MSc Energy, Society and Sustainability

Postgraduate Opportunities 2017

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MSc Energy, Society and Sustainability

The world is facing an 'energy trilemma'; how to achieve energy security, energy equity and environmental sustainability. Whilst equipping students with an active understanding of low carbon technologies, policies and markets, this new MSc programme is focused squarely on analysing the social, societal and environmental dimensions of energy transitions. You will examine how citizens are involved in and are affected by changes in energy systems.

On a more theoretical level, the programme will enable you to relate supply-side issues to geo-politics and political economy, whilst energy demand will be studied in relation to broader challenges of sustainable consumption.

On a more practical level you will explore the potential of 'smart' ICT to affect consumption and inform strategic choices in sustainable living at household and community level. With Scotland being a world leader in renewable electricity generation (esp. wind and marine), but also being economically dependent on declining North Sea oil and gas and suffering from high levels of energy poverty, this interdisciplinary MSc. benefits from close access to a high number of insightful case studies, which will serve to examine links between global and local issues, explore international best practices and identify locally suited pathways to more sustainable energy management.

Student Experience

A week long residential field trip, to a location such as the Orkney Islands (Scotland) will develop students' practical experience and skills in energy research in communities that are at the forefront of the transition to distributed, intermittent 'smart grids'.

Studying MSc Energy, Society and Sustainability

The programme has been designed to develop transdisciplinary perspectives on the energy trilemma and integrative analytical skills (qualitative and quantitative) which are in short supply in the energy sector. The full-time programme is divided into two semesters of taught courses, followed by a field trip at Easter before the dissertation period over the summer. We are happy to accommodate different workingpatterns for part-time students, including a half day a week schedule for three-year part time study.

Compulsory courses typically will be*:

Energy & Society I (methods and applications); Energy Policy and Politics; Energy & Society II (themes and issues); Energy in the Global South

Option courses*:

The University of Edinburgh offers an unrivalled selection of relevant optional courses for the MSc in Energy, Society and Sustainability. Bearing in mind your particular background and interests, the Programme Director will assist you in your choice from a large menu of optional courses related to six potential specialisation pathways:

Sustainable Technologies and Economics; Politics; Development; Science and Technology; Environmental Sustainability; Policy

**Courses are offered subject to timetabling and availability.*

Programme Delivery and Duration

The programme is delivered on-campus full-time over 12 months or part-time over 24 or 36 months.

Contact us

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Careers

UK research councils cite a major skills gap in the energy sector, one of the biggest growth sectors within the UK economy in recent years. Demand has never been higher for sound evidence on behavioural change, public engagement with energy issues, and public support for community and commercial investments in low carbon energy generation. We train our graduates to translate complex science into effective policies and new business opportunities. We have strong links with government departments,energy relevant NGOs and key industry players who want to make use of these skills. Committed to helping you meet prospective employers and network with those active in the field, we organise careers events and encourage dissertations conducted in partnership with external organisations.

Entry Requirements

A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent, in the natural or social sciences or other relevant subject areas.

English Language Requirements

IELTS 7.0 (with no score lower than 6.0 in each section)TOEFL-iBT: Total 100 (with no score lower than 20 in each section). A degree from an English speaking university may be accepted in some circumstances.

2017/18 Tuition fees will be in the region of*:

Home/EU - £10,800

International - £23,700

**Please note that fees typically rise around 5% each year.*

Scholarships

Students applying for this MSc may be eligible to apply for various funding opportunities.

How to Apply

For more information and to apply for this programme online, please visit:

http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/postgraduate/degrees

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The School of GeoSciences is the largest grouping of GeoScientists in the UK, with around 400 academics, researchers and research students. The most recent Research Excellence Framework (REF 2014) rated our School as having the greatest concentration of 'world-leading' and 'internationally excellent' researchers in the field of GeoSciences in the UK. In 2016, the University was ranked 20th in the world in The Guardian University League Tables.