

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

This document applies to students who commence the programme(s) in:		September 2017			
Awarding institution		Teaching institution			
University of York		University of York			
Department(s)					
Environment					
Award(s) and programme title(s)			Level of qualification		
MSc in Marine Environmental Management			Level 7 (Masters)		
Award(s) available <i>only</i> as interim awards					
Postgraduate Certificate in Marine Environmental Management					
Admissions criteria					
<p>Students are required to have obtained, or be expecting to obtain, at least an upper second class first degree, in which they will have ideally studied some aspects of ecology and/or environmental management. Candidates must also be able to satisfy the general admissions requirements of the University of York. English language requirements are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IELTS: 6.5, with a minimum of 6.5 in Writing and no less than 6.0 in all other components • PTE: 61, with a minimum of 61 in Writing and no less than 55 in all other components • CAE and CPE (from January 2015): 176, with a minimum of 176 in Writing and no less than 169 in all other components • CAE (before January 2015): 65, with 'Good' in Writing • CPE (before January 2015): C • TOEFL: 87 with a minimum of 23 in Writing and no less than 21 in all other components • Trinity ISE: level 3 with Merit in all components 					
Length and status of the programme(s) and mode(s) of study					
Programme	Length (years) and status (full-time/part-time)	Start dates/months (if applicable – for programmes that have multiple intakes or start dates that differ from the usual academic year)	Mode		
			Face-to-face, campus-based	Distance learning	Other
MSc	1 year, full-time	September	X		
Language of study		English			
Programme accreditation by Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies (if applicable)					
None					
Educational aims of the programme(s)					

For the Masters and Certificate:

1. To provide the students with a firm grounding in fundamental principles of marine ecology and marine environmental management.
2. To develop understanding of the structure and dynamics of ocean and coastal ecosystems and how human activities impact the marine environment.
3. To highlight the means and impediments to sustainable management and exploitation of the marine environment and its living resources.
4. To explore the social and policy dimensions of management
5. To provide students with training in: quantitative methods, bibliographic/computing skills, relevant ethical and legal issues, research management, personal development and post-graduate employment related skills.
6. To enhance the development of the students' interpersonal skills and to assist the students to develop the skills required for both autonomous practice and team-working.

Additionally for the Masters:

7. To develop and enhance this training and experience by conducting two major independent research projects. The first is based at the University of York, the second is carried out on “placement” with an external organisation.

Intended learning outcomes for the programme – and how the programme enables students to achieve and demonstrate the intended learning outcomes

This programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:

The following teaching, learning and assessment methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme learning outcomes:

A: Knowledge and understanding

Knowledge and understanding of:
For the Masters and Certificate:

1. Principles of marine ecology and environmental management.
2. Structure and dynamics of ocean and coastal ecosystems and how human activities impact the marine environment.

Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):

- Outcome 1-5: Taught modules
- Outcome 6: Group work during taught modules
- Outcome 7: Research projects
- Outcome 8: Research projects

<p>3. Means and impediments to sustainable management and exploitation of the marine environment and its living resources.</p> <p>4. Social and policy dimensions of management.</p> <p>5. Quantitative methods in marine environmental management.</p> <p>6. Approaches for effective working, both individually and in groups</p> <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p> <p>7. Knowledge of how to conduct a research project in marine environmental management.</p> <p>8. Knowledge of how to apply project design and statistical and numerical analysis to execute two major independent research projects in marine environmental management.</p>	<p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 1-6: Various formative and summative assessment including course work, both individual and group-based, and closed exams • Outcome 7: Project write-ups and seminars • Outcome 8: Project write-ups and seminars
B: (i) Skills – discipline related	
<p>Able to:</p> <p><i>For the Masters and Certificate:</i></p> <p>1. Identify appropriate numerical and statistical analyses to address specific questions in marine environmental management</p> <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p> <p>2. Work independently on a research project in marine environmental management.</p> <p>3. Design, plan and execute two major independent research projects in marine environmental management.</p>	<p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 1: Taught modules and research project • Outcome 2: Research projects • Outcome 3: Research projects <p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 1: Formative and summative assessment through coursework and closed exams • Outcome 2: Project write-up and a talk about this • Outcome 3: Project write-ups and talks about these

B: (ii) Skills - transferable	
<p>Able to:</p> <p><i>For the Masters and Certificate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use bibliographic/computing skills, and understand relevant ethical and legal issues. 2. Identify personal strengths and training needs, and develop employment-related skills. 3. Work effectively both independently and in groups <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Manage a research project and communicate the results effectively orally and in writing. 5. Design, plan and execute two independent research projects and communicate the results effectively orally and in writing. 	<p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes 1-3: Research methods training at start of programme • Outcome 4: Through being responsible for the execution and analysis of a research project • Outcome 5: Through being responsible for the design, planning and execution of two independent research projects
	<p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 1: Coursework and exams in taught modules • Outcome 2: Personal career development planning with supervisor • Outcome 3: Coursework and project assessments • Outcome 4: Project write-up and a talk about this • Outcome 5: Project write-ups and talks about these
C: Experience and other attributes	
<p>Able to:</p> <p><i>For the Masters and Certificate:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Experience of theoretical and practical issues in marine environmental management <p><i>Additionally for the Masters:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Experience of undertaking and being responsible for a small research project 3. Experience of undertaking and being responsible for two major independent research projects 	<p>Learning/teaching methods and strategies (relating to numbered outcomes):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 1: Taught courses, departmental workshops and seminars • Outcome 2: Supervision during research projects • Outcome 3: Supervision during research projects
	<p>Types/methods of assessment (relating to numbered outcomes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 1: Coursework and exams in taught modules, project write-ups • Outcome 2: Project write-ups • Outcome 3: Project write-ups
<p>Relevant Quality Assurance Agency benchmark statement(s) and other relevant external reference points (e.g. National Occupational Standards, or the requirements of Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies)</p>	

University award regulations

To be eligible for an award of the University of York a student must undertake an approved programme of study, obtain a specified number of credits (at a specified level(s)), and meet any other requirements of the award as specified in the award requirements and programme regulations, and other University regulations (e.g. payment of fees). Credit will be awarded upon passing a module's assessment(s) but some credit may be awarded where failure has been compensated by achievement in other modules. The University's award and assessment regulations specify the University's marking scheme, and rules governing progression (including rules for compensation), reassessment and award requirements. The award and assessment regulations apply to all programmes: any exceptions that relate to this programme are approved by University Teaching Committee and are recorded at the end of this document.

Departmental policies on assessment and feedback

Detailed information on assessment (including grade descriptors, marking procedures, word counts etc.) is available in the written statement of assessment which applies to this programme and the relevant module descriptions. These are available in the student handbook and on the VLE.

Information on formative and summative feedback to students on their work is available in the written statement on feedback to students which applies to this programme and the relevant module descriptions. These are available in the student handbook and on the VLE.

Diagrammatic representation of the programme structure, showing the distribution and credit value of core and option modules

When students select options they should attempt to balance their workload across Autumn and Spring terms. The maximum number of modules being studied at once should be six. Trying to do too much in one term could be detrimental to overall performance on the programme.

MSc

Autumn	Spring	Summer
	Research Skills and Statistical Methods (20)	Summer Placement (50)**
Marine Ecosystems (10)	Marine Environmental Management research project (50)	
Ocean and coastal Science (10)	Fisheries Ecology and management (10)	
Spatial Analysis (10)	Maldives (10)*	
Current Research and Communication in Marine Conservation (10)	Environmental Impact Assessment (10)	
	Ecotoxicology (10)	
	Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas (10)	
	Environmental Governance (10)	

*Takes place in Easter vacation and needs 12 students signed up to run with a cap at 28 due to space limitations on accommodation at the field school

** Takes place during University summer vacation

Compulsory modules are shown in bold

Postgraduate Certificate

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
3 x 10 credit optional modules.	Fisheries Ecology and Management (10)	
Research Skills and Statistical Methods (20)		

Diagrammatic representation of the timing of module assessments and reassessments, and the timing of departmental examination/progression boards

Reassessments will consist of a repeat of all or some components of the module as appropriate. Reassessments for MEM students will be in Weeks 10-11 summer. (C = coursework, E = exam, ISM = Independent study module, AU = autumn, SP = spring, SU = summer, number refers to week in term).

Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term	Summer vacation	Date of final award board
Research Skills and Statistical Methods (C: SP4)		Marine Environmental Management research project (part of ISM; 50 credits)		
Marine Ecosystems (C: AU9, E: SP1)	Fisheries Ecology and Management (C: SP4-10; E: SU1)	Summer placement (part of ISM; 50 credits)		
Ocean and Coastal Science (C: AU10 E:SP1)	Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas (C: SP12)			
	Environmental Impact Assessment (C:SP10)			
Spatial Analysis (C: AU10)	Maldives Field Trip (C: SU3)			
Current Research and Communication in Marine Conservation (C: AU6,10)	Ecotoxicology (C: AU5, AU10, E: SU1)			
	Environmental Governance (C: SU2)			
EXAM BOARD AU6-7 (RELATING TO PREVIOUS ACADEMIC YEAR)		EXAM BOARD SU7-8	RESIT BOARD SU13-14	EXAM BOARD AU6-7 (NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR)

Overview of modules

Core module table

Module title	Module code	Credit level ¹	Credit value ²	Prerequisites	Assessment rules ³	Timing (term and week) and format of main assessment ⁴	Independent Study Module? ⁵
Research Skills and Statistical Methods	ENV00049M	7	20	Entry regs	Standard compensatable	(C: SP6)	N
Fisheries Ecology and Management	ENV00004M	7	10	Entry reqs.	Standard compensatable	(C: SP4-10; E: SU1)	N
Marine Environmental Management research project	ENV00029M	7	50	Entry reqs	NC	(C: SU11)	Y
Summer placement	ENV00037M	7	50	Good academic standing at SU exam board meeting	NC	(C: SU20)	Y

Option modules

Module title	Module code	Credit level	Credit value	Prerequisites	Assessment rules	Timing and format of main assessment	Independent Study Module?
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¹ The **credit level** is an indication of the module's relative intellectual demand, complexity and depth of learning and of learner autonomy. Most modules in postgraduate programmes will be at Level 7/Masters. Some modules are permitted to be at Level 6/Honours but must be marked on a pass/fail basis. See University Teaching Committee guidance for the limits on Level 6/Honours credit.

² The **credit value** gives the notional workload for the module, where 1 credit corresponds to a notional workload of 10 hours (including contact hours, private study and assessment)

³ **Special assessment rules** (requiring University Teaching Committee approval)

P/F – the module is marked on a pass/fail basis (NB pass/fail modules cannot be compensated)

NC – the module cannot be compensated

NR – there is no reassessment opportunity for this module. It must be passed at the first attempt

⁴ AuT – Autumn Term, SpT – Spring Term, SuT – Summer Term, SuVac – Summer vacation

⁵ **Independent Study Modules** (ISMs) are assessed by a dissertation or substantial project report. They cannot be compensated (NC) and are subject to reassessment rules which differ from 'taught modules'. Masters programmes should include an ISM(s) of between 60 and 100 credits. This is usually one module but may be more.

Spatial Analysis	ENV00007M	7	10	Entry reqs.	Standard compensatable	(C: AU10)	N
Environmental Impact Assessment	ENV00057M	7	10	Entry reqs.	Standard compensatable	(C:SP8)	N
Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas	Not known	7	10	Entry reqs.	Standard compensatable	(C: SP12)	N
Maldives Field Trip	ENV00030M	7	10	Entry reqs.	Standard compensatable	(C: SU3)	N
Ecotoxicology	ENV00047M	7	10	Entry reqs.	Standard compensatable	(C: AU5, AU10, E: SU1)	N
Current Research and Communication in Marine Conservation	ENV00055M	7	10	Entry reqs.	Standard compensatable	(C: AU6,10)	N
Ocean and Coastal Science	Not known	7	10	Entry reqs.	Standard compensatable	(C: AU10 E:SP1)	N
Marine Ecosystems	ENV00027M	7	10	Entry reqs.	Standard compensatable	(C: AU9, E: SP1)	N
Environmental Governance	ENV00005M	7	10	Entry reqs.	Standard compensatable	(C: SU2)	N

Transfers out of or into the programme	
Exceptions to University Award Regulations approved by University Teaching Committee	
Exception	Date approved
Quality and Standards	
<p>The University has a framework in place to ensure that the standards of its programmes are maintained, and the quality of the learning experience is enhanced.</p> <p>Quality assurance and enhancement processes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The academic oversight of programmes within departments by a Board of Studies, which includes student representation • The oversight of programmes by external examiners, who ensure that standards at the University of York are comparable with those elsewhere in the sector • Annual monitoring and periodic review of programmes • The acquisition of feedback from students by departments. <p>More information can be obtained from the Academic Support Office: http://www.york.ac.uk/admin/aso/</p> <p>Departmental Statements on Audit and Review Procedures are available at: http://www.york.ac.uk/admin/aso/teach/deptstatements/index.htm</p>	
Date on which this programme information was updated:	July 12th 2017
Departmental web page:	http://www.york.ac.uk/environment
Please note	
<p>The information above provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and learning outcomes that a typical students might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the leaning opportunities that are provided.</p> <p>Detailed information on learning outcomes, content, delivery and assessment of modules can be found in module descriptions.</p> <p>The University reserves the right to modify this overview in unforeseen circumstances, or where processes of academic development, based on feedback from staff, students, external examiners or professional bodies, requires a change to be made. Students will be notified of any substantive changes at the first available opportunity.</p>	