MSc in Energy, Society & Sustainability (ESS)

Programme Director
Dr Dan van der Horst
School of Geosciences
What this MSc is exploring

Looking for a transition to a low carbon society:

• Why & how do transitions happen?
• How do technology and society co-evolve?
• What are good points of intervention (identify transition pathways)?
• (how) can transitions be managed?
• How to assess trade-offs, synergies and side-effects?
Core courses

1. Energy & Society I: Themes & Issues
2. Energy in the Global South
3. Energy & Society II: Methods & Applications
4. Energy Policy & Politics
5. Dissertation (at UoE or with partner organisation)
Optional courses

Two courses, many choices, including:

- Environmental/Ecological Economics
- Business studies
- Environmental sustainability
- Science & Technology Studies
- Politics
- International Development
About the students

• Sept 2017; 17 students (from 80 applicants)
• Sept 2018: 28 students (from 140 applicants)
• Passports: GB (45%), EU (30%), planet (25%) .
• Academic background = diverse! 50% social sciences & humanities; 50% natural sciences.
• Previous experience; often 2-8y (often in energy industry).
• Motivations include: career change, develop new business plan, step towards PhD, contribute to the energy transition!
I’m sure you have further questions

Please don’t hesitate to get in touch!

Dan.vanderhorst@ed.ac.uk