography
THE TEACHING AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AT YORK

Spectacular new facilities

In 2015, the Environment Department moves to new, purpose-built teaching, office and laboratory facilities in a £12m investment funded by the University. This will house state-of-the-art science and physical geography laboratory facilities along with new teaching and innovative social spaces, all designed to enhance teaching, learning and research. The building will be home to the Environment Department, the Stockholm Environmental Institute York, the York Environmental Sustainability Institute, and BioArCh, a research group covering aspects of Biology, Archaeology and Chemistry.

The project will mark the next exciting phase of environmental teaching and research at the University of York.

How will I learn?

Our students experience a wide range of learning environments and approaches. These include lectures, tutorials, workshops and practical sessions in both the laboratory and on the computer. You will experience field trips, develop debating skills and participate in both individual and group presentations. Lectures are supplemented by guest speakers from the environmental think-tank Stockholm Environment Institute at York (SEIY) and a range of external environmental and industrial organisations.

“Environmental policy and management is one of the fields that continues to thrive despite economic downturns in the UK and some other countries, so there are many emerging opportunities”

Dr Murray Rudd
Senior Lecturer in Environmental Economics
How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through a mix of coursework and examinations. Typically coursework include written tests, field course reports, essays, practical and project reports, and oral presentations. Some modules are assessed entirely by coursework.

Are there opportunities for field trips?

Field trips and research projects form an integral part of each course, and every student undertakes an environmental research project in each year of their programme. Students gain hands-on experience from residential field courses, and with the Yorkshire Dales, North Yorkshire Moors and the Yorkshire coast all within easy reach, non-residential field visits also form an integral part of study in the Environment Department.

We run a first year project with external agencies that looks at flood risk management in York. This project also develops employability skills in project management, feasibility studies and data analysis.

Our departmentally-funded field course in Tenerife in the second year (pictured above left) offers a wide variety of opportunities to develop and apply field study skills. Depending on your choice of degree, group projects in Tenerife cover areas such as physical and landscape processes, analysis of volcanic emissions, socio-economic study and tourism, and analysis of the development of the ecosystem.

We also run a field trip to Iceland with the opportunity to study glaciology and volcanism and a field trip to Prague for students on the Human Geography and Environment programme.

Can I spend a year abroad?

Study abroad is a life-changing, unique experience you will remember forever. The Centre for Global Programmes offers both short- and long-term opportunities for Environment students in Europe, North America, Asia, Australia and South Africa. To find out more go to www.york.ac.uk/study/study-abroad.
Population growth, poverty, globalisation and economic development place ever-increasing demands on the earth’s environmental systems and natural resources. Our interdisciplinary approach across all four degree programmes ensures that our graduates are equipped with practical, applied skills for environment-related employment, and job sectors not directly related to their degree, including graduate schemes.

The programmes will give you the knowledge, skills and techniques to help develop practical, sustainable solutions to environmental problems. They also embrace broader social and economic issues, helping students to use their scientific understanding realistically in the context of policy formulation and environmental management.

We aim to provide our students with the necessary skills to enable them to excel in their future careers. Environment Department graduates have gone on to work in a wide range of careers and with employers including:

- Private utilities such as water and energy companies
- Environmental management
- Environmental consultancies
- Public sector bodies such as the Environment Agency, DEFRA
- Local government eg pollution abatement, planning, housing, environmental services, regeneration and economic development
- Conservation bodies
- Tourism
- Teaching.

Around 24% of our undergraduates go on to study for a higher degree.

“Now is a great time to study the environment. This field isn’t going to diminish and the number of opportunities for people to go into environment-related jobs is increasing. It is a very competitive area and many undergraduates choose to study a masters degree before getting a job. However, it is possible to go straight into employment, especially if you’ve shown initiative and gained experience during your degree.

“If you are proactive you will be able to access the wealth of opportunities on offer. Make the most of the fact that our staff are at the top of their game and are involved in projects with a whole host of partner organisations. Students should definitely take advantage of these links and collaborations; they could be invaluable to future careers or research.”

Dr Rob Marchant
Reader in Biogeography
HERE’S WHAT SOME OF OUR RECENT GRADUATES SAY ABOUT ENVIRONMENT AT YORK

**Carmel**  
BSc Environmental Science  
Network Asset Strategy Planner, Yorkshire Water  

“I started on the two-year Yorkshire Water graduate scheme after I graduated from York. I stayed on at the company, and now work as a Network Asset Strategy Planner. The main reason why I applied to water companies was because I completed a specific module on water and waste water treatment and quality as part of my degree, and also wrote my dissertation on the topic. My academic interests at York therefore directly influenced my career choice.”

**Anthony**  
BSc Environmental Science  
Marine Conservation, Gapforce in Fiji  

“"I went to work for the National Marine Aquarium, doing public talks and tours. I then went on to organise and run their summer roadshow. Afterwards I worked in Fiji with Gapforce, conducting marine conservation studies and training volunteers from across the world.”

**Adam**  
BSc Environmental Geography  
PhD in Climate Change  

“"My undergraduate degree in BSc Environmental Geography has provided me with a toolbox of analytical and problem-based skills alongside the understanding and interest.

Looking towards the future, next year I have been accepted for a PhD researching the impacts of climate change on crop production which I see as a step towards my aim of working with the Met Office."

**Lissie**  
BSc Environment, Economics and Ecology  
Executive Assistant, Deloitte  

“"The experience you gain at York is amazing. The teaching is excellent, you get a lot out of the college system, and you balance your extra-curricular time with learning. All of these things are so useful for application forms and job interviews.”

**Robin**  
MSc Environmental Science and Management  
PhD in Environment  

“"My time at York was a real eye-opener because it brought in a variety of disciplines and helped to develop my awareness of contemporary environmental issues. The projects I did on energy, for example, were really up to date and relevant to the modern world.”
The Environment Department at York focuses on research and learning of subjects related to the environment. Our Department provides a bridge across the natural and social sciences and offers four distinct undergraduate Environment degrees:

- Environmental Science BSc/MEnv
- Environmental Geography BSc/MEnv
- Environment, Economics and Ecology BSc/MEnv
- Human Geography and Environment BA/MEnv.

We offer a unique multi-disciplinary approach that allows for a broad-based foundation to be built in the first year of each degree course, with students then being offered the chance to specialise in further years from this position of strength and breadth of knowledge.

“Academically, the reputation of the Department is impressive, and the interests of staff are varied. It is therefore good to arrive being aware that you’re going to be exposed to a wide variety of subjects. This breadth is very exciting and means that you will get wide-ranging, first-hand experience of studying the environment”

Dr David Rippin
Senior Lecturer in Physical Geography

All four undergraduate degree programmes are available as extended degrees, with first year taught at York College. This means that we can offer a route in to our degree courses for those without traditional academic qualifications. Each degree offers a different balance of compulsory and optional modules, and elective modules can also be selected from other departments.

Full details on programme structures, UCAS codes and how to apply for extended degrees can be found on our website: www.york.ac.uk/environment.
In order to solve environmental problems, it is essential that we understand how the Earth system and the ecosystems within it function. The Environmental Science degree at the University of York equips you with an interdisciplinary understanding of the scientific principles that underlie important controls on ecosystem dynamics and elemental cycling, and how these could respond to expected future human disruption to the environment. Through the degree programme you will become skilled in designing studies to investigate key environmental processes and develop solutions to current and emerging environment problems. Important environmental issues that you will study include:

- The impacts of climate change
- Energy use and efficiency, and how we move to a renewable future
- The pathways and impacts of chemicals and pathogens in our environment
- Wildlife management and biodiversity
- The management of marine systems from microbial to regional scales.

From the first week of your course you will analyse environmental issues in depth. The course will expand your scientific knowledge, laboratory, analytical and reporting skills and develop key transferable skills in IT, data analysis and decision-making. The flexibility of our programme allows you to specialise increasingly in an area of your choosing as you move through the degree programme.

“"I love the Environmental Science course and it has given me the skills and knowledge to go on and do a PhD next year. The Department has been able to provide all the equipment and facilities I have needed and in particular I have made use of the lab for my final year project”

Claire
BSc Environmental Science
This degree integrates knowledge of physical processes and landforms with key environmental issues. Our modular degree course covers subjects such as sea level change and glacial environments as well as biogeography, coastal geomorphology and ecology.

Fieldwork is an important element of the degree with overseas trips to locations such as Tenerife and Iceland.

This programme will develop your skills and knowledge to understand:
- Physical processes and landforms
- Geology and the development of landscape
- Environmental and human consequences of global warming
- Topical environmental issues such as sea level rise, glacial retreat and coastal erosion
- Population impact on natural environmental resources
- Climate impact on biodiversity conservation.

“The course in itself has been great, really diverse and really interesting. I’ve loved that we’ve been able to carry out practicals, go on field trips and generally get hands-on. The course has helped me to develop confidence in the laboratory, carrying out my own lab work for my dissertation.

“I’ve covered so many different areas of the environment and it’s all been really relevant for future employment. Our course is often described as ‘interdisciplinary’ and it certainly is. It provides you with a full skills base for future employment whether from environmental consultancy to land contamination and soil science”

Sarah
BSc Environmental Geography
The Environment, Economics and Ecology (EEE) degree course offers a completely unique interdisciplinary approach that emphasises the ecological principles and human interactions which underpin environmental management. Practical skills and applications are developed from this broad knowledge base. This course will appeal to students looking for an interdisciplinary understanding of environmental policy who want to acquire practical, applied skills for environment-related employment.

Topics covered include:
- The economics of climate change
- Renewable energy and decarbonisation of the economy
- Why environmental agreements so often fail
- Sustainable management of fisheries, forests, water, minerals and oil
- Regulation of land, water and air pollution
- 'Green' accounting, environmental assessment and corporate responsibility.

“When I discovered the degree course at York, I realised that it was quite unique. I felt that a degree like mine would allow me to understand not only the scientific aspects of the environment, but also give me an economic perspective too, and a better understanding of how to manage the environment and possibly setting me apart from other graduates in similar fields”

Katie
BSc Environment, Economics and Ecology
This is the first dedicated human geography course offered by the University of York. Human Geography and Environment explores both natural and socio-economic elements of geography, operating at the boundary between traditional human geography and environmental science, giving you an overall understanding of the interaction between humans and their surroundings.

The course will have a strong focus on current environmental issues and active applied research in human geography, and demonstrate how geographical concepts and skills can be used to deliver solutions to global problems.

It is highly interdisciplinary, covering subjects such as:
- Megacities and urbanisation
- Sustainable tourism and transport
- Food, space, culture and society
- Inequality and global development
- Energy and the environment
- Environmental policy.

You will learn through a range of teaching methods including field-based learning, research-led teaching and practical sessions alongside more traditional lectures and seminars. There is the opportunity to participate in a departmentally-funded field trip to Tenerife, as well as an optional visit to Prague, enabling you to apply knowledge gained on the course to real-world situations.

Students will also be able to benefit from our key partnerships with the Stockholm Environment Institute at York (SEIY), the Food and Environment Research Agency (FERA) and the Centre for the Integration of Research, Conservation and Learning (CIRCLE), through lectures, workshops and seminars, and the research and internship opportunities these organisations provide.
INTEGRATED
MASTERS
PROGRAMMES
(MEnv)

UCAS Codes:
YORK F902 MEnv/ES
YORK F815 MEnv/EG
YORK F7LC MEnv/EEE
YORK L7F9 MEnv/HuGE

Structure of the MEnv programmes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compulsory and optional modules as for BSc degrees</td>
<td>Extended literature review</td>
<td>Research skills and statistics</td>
<td>Optional modules as for BSc degrees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total credits</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As well as the three-year BSc, each of our programmes is also available as a four-year integrated Masters (Masters in Environment, MEnv). The MEnv has the same outcomes as a one-year Masters degree - a year of specialised vocational training. One major difference between the MEnv and a stand-alone Masters is that you can do the MEnv within the framework of the undergraduate student grant, rather than taking out a separate graduate loan. Eligible students can access funding through Student Finance England.

Students can apply to either the BSc or MEnv programme of their choice (eg Environmental Geography) and are then allowed to transfer between programmes up to the end of Year 2 provided that they have average marks of at least 55% to continue onto the MEnv.

The MEnv programmes have two main objectives. First, to provide additional vocational training to prepare you for specific employment sectors (eg environmental consultancy), and second, to provide research experience and skills to prepare you for research careers including PhD study.

The skills and knowledge that you gain by Year 3 will be developed in year 4 through:

- Vocational modules delivered by practising environmental consultants (eg Business and the Environment and Environmental Impact Assessment)
- Extended research skills training followed by a 60-credit research project undertaken over 12 months
- The selection of a Masters-level stream within the MEnv framework to allow you to specialise according to your career objectives and field of interest.

Within each of the four degree routes, you will specialise in one of the following seven streams at Year 4:

- Global change
- Sustainability and global development
- Corporate social responsibility
- Marine conservation
- Economics and policy
- Ecology and biodiversity
- Contaminants.

For full details of options on these streams visit our website: www.york.ac.uk/environment
OUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY

The Department and the University welcomes applicants from around the world, and has a thriving international community made up of both students and staff. This community, together with our research links with other academic institutions across the globe, creates a vibrant and cosmopolitan atmosphere second to none!

The University has a Student Support Co-ordinator who specialises in supporting overseas students with all aspects of studying and living in York, and a popular International Students’ Association which organises events throughout the year.

If English is not your first language you will need an English language qualification for admission. The University offers support during the first year of your course with free, specialised English language tuition for students. Details about these and other common questions, including information about our International Foundation Programmes, can be found on the University’s website: www.york.ac.uk/study/international
Launched in 1992 to design and implement an interdisciplinary programme of research and training in environmental economics and environmental management, the Environment Department subsequently expanded to incorporate environmental science and geography. We are still at the forefront of research in these exciting and dynamic areas today.

The Environment Department conducts world-leading research on topics of global environmental importance. The impact of our research in ecology and environmental science is ranked by the Times Higher Education as second in the UK and 17th in the world. Our research is highly interdisciplinary across the natural and social sciences, ranging from atmospheric chemistry to environmental economics and policy analysis. Our funding comes from numerous sources, including research councils, national and international government agencies, charities and industry.

Many of our staff sit on international and national committees, demonstrating the recognition of our work at the highest level. Through the Stockholm Environment Institute we have particularly strong links to the global policy makers such as the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organisation.

Within this stimulating setting you will have access to some of the latest research and thinking, ensuring that your qualification is relevant, well-regarded and up-to-date.

Partnerships
The Environment Department has established a number of key partnerships with major environmental organisations. Students, both undergraduate and postgraduate, can benefit from these partnerships through access to expertise in lectures, workshops and seminars, and through the research and internship opportunities they provide. Key partnerships include:

- The Stockholm Environment Institute which is based within the Environment Department at the University of York. This is one of the seven international centres of the Stockholm Environment Institute, an independent, international research organisation committed to the implementation of practices supportive of global sustainable development.
- The Food and Environment Research Agency (FERA) with which we have a close working partnership. It is an Executive Agency of the UK Government Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.
- The CIRCLE Institute (Centre for the Integration of Research, Conservation and Learning), a jointly-funded venture between the University’s Environment Department and Flamingo Land, a Yorkshire-based zoo and theme park.

“All the lecturers are so motivated and inspiring you cannot help but become passionate about the field as well. They are all involved in numerous research projects and have published influential scientific papers. Everyone’s wish is to help you, and students are considered as equals”

Juliette
BSc Environmental Science
Historic city by day, buzzing hotspot by night, life in York is varied, colourful and lively. A diverse range of shops, galleries, clubs, cafés, museums, music groups and sports clubs means that the city really does offer something for everyone.

With a population of 200,000, York is big enough to feel cosmopolitan but small enough not to be overwhelming. It is a friendly place you can settle into quickly, but which still feels fresh and exciting once you get to know it well.

York was recently voted Britain’s favourite small city in a Rough Guide poll, and its historic streets bustle with visitors from all around the world. There is plenty to impress, from the famously soaring Gothic Minster and winding medieval streets, to a packed calendar of cultural activities including festivals, concerts and sporting events.

York is also one of Britain’s best connected cities, offering great transport links to other major cities as well as the wealth of beautiful countryside and coastline offered in Yorkshire and beyond.

For more information on student life in York, visit www.york.ac.uk/study/student-life.
WHY THE UNIVERSITY OF YORK?

In 50 years, York has powered its way to become one of the top universities in the UK – performing equally well on teaching and research quality measures – and is ranked in the top 100 universities in the world. York was named University of the Year 2010 by Times Higher Education, the global authority on higher education performance, and is now a member of the prestigious Russell Group of universities.

Life for all of our students is centred at Heslington on the edge of the historic city of York, where our colleges are set in an attractive landscaped campus. It is compact, easy to get around, and has a safe, friendly atmosphere.

We offer you

- A very high-quality academic experience
- A commitment to enhancing your employability
- A strong reputation for student support
- Affordable and plentiful accommodation

"The college system at the University is really good, with all colleges having their own bars and events organised on campus and sporting events enabling a good social life and opportunity to meet loads of people”

Eleanor
BSc Environmental Science

“If you are looking to do a degree in a really friendly department while living in one of the nicest cities in the UK, then York is a good place to choose. Unlike many other universities, class sizes are not too big – meaning that lecturers will get to know you by name”

Professor Alistair Boxall
Chair in Environmental Science

- A lively and stimulating environment
- A beautiful location in one of Europe’s finest cities with easy access from anywhere.

For further information about student life on campus visit www.york.ac.uk/study/student-life.
We welcome all enquiries from potential undergraduates. We are happy to answer any queries that you may have about any of the degree courses on offer so please feel free to email or phone us and we will get back to you.

For each of the three-year degrees, successful applicants receive a conditional or unconditional offer based upon the content of their UCAS form and their predicted or actual qualifications. There are no formal interviews. We meet students at University Open Days and applicants to whom we have offered places are also encouraged to attend one of the departmental visit days during the Spring Term.

Mature students are encouraged to apply and we welcome enquiries and prearranged visits from such applicants.

The University of York wants to ensure that no-one who has the potential to study here is put off from applying because of costs. Information about fees and financial support is available on our website at www.york.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/fees-funding.

Our website provides up-to-date contact details for our admissions tutor and details on current entry requirements: www.york.ac.uk/environment.

Contact us

For full details of all the courses available and information about the Department:

tel: +44 (0)1904 322999
email: environment@york.ac.uk
www.york.ac.uk/environment
HOW FAST ARE THE WORLD’S GLACIERS SHRINKING?

Academics in the Environment Department are working on global issues such as changing glaciers and ice sheets in the Arctic and Antarctic.
With thanks to Ian Martindale, John Houlihan and staff and students from the Environment Department for providing photographs for this brochure