This exciting MSc is offered by Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC) and the University of Edinburgh’s School of GeoSciences. SRUC is a widely respected higher education institute dedicated to producing specialist research, delivering high quality education and providing comprehensive consultancy services in the rural sector within the UK and beyond. 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.
Helping to feed the world in the 21st Century

Food security has become a critically important issue for societies around the globe. Interactions between demographics, changes in diet, trade liberalisation, an increased focus on conservation, technological innovations including GM crops, the impact of climate change and new responses to climate change resource limitations (particularly in terms of energy, water and nutrients) all effect food security. There is an increasing demand for qualified experts to contribute to policy creation and legislation in food production and the supply chain.

This unique MSc, a collaboration by Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC) and the University of Edinburgh’s School of GeoSciences, offers you the scope and the multidisciplinary approach to address all these issues, as well as giving you an understanding of technical, agronomic, environmental, economic and socio-political factors that also influence food security. Upon completion, you will be equipped with the necessary analytical and communication skills to contribute to humanity’s efforts to achieve and sustain food security during the 21st century.

Studying MSc Food Security (2016 entry)
This programme consists of six taught courses studied over two semesters and an individual dissertation project. The programme also includes a study tour, which takes place in spring, and focuses on the work of key international organisations such as FAO and WFP.

Compulsory courses
• Frameworks to assess Food Security
• Sustainability of Food Production
• Interrelationships in Food Systems
• Dissertation

Through consultation with your Programme Director you will also choose from a range of option courses.

Suggested option courses may include
• Applications in Ecological Economics
• Atmospheric Quality and Global Change
• Case Studies in Sustainable Development
• Climate Change and Corporate Strategy
• Ecosystem Services 1: Ecosystem Dynamics and Functions
• Ecosystem Services 2: Ecosystem Values and Management
• Environmental Impact Assessment
• Foundations in Ecological Economics
• Human Dimensions of Environmental Change and Sustainability
• Integrated Resource Management
• Integrated Resource Planning
• Interrelationships in Food Systems
• Land Use/Environmental Interactions
• Marine Systems and Policies
• Principles of Environmental Sustainability
• Soil Protection and Management
• Soil Science Concepts and Application
• Understanding Environment and Development

Careers
Graduates of this programme typically go on to work in government and non-governmental agencies as well as international bodies and businesses where they can utilise the invaluable skills they have acquired on the programme, such as food security assessment.

Entry Requirements
A UK 2:1 degree in an agricultural, ecological, biological or environmental science, engineering, social science, economics, politics or other relevant subject. Applicants with a UK 2:2 degree may also be considered with relevant work experience. For international equivalents see http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/postgraduate-entry

Programme Delivery and Duration
The programme is delivered on-campus
Full-time 12 months or Part-time 24 or 36 months

2016/17 Tuition Fees
Home/EU - £10,200; Overseas/International - £22,500
There is an Additional Programme Cost for this programme of £1600 which contributes towards the field trip, overseas study tour and dissertation costs.

Scholarships
Students applying for Food Security may be eligible to apply for funding. More information can be found online: http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/geosciences/postgraduate/masters-programme

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. More information about other qualifications we accept is online: www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/english

How to Apply
Please apply for this programme online: http://www.ed.ac.uk/pg/668

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