“Edinburgh isn’t so much a city, more a way of life … I doubt I’ll ever tire of exploring Edinburgh, on foot or in print.”
Ian Rankin
Best-selling author and alumnus
Influencing the world since 1583

For more than 400 years the University of Edinburgh has been changing the world. Our staff and students have explored space, won Nobel Prizes and revolutionised surgery. They’ve published era-defining books, run the country, made life-saving breakthroughs and laid the foundations to solve the mysteries of the universe.

Our distinguished alumni include NASA astronaut Piers Sellers, former MI5 Director-General Dame Stella Rimington, Olympians Sir Chris Hoy and Katherine Grainger and historical greats such as philosopher David Hume, suffragist Chrystal Macmillan, who founded the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, and physicist and mathematician James Clerk Maxwell.

International collaboration
An internationally renowned centre for academic excellence, we forge world-class collaborations with partners such as the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Stanford University, the University of Melbourne, Peking University, the University of Delhi and the University of Kwazulu-Natal. As a member of the League of European Research Universities and the Coimbra Group, we link up with leading institutions across Europe.

Linking research and commerce
We were one of the first UK universities to develop commercial links with industry, government and the professions. Edinburgh Innovations promotes and commercialises our research excellence and can assist you in taking the first step to market, through collaborative research, licensing technology or consultancy.

Enhancing your career
We are committed to embedding employability in your University experience and have one of the Russell Group’s best track records for graduate employment. From volunteering schemes to our sector-leading careers service, we provide you with opportunities to develop your skills, knowledge and experience, giving you an edge in the competitive job market.

4TH
We’re ranked fourth in the UK for research power, based on research quality and breadth.*

83%
The majority of our research – 83 per cent – is considered world leading or internationally excellent.*

32ND
We’re ranked 32nd in the world for the employability of our graduates.†

£268m
In 2015/16 we won £268 million in competitive research grants.

TOP 50
We’re consistently ranked one of the top 50 universities in the world. We’re 23rd in the 2018 QS World University Rankings.

13TH
We’re ranked 13th in the world’s most international universities.‡ Students from two-thirds of the world’s countries study here.

* Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014
† Latest Emerging Global Employability University Ranking
‡ Times Higher Education: The World’s Most International Universities 2017
Taught masters programmes

As the largest grouping of geoscientists in the UK, we are uniquely placed to offer more than 20 innovative taught masters programmes and certificates spanning the entire spectrum of the geosciences field.

The range of master of science (MSc) programmes we offer seeks to address societal needs and the global challenges facing the world today. They are underpinned by four areas of research excellence in the School: future energy; sustainable landscapes and seascapes; hazard and risks; and health inequality and environment. We pay close attention to changes in the market and to scientific developments, ensuring our offering is up to date and that our programmes are designed with the ever-changing needs of our students at the forefront of our minds. We have recently launched MSc programmes in Sustainable Plant Health, and Energy, Society & Sustainability, as well as an online learning opportunity in Carbon Management. Our growing range of postgraduate taught programmes allows you to benefit from cutting-edge research knowledge and skills training in your selected subject and beyond.

Flexibility

While each programme has compulsory courses which provide its framework, the School offers a wide range of option courses from which you can complete the credits required for your MSc. The Programme Director will proactively assist you in making the most of your course selection. Recommended options are included in each programme entry in this prospectus to allow you to see the scope for focus on areas which particularly interest you.

We are committed to supporting those already in employment or with family commitments and most of our MSc programmes can be studied part time across two or three years.

Online learning

The University of Edinburgh is the biggest provider of online learning in the Russell Group. Just like our on-campus provision, all of our online programmes are delivered by dedicated academics, many of whom are leaders in their field. Our postgraduate certificates (PgCert) in Climate Change Management, Carbon Innovation, Global Environment Challenges, and the online version of our award-winning MSc Carbon Management are flexible options if you prefer to study at home because of professional or family commitments.

Field trips

A number of our programmes incorporate residential field trips and day excursions that really enhance your learning experience and enable you to put valuable research and vocational skills into practice. Recent destinations include Tanzania (MSc Ecological Economics), Morocco (MSc Soils & Sustainability and MSc Environmental Protection & Management), Italy (MSc Food Security), the southern European coastline, the Cairngorms (MSc Ecosystem Services) and the Maldives (MSc Marine Systems & Policies).

Dissertation

After completing the taught component of your programme, you will complete a dissertation. With direction from your Programme Director and dissertation supervisor, you will be encouraged to develop your own research focus or to select from a range of unique projects made available by academic staff from across the School and through links with industry partners or external organisations. The School offers publication prizes for the top dissertations each year.

Collaborations

The city of Edinburgh is a genuine hub for geosciences with a high concentration of businesses and other organisations working in the field. Our taught programmes are strengthened through collaborations with a range of internal and external partners, including the University of Edinburgh Business School, the Schools of History, Classics & Archaeology, and Social & Political Science, and Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC).

The majority of our taught masters programmes enjoy an affiliation with the University’s Global Environment & Society Academy: www.ed.ac.uk/global-environment-society

We are additionally privileged to host lectures by representatives from government organisations and industry, who contribute to our programmes, courses and dissertation supervision, providing you with the skills and contacts needed to fulfil your ambitions.

Each year the School hosts a Research Practitioner Mixer event designed to facilitate networking between you and a range of internal and external partners. Many students meet dissertation supervisors at this event or forge useful connections for future employment opportunities.

Programme description

This new programme is aimed at students who would like to pursue a geosciences-related career in the future energy sector, as it transitions from fossil fuels to a low carbon economy. Our aim is to offer a programme that uses subsurface (geological) knowledge, opening a diverse range of career pathways in lower carbon energy technologies, the disposal of energy-related wastes and the hydrocarbon industry.

The programme builds on the strength and reputation of the research groups, operating in the School of Geosciences, on uses of the subsurface: carbon capture and storage (CCS); radioactive waste disposal; energy storage and extraction; unconventional and conventional hydrocarbons; wet and dry geothermal heat; and subsurface fluid tracing using noble gases and stable isotopes.

Programme structure

The programme includes a series of taught courses and a dissertation.

**COMPULSORY COURSES PROPOSED INCLUDE:**

Future Geoenergy Resources; Applied Hydrogeology and Near-surface Geophysics; Hydrogeology 2; Environmental Geochemistry; Project Design and Literature Analysis; Carbon Storage and Monitoring; Disasters in Applied Geoscience (Geoenergy), plus, depending on your background, either: Subsurface Reservoir Quality; or Geology for Earth Resources, and Hydrocarbons.

In consultation with the Programme Director, you will choose from a range of option courses: Ore Mineralogy, Petrology & Geochemistry; Seismic Reflection Interpretation; Carbon Capture and Transport; Helmsdale MSc Field Excursion; Environmental Problems and Issues; Nuclear Waste Management; Principles, Policies & Practice.

Career opportunities

This programme will train you in the use of subsurface geological knowledge, opening a diverse range of career pathways in lower carbon energy technologies and the disposal of energy-related wastes. These include radioactive waste disposal, carbon capture and storage, geothermal energy, and subsurface energy storage including compressed air energy storage. Other pathways include working in environmental and regulatory aspects of energy storage involving potential pollution; tracking subsurface fluids in the event of leakage from subsurface facilities and ground water resources.

Entry requirements

A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), in a science or engineering subject. We will also take any relevant professional experience into account where appropriate. Evidence of mathematical ability is required.

English language requirements

See page 28.

Fees and funding

For fees see page 28 and for funding information see page 30.

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Programme Director Dr Mark Wilkinson
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Carbon Innovation

PgCert 1 yr PT

Programme description
Based upon our highly successful on-campus MSc Carbon Management, this online programme uses a blend of interactive content, videos, virtual case studies and weekly online discussions to explore the economics and policy of climate change management. You will acquire a detailed understanding of the economics of climate change, carbon footprinting, ecosystem valuation, energy systems and energy policy through the interdisciplinary nature of the programme.

This programme is designed for graduates with a passion for tackling climate change and who require the flexibility that online learning provides. The programme is affiliated with the University’s Global Environment & Society Academy (GEASA); www.ed.ac.uk/global-environment-society.

Programme structure
This certificate may be studied as a standalone qualification. Alternatively, it may form one third of the online MSc Carbon Management, or half of the new online diploma in Carbon Management.

COMPULSORY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- Carbon Economics; Climate Change Measurement; Energy & Climate

Studying online
As a student of one of our online programmes, you will:
- have the flexibility to study when most convenient for you;
- be able to study from anywhere with an internet connection;
- have access to all University services and relevant academics;
- become part of a rich and varied online community of people; and
- learn the latest developments from people working at the leading edge in your field.

To try our Virtual Learning Environment, please visit our demo page: http://demo.climate.ed.ac.uk

Career opportunities
Through our existing MSc Carbon Management programme we boast excellent relationships with sector-relevant employers, as well as a great alumni network covering more than 25 countries. This provides unrivalled opportunities to collaborate on research projects and find new positions in the field of carbon management. The main employment opportunities for our graduates are now doing, visit: www.ed.ac.uk/geoosciences

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry) in any subject. We will also take any professional experience into account.

English language requirements
See page 28.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 28 and for funding information see page 30.

Programme Director
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www.ed.ac.uk/pg/904

Carbon Management

MSc 1 yr FT (2-3 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
The MSc in Carbon Management is a landmark collaboration between the world renowned Schools of Geosciences, Economics and the Business School at the University of Edinburgh. It provides you with the expertise, knowledge and skills in the business, economics and science of carbon management. Carbon management is now at the heart of tackling climate change and has rapidly become a central part of the global business environment. Edinburgh has emerged as one of the most important global centres in this new discipline. This innovative programme, taught by world leading experts in key fields of climate change and carbon management, is for graduates who want an advanced academic qualification to launch careers in carbon and climate change management in business or government.

Programme structure
This programme consists of two semesters of taught courses. Each course consists of a balance of lectures, seminars, workshops and visits. You will then undertake individual dissertation project work.

COMPULSORY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation; Business and Climate Change; Carbon Economics; Climate Change Management; Applied Carbon Methods; Dissertation.

RECOMMENDED OPTION COURSES
In consultation with the Programme Director, you will choose from a range of option courses. We have previously offered:

Career opportunities
A key strength of our programme is the employability of our graduates. The programme, which has won the PricewaterhouseCoopers award for ‘Teaching Employable Skills’, provides the opportunity to conduct business carbon audits, work on placements with major industry groups such as the 2020 Climate Group, and conduct dissertation research as part of work-based projects with a wide range of external collaborators. Our graduates are enjoying roles ranging from government advisers and NGO researchers, to renewable energy project developers and commercial carbon management consultants. To see what more than 100 of our alumni are now doing, visit: www.geos.ed.ac.uk/homes/dray/mccarbor.html

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), in either economics, management, social sciences, physical sciences, geology, geography, environmental sciences, astronomy, biology, health sciences, chemistry, earth sciences, physics, engineering, business administration, or accounting and finance.

English language requirements
See page 28.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 28 and for funding information see page 30.

Programme Director
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www.ed.ac.uk/pg/412
Programme description

Our online MSc Carbon Management is a groundbreaking development of the award winning residential programme. Building on the proven success and content of the established residential programme, this new online programme provides you with high-level knowledge, skills and training in the business, economics and science of carbon management.

The programme is designed for graduates who want an advanced academic qualification in tackling climate change management by business, industry, NGOs and government, with the flexibility that online learning provides. This programme is affiliated with the University’s Global Environment & Society Academy (GESA); www.ed.ac.uk/global-environment-society

Programme structure

The programme is organised into three component certificates:

• PgCert Climate Change Management
• PgCert Carbon Innovation
• Applied Carbon Methods

Coursework is delivered online.

Studying online

As a student of one of our online programmes, you will:

• have the flexibility to study when most convenient for you;
• be able to study from anywhere with an internet connection;
• have access to all University services and relevant academic support;
• become part of a rich and varied online community; and
• learn the latest developments from people working at the leading edge of your field.

To try our Virtual Learning Environment, please visit our demo:
http://demo.climate.ed.ac.uk

Career opportunities

Throughout our existing MSc Carbon Management programme we boast excellent relationships with sector relevant employers, as well as a great alumni network covering more than 25 countries. This provides you with unrivalled opportunities to collaborate on research projects and find new positions in the field of carbon management. The main employment opportunities for our graduates include climate change consultancy, renewable energy and carbon management project development, or as government or non-governmental organisation (NGO) climate change advisors. Several of our graduates are now studying for climate change focused PhDs.

Entry requirements

A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry) in any subject. We will also take any professional experience into account.

English language requirements

See page 28.

Fees and funding

For fees see page 28 and for funding information see page 30.

Programme Director

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www.ed.ac.uk/pg/879
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MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs or 3 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
The world faces an 'energy trilemma' - how to achieve energy security, energy equity and environmental sustainability. This programme will equip you with an understanding of low carbon technologies, policies and markets, focused on analysis of social, societal and environmental dimensions of energy transitions. You will examine how citizens are involved in and are affected by changes in energy systems. You will relate supply-side issues to geo-politics and political economy, study energy demand in relation to broader challenges of sustainable consumption and explore the potential of 'smart' ICT to affect consumption and inform sustainable living choices. Scotland is a world leader in renewable electricity generation (wind and marine) but is economically dependent on declining North Sea oil and gas, with high levels of energy poverty. This provides case studies to examine links between global and local issues and explore best practice and sustainable energy management.

Programme structure
You will develop transdisciplinary perspectives on the energy trilemma and integrative qualitative and quantitative analytical skills. Your taught courses will be followed by a field trip, and your dissertation.

COMPULSORY COURSES PROPOSED INCLUDE:
- Energy & Society I: Key themes and issues; Energy in the Global South; Energy & Society II: Methods and applications; Energy Policy and Politics.

RECOMMENDED OPTION COURSES
- Technologies for Sustainable Energy AND Energy and Environmental Economics: Applications in Ecological Economics; Global Environment: Key issues; Global Environmental Politics; Resource Politics and Development; Governance, Development and Poverty in Africa; Principles of Sustainable Development; Human Dimensions of Environmental Sustainability; Climate Change Management; Case Studies in Sustainable Development; Science, Knowledge and Expertise: Development, Science and Technology; Controversies in Science and Technology: Economic Issues in Public Policy; Political Issues in Public Policy. Our option courses are in six thematic areas: public policy, low carbon technology and economics; environmental sustainability; social studies of technology; development and poverty alleviation; and environmental politics.

Career opportunities
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 you 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 (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), in natural or social sciences or a similar subject.

English language requirements
See page 28.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 28 and for funding information see page 30.

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Environmental, Culture & Society

Taught masters programmes

MSc 1 yr FT (2 or 3 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description

This exciting MSc draws upon the breadth and background to bridge disciplinary divides and tackle the environmental issues that face us all. It provides up to date knowledge of the contemporary issues and debates on the relationships between the environment, nature, culture and society. This interdisciplinary programme draws on expertise from across the University, including biogeography, philosophy, theology, science, technology studies and development studies, providing a unique critical perspective. You will develop the research skills and abilities to assess the importance and implications of environmental, philosophical and other theoretical debates which shape environmental policy and practice. Our graduates are equipped to think critically, to generate new knowledge related to the environment, and to use this knowledge effectively to address urgent environmental challenges.

Programme structure

This programme consists of six taught courses, including four option courses, studied over two semesters. In addition, you will undertake a dissertation. You will also undertake a research project leading to a dissertation.

RECOMMENDED OPTION COURSES


FIELD TRIP

An integral, week-long study tour lets you refresh skills learned on the programme and develop new tools and techniques, useful during the dissertation process. The tour is currently held in Imlil, Morocco. In addition to the formal taught component, we provide visits to Medina in Marrakesh, and to a kasbah for tea. There may also be a short tour during induction week, to allow you to get to know your fellow students.

Career opportunities

Our graduates go on to work within environmental consultancy, national and local government, non-profit organisations, education or research. Your choice of option courses and dissertation project can be used to tailor your studies to support your intended career path. Recent graduates have gone on to work in government and local government, non-profit organisations, education or research. 

Entry requirements

UK 2.1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ international/graduate-entry). We may also consider a UK 2.2 honours degree, or its international equivalent, with relevant industry experience.

English language requirements

See page 28.

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Programme Director
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MSc 1 yr FT (2 or 3 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description

This programme is an MSc in collaboration with Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC). Human activities are recognised as having an increasingly significant effect on the Earth’s biosphere. Our use of natural resources, deforestation, soil erosion, the release of potentially toxic compounds and pathogens, and the increase in greenhouse gases are all examples of pressures that have potentially serious consequences for humanity and other life on Earth. This programme will give you a fundamental understanding of the issues affecting the Earth, enabling you to play a vital role in developing and enacting strategies to promote the environment, both in Europe and in Beyond.

Programme structure

This programme involves taught courses plus a research dissertation.

RECOMMENDED OPTION COURSES

- Principles of Environmental Sustainability: Principles of Soil Protection and Management; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Agriculture; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Forestry; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Fisheries; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Marine Fisheries; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Aquaculture; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Water Management.

Field trip

An integral, week-long study tour lets you refresh skills learned on the programme and develop new tools and techniques, useful during the dissertation process. The tour is currently held in Imlil, Morocco. In addition to the formal taught component, we provide visits to Medina in Marrakesh, and to a kasbah for tea. There may also be a short tour during induction week, to allow you to get to know your fellow students.

Career opportunities

Our graduates go on to work within environmental consultancy, national and local government, non-profit organisations, education or research. Your choice of option courses and dissertation project can be used to tailor your studies to support your intended career path. Recent graduates have gone on to work in government and local government, non-profit organisations, education or research. 

Entry requirements

UK 2.1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ international/graduate-entry). We may also consider a UK 2.2 honours degree, or its international equivalent, with relevant industry experience.

English language requirements

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Environmental Protection & Management

MSc 1 yr FT (2 or 3 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description

This programme is in collaboration with Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC). Human activities are recognised as having an increasingly significant effect on the Earth’s biosphere. Our use of natural resources, deforestation, soil erosion, the release of potentially toxic compounds and pathogens, and the increase in greenhouse gases are all examples of pressures that have potentially serious consequences for humanity and other life on Earth. This programme will give you a fundamental understanding of the issues affecting the Earth, enabling you to play a vital role in developing and enacting strategies to promote the environment, both in Europe and in Beyond.

Programme structure

This programme involves taught courses plus a research dissertation.

RECOMMENDED OPTION COURSES

- Principles of Environmental Sustainability: Principles of Soil Protection and Management; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Agriculture; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Forestry; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Fisheries; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Marine Fisheries; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Aquaculture; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Water Management.

Field trip

An integral, week-long study tour lets you refresh skills learned on the programme and develop new tools and techniques, useful during the dissertation process. The tour is currently held in Imlil, Morocco. In addition to the formal taught component, we provide visits to Medina in Marrakesh, and to a kasbah for tea. There may also be a short tour during induction week, to allow you to get to know your fellow students.

Career opportunities

Our graduates go on to work within environmental consultancy, national and local government, non-profit organisations, education or research. Your choice of option courses and dissertation project can be used to tailor your studies to support your intended career path. Recent graduates have gone on to work in government and local government, non-profit organisations, education or research. 

Entry requirements

UK 2.1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ international/graduate-entry). We may also consider a UK 2.2 honours degree, or its international equivalent, with relevant industry experience.

English language requirements

See page 28.

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Environmental Sustainability

MSc 1 yr FT (2 or 3 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description

This programme is an MSc in collaboration with Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC). Human activities are recognised as having an increasingly significant effect on the Earth’s biosphere. Our use of natural resources, deforestation, soil erosion, the release of potentially toxic compounds and pathogens, and the increase in greenhouse gases are all examples of pressures that have potentially serious consequences for humanity and other life on Earth. This programme will give you a fundamental understanding of the issues affecting the Earth, enabling you to play a vital role in developing and enacting strategies to promote the environment, both in Europe and in Beyond.

Programme structure

This programme involves taught courses plus a research dissertation.

RECOMMENDED OPTION COURSES

- Principles of Environmental Sustainability: Principles of Soil Protection and Management; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Agriculture; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Forestry; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Fisheries; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Marine Fisheries; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Aquaculture; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Water Management.

Field trip

An integral, week-long study tour lets you refresh skills learned on the programme and develop new tools and techniques, useful during the dissertation process. The tour is currently held in Imlil, Morocco. In addition to the formal taught component, we provide visits to Medina in Marrakesh, and to a kasbah for tea. There may also be a short tour during induction week, to allow you to get to know your fellow students.

Career opportunities

Our graduates go on to work within environmental consultancy, national and local government, non-profit organisations, education or research. Your choice of option courses and dissertation project can be used to tailor your studies to support your intended career path. Recent graduates have gone on to work in government and local government, non-profit organisations, education or research. 

Entry requirements

UK 2.1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ international/graduate-entry). We may also consider a UK 2.2 honours degree, or its international equivalent, with relevant industry experience.

English language requirements

See page 28.

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Food Security

MSc 1 yr FT (2 or 3 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description

This programme is an MSc in collaboration with Scotland’s Rural College. Food security has become a critically important issue for societies around the world. The increasing tension between demographic 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 (particularly in terms of energy, water and nutrition) all affect food security. With such a rapid growth in this area, there is an increasing demand for qualified experts to contribute to policy creation and implementation. In this programme MSc offers you the scope and multidisciplinary approach to address all of these issues and to approach the technical, agronomic, environmental, economic and socio-political factors that influence food security. You will be equipped with the analytical and communication skills to contribute to humanity’s efforts to achieve and sustain food security during the 21st century.

Programme structure

The programme is run in collaboration with Scotland’s rural college. It consists of six taught courses and a dissertation.

RECOMMENDED OPTION COURSES

- Principles of Environmental Sustainability: Principles of Soil Protection and Management; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Agriculture; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Forestry; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Fisheries; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Marine Fisheries; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Aquaculture; Principles of Environmental Sustainability for Water Management.

Field trip

An integral, week-long study tour lets you refresh skills learned on the programme and develop new tools and techniques, useful during the dissertation process. The tour is currently held in Imlil, Morocco. In addition to the formal taught component, we provide visits to Medina in Marrakesh, and to a kasbah for tea. There may also be a short tour during induction week, to allow you to get to know your fellow students.

Career opportunities

Our graduates go on to work within environmental consultancy, national and local government, non-profit organisations, education or research. Your choice of option courses and dissertation project can be used to tailor your studies to support your intended career path. Recent graduates have gone on to work in government and local government, non-profit organisations, education or research. 

Entry requirements

UK 2.1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ international/graduate-entry). We may also consider a UK 2.2 honours degree, or its international equivalent, with relevant industry experience.

English language requirements

See page 28.

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The University of Edinburgh
Coimhices Postgraduate Opportunities 2018
Geographical Information Science

This programme, accredited by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, offers expert understanding of the latest developments in geographical information science (GIS). It mixes practical training, theory and an ability to apply learned skills in any software environment, and offers hands-on experience in geographical problem solving.

Programme structure
This programme comprises two semesters of taught courses, delivered through lectures and seminars, and a dissertation.

COMPULSORY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- Spatial Modelling and Analysis; Research Practice and Project Planning; Technological Infrastructures for GIS; Dissertation.

RECOMMENDED OPTION COURSES
In consultation with the Programme Director, you will choose from a range of option courses. We have previously offered: Active Remote Sensing: Radar and Lidar; Advanced Spatial Database Methods; Atmospheric Quality and Global Change; Business Geographics; Case Studies in Sustainable Development; Ecosystem Services 1: Ecosystem Dynamics and Functions; Ecosystem Services 2: Ecosystem Values and Management; Environmental Impact Assessment; Introduction to Environmental Modelling; Marine Systems and Policy; Passive Earth Observation: New Platforms, Sensors, and Analytical Methods; Principles and Practice of Remote Sensing; Principles of Geographical Information Science; Technologies for Sustainable Energy; Water Resource Management.

Field trip
There is a field trip to Highland Perthshire in October, focusing on project management and techniques for capturing geospatial information.

Career opportunities
Demand for GIS expertise is growing at an unprecedented rate and our internationally recognised programme is held in high regard by employers. Recent graduates are now working in a variety of GIS roles worldwide in public and private sector organisations, for employers such as Microsoft, Google, General Electric Aerospace, The World Bank, British Antarctic Survey, The World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Detolite, Total, British Airways, the Forestry Commission, DEFRA, Clean Earth Energy, ARUP, Scottish Water, Green Highland Renewable and Historic Scotland.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/International/graduate-entry). We may also consider a UK 2:2 honours degree, or its international equivalent, with relevant industry experience.

English language requirements
See page 28.

Programme Director
Dr Neil Stuart
Tel +44 (0)131 650 2549
Email n.stuart@ed.ac.uk

Fees and funding
For fees see page 28 and for funding information see page 30.

Geographical Information Science & Archaeology

This programme offers you the chance to develop a detailed understanding of the application of geographical information science (GIS) within the field of archaeology. The programme has a distinctive Scottish flavour, and you will benefit from the guidance of internationally recognised staff. The programme combines the expertise of GIS and archaeological techniques, ensuring that students will be equipped with the technical and communication skills necessary to work in this vibrant area. Demand for the application of GIS within archaeology is growing at an unprecedented rate, including searching for new archaeological sites, determining the societal context of existing sites and examining the interplay between successive occupations of a site. The proven ability of our MSc graduates in employment means our programme is held in high regard by a wide range of employers.

Programme structure
The programme is organised into two semesters of taught courses, delivered through lectures and seminars, after which you will work towards your individual dissertation.

COMPULSORY COURSE PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- GIS and Spatial Analysis for Archaeologists; Research Practice and Project Planning; Spatial Modelling and Analysis; Dissertation.

RECOMMENDED OPTION COURSES
In consultation with the Programme Director, you will choose from a range of option courses. We have previously offered: Active Remote Sensing: Radar and Lidar; Business Geographics; Exploring the Past with Visual Analytics; Principles of Geographical Information Science; Quantitative Methods and Reasoning in Archaeology; Space, Place and Time: the Archaeology of Building Environments; Technological Infrastructures for GIS; The Scottish Lowlands: Archaeology and Landscape before the Normans; Valuing the Past.

Field trip
There is a field trip to Highland Perthshire in October, focusing on project management and techniques for capturing geospatial information.

Career opportunities
The expertise gained on this programme will allow you to continue to study or to pursue a career in surveying, illustration and 3D visualisation, digital archiving, heritage management, terrain modelling, database management, geomatics or consultancy. Our graduates have gained work in both public and private sector organisations, including Historic Scotland, English Heritage, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, thinkWhere (formerly Forth Valley GIS) and CRA Archaeology.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/International/graduate-entry). We may also consider a UK 2:2 honours degree, or its international equivalent, with relevant industrial or business experience.

English language requirements
See page 28.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 28 and for funding information see page 30.

Programme Director
Dr Neil Stuart
Tel +44 (0)131 650 2549
Email n.stuart@ed.ac.uk

Global Environment Challenges

This MSc may form one third of an MSc in Global Challenges, with Global Health Challenges and Global Development Challenges making up the other two thirds. More information: www.ed.ac.uk/pg/921

Career opportunities
This certificate will equip you with the knowledge and skills needed for work with governments, NGOs, international aid organisations, United Nations agencies, the private sector, universities and other research institutions.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/International/graduate-entry). In any subject. We will also take any relevant experience into account.

English language requirements
See page 28.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 28 and for funding information see page 30.

Programme Director
Professor Mark Rounsevell
Tel +44 (0)131 651 4468
Email mark.rounsevell@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/74
www.ed.ac.uk/pg/795
www.ed.ac.uk/pg/798

The University of Edinburgh CoS (Postgraduate) Opportunities 2018

The programme draws multidisciplinary expertise from the University and beyond, through the Global Environment & Society Academy, a network of experts developing innovative solutions for the world’s most challenging problems: www.ed.ac.uk/global-environment-society.
Marine Systems & Policies

Programme description
This programme is unique in Europe and beyond. It embraces a holistic, interdisciplinary approach to understanding the roles of humans and their connection to polar and marine ecosystems for survival and prosperity. We approach marine ecosystems as an integrated socioecological system by focusing on three spheres of marine systems:

- Marine natural ecosystems – exploring marine conservation across diverse scales of marine biomes, habitats and species, spanning islands, coasts, estuaries, continental shelves, polar seas and global oceans.
- Marine policy – considering different approaches to marine spatial planning and governance of marine ecosystems and services, through formal international to regional policies, laws and informal customs and traditional knowledge.
- Marine built systems – exploring ‘blue growth’ opportunities e.g. the ingenuity and impact of human built environments in marine settings, from redhaped coastlines for cities, trade and travel, to the urbanisation of ocean environments driven by innovations in marine energy.

Programme structure
This programme involves two semesters of taught courses, integrated field trips and a dissertation-style research project.

Sustainable Plant Health

Programme description
The programme has a strong collaboration with Scotland’s Rural College. Soils form the basis of all agricultural production, but they also store water, mediate the impact of pollutants, provide biological habitats, have an impact on the accumulation of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere, are involved in dealing with society’s waste, are a source of extratable minerals and provide the foundations for the housing and roads on which society depends. As such, sustainable use and management are crucial to protect this natural resource for the future.

This programme introduces you to concepts and analytical techniques of soil science for the 21st century and is suitable if you wish to pursue a career in land-based management or environmental protection.

Programme structure
You will complete two semesters of taught courses and a dissertation.

COMPULSORY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- Soil Protection and Management
- Soil Science Concepts and Application
- Soil Ecology and Taxonomy
- Professional and Research Skills in Practice: Dissertation

RECOMMENDED OPTION COURSES
In consultation with the Programme Director, you will choose from a range of option courses. We have previously offered:
- Spatial Modelling: Goodness of Fit
- Geodiversity Conservation and Interpretation: Culture, Ethics & Environment
- Analysing the Environment: Study Tour
- Ecosystem Dynamics and Functions: Human Dimensions of Environmental Change and Sustainability
- Principles of Environmental Sustainability: Principles of GIS
- Project Appraisal: Atmospheric Quality and Global Change: Frameworks to Assess Food Security
- Ecosystem Values and Management: Environmental Impact Assessment
- Land Use/Environmental Interactions: Participation in Policy and Planning: Sustainability of Food Production

Field trips
An integral, week-long study tour lets you refresh skills learned on the programme and develop new tools and techniques, useful during the dissertation process. The tour is currently held in Imlil, Morocco. In addition to the formal taught component, we provide visits to Medina in Marrakesh, and to a kasbah for tea. There may also be a short tour during induction week, to allow you to get to know your fellow students.

Career opportunities
The British Society of Soil Science has identified soil science as an area with a shortage of critical skills, placing graduates in high demand. Soil scientists work in a broad range of vocations including university consultancy, research, overseas development, environmental impact assessment and analysis, site reclamation and remediation, and conservation work as well as advising on government policy, archaeological excavations and laboratory analyses, forensics and landscape design.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1, 2:2 or international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/ international/graduate-entry), in natural sciences or social sciences, but with clear evidence of interest and knowledge in marine topics.

English language requirements
See page 28.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 28 and for funding information see page 30.

Programme Director
Dr Jennifer Carfrae
Tel +44 (0)131 535 4417
Email jennifer.carfrae@str.ac.uk

The programme has helped me get a deeper understanding of economics, anthropology, gender issues and policies. It also created a platform for me to perfect my leadership skills through forums such as The Skoll World Forum and receiving the Edinburgh Award on Transformative Leadership.”

Anita Owiti, MasterCard Foundation Scholar, MSc Environment & Development
Research at the School of GeoSciences

As the largest grouping of geoscientists in the UK, we offer an extensive range of research opportunities for postgraduates.

The University of Edinburgh has an unbroken record of teaching and research in the earth sciences going back to 1770, when Robert Ramsay became the first Professor of Natural History.

James Hutton and Arthur Holmes were prominent among those who set an academic tradition in Edinburgh that continues today with the University achieving top ratings in earth sciences and environmental sciences (including geography) teaching and research.

Home of leading research

Our interactive and interdisciplinary research environment allows us to tackle difficult research questions, from causes of past glaciations to interactions of earth, climate and society. The ambition and quality of our research was reflected in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014, when 78 per cent of our research was rated world leading or internationally excellent.

Backed by industry

The School receives strong backing from industry, particularly work on technologies such as hydrocarbons and carbon capture and storage. We receive support from the EU and from major UK research councils, including the Natural Research Environment Council, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council and the Economic and Social Research Council.

Research community

Postgraduate research at the School of GeoSciences is represented by the following three research institutes:

Geography and the Lived Environment

This institute generates agenda-setting research that improves understanding of the relationships between people, society and the environment. Researchers seek to investigate key areas of contemporary and historical societal concern, including development, climate change, inequalities, land-use change, ecosystem services, social justice health and wellbeing and urbanisation. The lived environment refers to those aspects of the Earth system that are experienced by people – not as it is purely conceptualised or theorised, but as it is lived. It is a multidisciplinary concept that brings together environmental science, geography, economics, policy, social science and computer science.

Global Change

This institute seeks to improve the scientific understanding of past, present and future changes in the Earth system through measurements, theory and computational modelling. Better understanding of the Earth system allows us to inform policymakers and to develop effective mitigation strategies, which, if implemented, would minimise the economic and humanitarian implications of changes in climate and the Earth system. Our aim incorporates some of the most compelling scientific challenges of the 21st century. To address these questions we nurture an interdisciplinary research and teaching environment, integrating expertise across the institute, the School of GeoSciences and more broadly throughout the University and beyond.

Earth and Planetary Sciences

This institute undertakes research that informs the solutions to address global challenges relating to resources, natural hazards and the environment. Our researchers seek better understanding of chemical and physical properties of materials, the origin and history of pore fluids, minerals, rock assemblages, and magmas, and their interactions at all scales within the Earth. We develop new seismological, electromagnetic, gravitational, magnetic and industrial seismic methods to interrogate the Earth remotely for such information.

Dynamic leaders

The School has many high-profile academics who are leaders in their field. Stuart Haszeldine is the world’s first Professor of Carbon Capture and Storage. He co-leads Scottish Carbon Capture and Storage, the UK’s largest such group (a collaboration between the University of Edinburgh, Heriot-Watt University and the British Geological Survey). He is a member of the Advisory Group to the UK Department of Energy and Climate Change and also advises the Scottish Government.

Gabriele Hegerl is Professor for Climate System Science. She studies the causes of observed changes in climate, and detected the emerging signal of greenhouse gas increases in temperature data. She now studies causes of change in climate extremes and of climate variability and change over the past millennium. Professor Hegerl is involved in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. She was a member of the Summary for Policymakers writing team in the Fourth Assessment Report, and a member of the Synthesis Report writing team in the Fifth Report.

Simon Kelley is the Head of the School of GeoSciences and Professor of Isotope Geochimistry. One of his main research interests is measuring the rates and timescales of geological processes. Simon has worked on dating large igneous provinces, ultra-high pressure metamorphism in subduction zones, and the provenance of individual grains in ancient silts and sands. Simon’s research also extends to online teaching where he led a project to develop the virtual microscope for Earth science, an open educational resource: www.virtualmicroscope.org

International collaborations

A commitment to international partnerships is intrinsic to the School’s research ethos. We have established research links on every continent.

Some projects are global in scope, such as the calculation of surface temperatures across oceans, determining the rate at which cosmic rays bombard the Earth’s surface at different latitudes, or human transnational processes such as migration and globalisation.

Other projects focus on specific regions and communities, for example addressing issues of gender and social equality for the Nepal-Swiss Community Forestry Project in Kathmandu, or examining archaeological evidence in Iceland to evaluate the role of climate in environmental and cultural change.

Examples of our research partnerships can be found on page 19.

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Our research collaborations

We work with a wide range of research institutes, centres and universities around the world. Here is a selection of our partnerships.

Centre for Research on Environment, Society and Health

CRiSH fosters collaborations between scientists whose research is focused on exploring how physical and social environments can influence health: http://crish.org.uk

Centre for Science at Extreme Conditions

The aim of the CSEC is to promote the study of materials at extremes of pressure and temperature in electromagnetic fields: www.csec.ed.ac.uk

Edinburgh Materials and Micro-Analysis Centre

We provide integrated and interdisciplinary facilities for the application of microbeam analytical techniques to material analysis: www.ed.ac.uk/geosciences/research/facilities/MMAC

Edinburgh Research Partnership in Engineering and Mathematics

ERPem, a consortium involving the University of Edinburgh, Heriot-Watt University and Edinburgh Napier University, is organised into six Joint Research Institutes dedicated to world-class research, innovation and education in engineering and mathematical science: www.erp.ac.uk

Edinburgh Seismic Research

We are a federation of research groups forming the UK’s largest group of scientists involved in exploration geophysics: www.geos.ed.ac.uk/seismic

International Centre for Carbonate Reservoirs

ICCR is a strategic alliance between Edinburgh and Heriot-Watt universities investigating the recovery of hydrocarbons from carbonate reservoirs: www.iccr.org.uk

National Centre for Earth Observation

The NCEO is a partnership of scientists and institutions that are using data from Earth observation satellites to monitor global and regional changes in the environment: www.nceo.ac.uk

Scottish Carbon Capture and Storage

Led by the School of GeoSciences, this is the largest such grouping in the UK, with world-class expertise in hydrocarbon geoscience, industrial-scale chemical engineering, carbon capture and innovative CO2 use and power plant design: www.sccs.org.uk

Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SERC)

This is a collaborative facility operated by the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow, providing world-class analytical facilities. It hosts several national Natural Environment Research Council facilities: www.gja.ac.uk/research/aquatic

UK Geotracers

UK Geotracers is part of an international consortium founded to understand the oceanic cycles of key trace elements and isotopes: www.ukgeotracers.com

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For more information about our research centres, please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/geosciences/research
Research opportunities

We offer a range of research programmes: MSc by Research, MPhil and PhD. You can commit to anything from one year of full-time study for the MSc to six years’ part-time study for a doctorate.

MSc by Research
The master of science by research programme offers the opportunity to acquire research skills by undertaking a single year (if studying full time) of independent study within the School’s research interests.

Master of Philosophy
An MPhil resembles a PhD but only requires a minimum of two years’ study (full time), including an extended piece of supervised research. This does not carry the same requirement for original contribution to knowledge as a PhD. You’ll pursue your individual research project under supervision and submit a thesis.

Doctor of Philosophy
As a PhD student you will undertake an original research project under individual supervision. Your studies will take at least three years, and to qualify for your doctorate your thesis must be judged to represent an original contribution to knowledge. In some cases it is also possible to study a 1+3 programme, comprising a year of MSc leading on to a PhD.

Entry requirements
A UK undergraduate degree, or its international equivalent, in a related subject. We may also consider your application if you have other qualifications or experience. Please check the specific entry requirements for your programme online before applying.

Support
As a research student, you will be allocated to one of our research institutes, benefiting from an excellent peer-supported network. As groupings of researchers with related interests, the institutes provide a forum for development of ideas, collaboration, and dissemination of results, and an environment for training, development and mentoring of research students and early career researchers.

Career opportunities
Many of our graduates go on to postdoctoral research roles in universities and research institutes internationally. Others are now working as geologists, geophysicists, biogeochemists and environmental scientists for companies including BP, the Met Office and the International Seismological Centre.

More information
Enquiries for PhD, MPhil and MSc by Research programmes should be directed to:

PGR Recruitment Secretary
School of GeoSciences, Grant Institute, University of Edinburgh West Mains Road, Edinburgh EH9 3JW, UK
Tel +44 (0)131 650 5422/5854
Email pgrsupport.geos@ed.ac.uk
www.ed.ac.uk/geosciences/postgraduate/phd

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/95
www.ed.ac.uk/pg/93 (Environmental Sustainability)

Atmospheric & Environmental Sciences

PhD 3 yrs FT (6 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
MPhil 2 yrs FT (4 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Research institutes
We offer research programmes in Atmospheric & Environmental Sciences (Environmental Sustainability). Both programmes draw on expertise from the following two research institutes: Global Change and Geography and the Lived Environment.

Research profile
Global Change
Our overarching aim is to improve the scientific understanding of past, present and future changes in the Earth system through measurements, theory and computational modelling. Better understanding of the Earth system allows us to inform policy makers and to develop effective mitigation strategies, which, if implemented, would minimise the economic and humanitarian implications of changes in climate and the Earth system. Our aim incorporates some of the most compelling scientific challenges of the 21st century. To address these questions we nurture a multidisciplinary research and teaching environment, integrating expertise across the Institute, the School and more broadly throughout the University.

Geography and the Lived Environment
We seek to generate agenda-setting research that improves understanding of the relationships between people, society and the environment. Our research investigates key areas of contemporary and historical societal concern, including development, climate change, inequalities, land-use change, ecosystem services, health and wellbeing and urbanisation. The lived environment refers to those aspects of the Earth system that are experienced by people – not as it is purely conceptualised or theorised, but as it is lived. It is a multidisciplinary concept that brings together environmental science, geography, economics, policy, social science and computer science.

English language requirements
See page 28.

Fees and funding
The School receives sizeable studentship quota allocations from research councils and also offers studentships provided by successful consortium bids and research grants. School-funded scholarships are also available.

For fees see page 28 and for funding information see page 30.

Programme contact
PGR Recruitment Secretary
Tel +44 (0)131 650 5422/5854
Email pgrsupport.geos@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/105

Geography

(Human Geography)

PhD 3 yrs FT (6 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
MPhil 2 yrs FT (4 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Research group
Our research programmes in Geography draw on expertise from the School’s Human Geography Research Group, part of the Geography and the Lived Environment research institute.

Research profile
The Human Geography Research Group is recognised for its leading contribution to research at the forefront of the field. The Group’s research efforts provide challenging new insights to core geographical concerns through four research themes:

• Just Geographies: Building upon human geography’s long-standing concern with the production and consequences of inequality and uneven development.
• Nature’s Geographies: Focusing on interactions between nature and society, environment and culture.
• Materialising Geographies: Examining the relationship between materiality, technology and geography.
• Lived Geographies: Concerned with how social, economic, political and cultural processes emerge from, and shape people’s daily lives at home, work and in public.

We have expertise in a wide range of regions, including the UK and continental Europe, South Asia, Australia, North and South America, Canada, the Caribbean and the Middle East.

We collaborate with colleagues across the University including in the Schools of Education, Health in Social Science (including Counselling Studies) and Edinburgh College of Art, and other areas within the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences.

Training and support
The School is recognised as a provider of the Economic & Social Research Council (ESRC) Research Training (1+3) postgraduate training programme and has the Research Training recognised MSc by Research in Human Geography, which is co-delivered with the Scottish Graduate School of Social Science. The group is a member of the ESRC-recognised Scottish Human Geography Consortium and the Knowledge Consortium for Advanced Postgraduate Research Training in Human Geography. It has expertise in qualitative and feminist methodologies, archive use, and GIS-linked analysis of large datasets.

English language requirements
See page 28.

Fees and funding
The group receives a studentship quota allocation from the Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the ESRC and also has studentships from successful consortium bids. School-funded scholarships are also available.

For fees see page 28 and for funding information see page 30.

Programme contact
PGR Recruitment Secretary
Tel +44 (0)131 650 5422/5854
Email pgrsupport.geos@ed.ac.uk

The University is piloting PhDs by online learning. If you’re interested in studying with us this way, we’re keen to investigate possibilities in some of our areas of research.

“I have been given the space necessary to explore all the possible angles of my research and decide which to focus on. Both my Supervisor and Programme Director have always been welcoming and encouraging to my suggestions and I found a great balance of freedom to explore and work on my research, but also support when I needed it.”

Candela Sanchez-Rodilla Espeso, MSc Human Geography
Geology & Geophysics

This masters by research programme is an opportunity to carry out a substantial piece of research in any of the major branches of geosciences. The programme allows you to work on research throughout the year, and your work will be assessed primarily on your final dissertation. You can follow taught courses by arrangement with your supervisor, but none are required.

Research profile

The Edinburgh & Planetary Science research institute studies the physical and chemical properties, origin and history of the Earth, and encompasses the major disciplines of geology, geochemistry, geodynamics, meteorology and geophysics. We bring together hitherto separate fields to understand the way in which the Earth’s subsurface works – from atoms to plates, and on timescales ranging from seconds to billions of years.

We have special expertise in mineralogy; igneous, metamorphic and experimental petrology; palaeontology; sandstone and carbonate diagenesis; tectonics; rock physics and chemistry; petroleum geoscience; seismic imaging; and seismic sequence stratigraphy.

Research opportunities

The University has world-class expertise in the core disciplines of geology, palaeontology, ecology, and evolutionary biology. This new programme, run by the Centre for Geobiology & Geochemistry, gathers leading researchers in these topics from across the University and the wider Scottish community giving you the opportunity to learn from leaders in the field.

The programme comprises three compulsory courses, Research Planning and Management in Geosciences; Project Design and Literature Analysis; Topics in Palaeobiology and Evolution, a choice of option courses and a dissertation.

Dissertation

You will have the opportunity to conduct hands-on fieldwork on the Isle of Skye, one of the best places in the world to find fossils from the mysterious middle part of the Jurassic Period, including some of the first colossal long-necked dinosaurs and primitive flesh-eating tyrannosaurs. You will also be able to take part in annual trips to world-renowned fossil sites around Edinburgh, where the sciences of geology and palaeontological were forged in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Facilities

You will have access to world-class analytical facilities, including ion microprobes, electronprobe, SEM, and computed tomography scanners.

English language requirements

See page 28.

Fees and funding

For fees see page 28 and for funding information see page 30.

Programme contact

PCG Recruitment Secretary
Tel +44 (0)131 650 5422/5854
Email pgrsupport.geos@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/69

GeoSciences Individual Project

MSc by Research 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

This masters by research programme is an opportunity to carry out a substantial piece of research in any of the major branches of geosciences. The programme allows you to work on research throughout the year, and your work will be assessed primarily on your final dissertation. You can follow taught courses by arrangement with your supervisor, but none are required.

Research profile

The Earth & Planetary Science research institute studies the physical and chemical properties, origin and history of the Earth, and encompasses the major disciplines of geology, geochemistry, geodynamics, meteorology and geophysics. We bring together hitherto separate fields to understand the way in which the Earth’s subsurface works – from atoms to plates, and on timescales ranging from seconds to billions of years.

We have special expertise in mineralogy; igneous, metamorphic and experimental petrology; palaeontology; sandstone and carbonate diagenesis; tectonics; rock physics and chemistry; petroleum geoscience; seismic imaging; and seismic sequence stratigraphy.

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Facilities

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English language requirements

See page 28.

Fees and funding

For fees see page 28 and for funding information see page 30.

Programme contact

PCG Recruitment Secretary
Tel +44 (0)131 650 5422/5854
Email pgrsupport.geos@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/84

Palaontology & GeoBiology

MSc by Research 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

This programme’s emphasis on independent research allows you to work closely with scholars who are leaders in their field. Research may be in any area of social, urban, environmental, development, political, economic, historical or cultural geography that is supported by the Human Geography Research Group. It is co-delivered with the University’s Graduate School of Social Science. We offer a balance between general and specialist research training. The programme is recognised by the Economic and Social Science. We offer a balance between general and specialist research training. The programme is recognised by the Economic and Social

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About the School of GeoSciences

At the School of GeoSciences we examine the interactions between the Earth’s geology, atmosphere, oceans and life, as well as considering our own role and impact on our planet.

The effect of these complex relationships is vitally important to our world’s future, which means the skills and knowledge you will develop as a postgraduate student here will put you in an exceptional position to help make that future better. Spanning the entire spectrum of the geosciences field, we offer opportunities that are increasingly interdisciplinary and international in focus.

We are the largest geoscience research group in the UK, with around 400 academics and researchers. The quality of our research is second to none: we were ranked top in the UK for research power in the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014. We were also identified as having the greatest concentration of ‘world leading’ and ‘internationally excellent’ researchers in the UK. We offer dedicated expertise across our core teaching areas of ecology, environmental sciences, geography, geology, geophysics, meteorology and oceanography.

Illustrious past, exciting future

While we can draw upon a rich geological heritage (James Hutton, the father of modern-day geology, was an Edinburgh alumnus), we don’t rest on our laurels. The School of GeoSciences is at the forefront of new developments and thought leadership. Our current staff and research collaborations build upon established prestige and reputation, continuing to break new ground in their understanding and application of the principles of geosciences.

Talented staff

Among our large and experienced academic team are many global leaders in their fields. Two of our academics were lead authors of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s Fifth Assessment Report, while one was a review editor for the report. We also boast a double winner of the World Meteorological Organization’s Norbert Gerbier Prize and the world’s first Professor of Carbon Capture and Storage.

Industry links

Our masters programme will not only extend your knowledge in some of the most exciting areas in geosciences, but will also give you valuable, marketable skills and expertise enabling you to work at the forefront of global resource management. We work closely with industry, through Edinburgh Innovations, the University’s commercialisation office, to find practical answers to tomorrow’s problems. We also encourage our students to undertake work-based projects – collaborations with external organisations – which may form the basis of your masters dissertation.

In partnership with the University’s Global Environment and Society Academy, we hold the annual ‘Environment and Society: Researcher and Practitioner Mixer’ event. This forum gives you the chance to pitch your taught masters research ideas to prospective employers and develop collaborative projects to mutually beneficial ends.

Facilities and resources

By joining the School of GeoSciences, you will gain access to outstanding facilities. From our own aircraft to state-of-the-art computing facilities, our exceptional equipment enables our researchers, staff and students to stay at the forefront of their field.

Facilities and partnerships

The Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation (ECCI) is an exemplar of social, economic and environmental sustainability where students enrolled on relevant programmes can enjoy lectures and access to contemporary study space. ECCI was the first refurbished building in the UK to achieve the industry sustainability ‘BREEAM Outstanding’ award at the design stage. ECCI is a collaborative project with Edinburgh Napier and Heriot-Watt universities that brings together experts in law, business, technology and policymaking.

As you would expect, we have a wide range of hi-tech apparatus for the analysis of minerals and fluids, for isotopic analysis and for measuring the physical properties of materials. Few institutions can boast facilities that need a call sign for Air Traffic Control. In our case the call sign is G-GEOS and the equipment is an Eco Diamond HK36 small aircraft – invaluable for measuring trace gas concentrations up to altitudes of approximately 3,000 metres.

We also offer excellent resources for scientific computing, for instance in geographic information systems, meteorological modelling and geophysics. We place a strong emphasis on field measurement techniques in ecological, atmospheric and earth sciences.

More information: www.ed.ac.uk/geosciences/research/partnerships

National facilities

The School hosts and manages a number of national analytical facilities on behalf of the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC). We are home to:

- the NERC Ion Microprobe Facility;
- the Experimental GeoScience Facility (NERC recognised);
- the NERC Geophysical Equipment Facility;
- the NERC Field Spectroscopy Facility;
- the NERC Tephrochronology Service;
- the NERC Chemical Dating Facility;
- Airborne GeoSciences (NERC recognised).

Among our facilities is the UK Biochar Research Centre, where we are leading the way in a rapidly developing field that offers the promise of carbon sequestration on a potentially global scale.

Collections of the University

The University of Edinburgh has one of the world’s great collections, which has been growing ever since its foundation in 1583. Our collections include rare books, archives and manuscripts, art, historical musical instruments and a wide range of museum objects from geological specimens to anatomical models. If laid out end to end, we would have almost 60 kilometres of shelving and storage space devoted to our heritage material, from 1st-century Greek papyrus fragments to new works of sculpture. This is curated by specialist staff across 45 sites and used for our teaching and research and by the wider public community.

The Centre for Research Collections in the Main Library is the hub for all our collections, where specialist curators make them available for study, research and pleasure. Postgraduate students are welcome to study original objects and have made many important research discoveries while working on the archives. You will find an incredible range of material in our collections that is available nowhere else in the world.
You will join an active and motivated postgraduate student community, for which regular events have included a Research and Practitioner Mixer, Field Training Days, and informal socials such as our Burns Supper and ceilidh. Additionally, staff and visiting experts deliver exciting lectures and seminars which are open to all of our students – there really is something for everyone.

If you enrol as a taught masters student, you’ll receive generous support from our GeoSciences Teaching Organisation, which helps with all aspects of the administration of your studies, while our dedicated programme directors and personal tutors are responsible for your academic and pastoral care.

If you are interested in postgraduate research, you will work closely with your supervisor and an academic advisor, and will have access to confidential pastoral support from our Research Training and Development Team.

Collaborative culture

All academic, research staff and postgraduate students are affiliated to one of our three research institutes:

- Geography and the Lived Environment;
- Global Change;
- Earth & Planetary Sciences.

As groupings of researchers with related interests, the institutes provide a forum for the development of ideas, collaboration and dissemination of results, and an environment for training, development and mentoring of research students and early-career researchers. Each research institute has a very active seminar series drawing distinguished external guests as well as internal speakers, and you will be encouraged to attend and participate.

Peer support

Our postgraduate research team ensures effective delivery of all postgraduate training, as an integral underpinning of all School research activities. On joining us you will become a member of the student-run GradSchool, an excellent peer-support network that spans each of the School’s sites. GradSchool organises social events, lectures and conferences, and maintains crucial links between you and our academic staff.

Each year GradSchool welcomes new research students with a range of events: there is an organised weekend away to the mountains, the GradSchool conference, the regular GradTalk seminars and a spring ceilidh.

Our supportive academic community provides a dynamic environment in which you can truly thrive. We offer you numerous opportunities to access study support, develop new skills, share knowledge, exchange ideas and socialise with like-minded colleagues.

“...but have pushed a subject to the very limit of our current knowledge."

Ben Reid, MSc Ecosystem Services

This has been a great course – one of the best investments I have made in my life – where I have not only studied in one of Britain's best cities but have pushed a subject to the very limit of our current knowledge.

This is not only a career enhancer but has also brought a new aspect to my life as an environmentalist and what I can achieve in the future.

Employability and graduate attributes

As a GeoSciences graduate you will have excellent academic and career prospects – working with industry, staying in academia or entering government and non-government organisations.

Observe changes in markets and external scientific developments, and incorporating these into our ever-evolving programmes, means we will equip you with those skills most in demand by employers.

Our graduates have gone on to work for a huge array of employers across all sectors, including the Department of Energy and Climate Change, the Carbon Trust, the Forestry Commission, British Airways, Hewlett-Packard, Shell, Credit Suisse, Google, and the police.

Institute for Academic Development

All postgraduate students can benefit from our Institute for Academic Development (IAD), which provides information, events and courses to develop the skills you will need throughout your studies and in the future. IAD events also offer the perfect opportunity to meet and network with other postgraduates from across the University.

Further information is available online: www.ed.ac.uk/iad/postgraduates

For taught postgraduates, IAD provides a popular study-related and transferable skills support programme. It is designed to help you settle into postgraduate life, succeed during your studies and move confidently to the next stage of your career. We offer on-campus and online workshops and one-to-one study skills consultations, plus online advice and learning materials. Workshops and learning resources cover key topics tailored to different academic stages, including getting started with your studies; critical reading, writing and thinking; managing your exams; and planning for and writing up your dissertation.

IAD also provides a comprehensive programme of transferable skills training, resources and support for researchers completing a doctorate. The workshop programme is designed to help you successfully prepare for the various milestones of your PhD, from registering with your research, to writing up and preparing for the viva. Workshops cover topics such as writing skills, reference management tools, statistics, preparing for conferences, delivering presentations, time and project management, and personal development. IAD also offers online resources and planning tools to help get you through your research started, plus support for tutoring and demonstrating, and research public engagement and communication.

Careers Service

Our Careers Service plays an essential part in your wider student experience at the University, offering a range of tailored careers and personal development guidance and support. We support you to recognise the wealth of possibilities ahead, while at university and after graduation, helping you explore new avenues, tap into your talents and build your employability with confidence and enthusiasm.

We provide specialist support for postgraduate students. From exploring career options to making decisions, from CV writing to interview practice, from Employ. ed internships to graduate posts and from careers fairs to postgraduate alumni events, we help you prepare for the future.

We sustain and continually develop links with employers from all industries and employment sectors, from the world’s top recruiters to small enterprises based here in Edinburgh. Our employer team provides a programme of opportunities for you to meet employers on campus and virtually, and advertises a wide range of part-time and graduate jobs.

More information: www.ed.ac.uk/careers/connected

Connect.ed

Edinburgh encourages its alumni to stay in touch with current students who share an academic background or are interested in a similar career path. Connect.ed is a networking system run by the Careers Service that provides an informal and confidential opportunity for alumni to share their occupational knowledge and experience with current students, who can contact them for advice and guidance on their future career.

More information: www.ed.ac.uk/careers/connected

Backing bright ideas

LAUNCH.ed is the University’s award-winning programme for student entrepreneurs. Each year, LAUNCH.ed works with hundreds of students to assess their ideas and develop their business skills and helps many start their businesses. We have helped Edinburgh students and alumni launch almost 100 new businesses in the last three years, ranging from language tuition to robotics companies.

More information: www.LAUNCH.ed.ac.uk

Learn to teach

We encourage all of our research students to carry out demonstrating and tutoring work for the School’s undergraduate programmes. This work is strongly supported by training and coaching, to ensure you get the most out of the experience and can gain a new skillset from it.

Scotland has an exceptionally rich diversity of geology, and is home to two UNESCO supported Geoparks... www.europeangeoparks.org
Applications and fees

We have an online application process for all postgraduate programmes. It’s a straightforward system with full instructions, including details of any supporting documentation you need to submit.

When applying, you will set up an account, which lets you save your application and continue at another time.

Full guidance on our application system is available at: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/applying

General requirements

Our usual entrance requirement for postgraduate study is a UK 2:1 honours degree, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/InternationalGraduateEntry), in a subject related to your chosen programme. You will also need to meet the University’s language requirements (see below).

References

For applications to taught programmes, the normal requirement is one reference, although an additional reference may be requested in individual cases. For applications to research programmes, two references are required. You should check online for exact requirements for your intended programme of study. For general guidance on references, visit: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/references

Deadlines

Masters

Early application is recommended given the high demand for places and in instances where a visa is required. Should you wish to submit a late application, please contact us for guidance. If you are applying for funding, in most cases you will need an offer to study with us before you can make your funding application – and many of our scholarships have deadlines in the spring.

Please note that in most instances a deposit of £1,500 is required to secure your place on a taught masters programme.

PhilD

There are no official deadlines for our PhD programmes and applications are welcome throughout the year. However, many of our funding opportunities have deadlines and you may need an offer to study with us before you can make your funding application.

English language requirements

Students whose first language is not English must show evidence of one of the qualifications below.

All MSc, MScR and PgCert programmes

- IELTS Academic: total 7.0 (at least 6.0 in each module).
- TOEFL-iBT: total 100 (at least 20 in each module).
- PTE(A): total 67 (at least 56 in each of the Communicative Skills sections; the Enabling Skills sections are not considered).
- CAE and CPE: total 185 (at least 169 in each module).
- Trinity ISE: ISE III (with a pass in all four components).

All MPhil and PhD programmes

- IELTS Academic: total 6.5 (at least 6.0 in each module).
- TOEFL-iBT: total 92 (at least 20 in each module).
- PTE(A): total 61 (at least 56 in each of the Communicative Skills sections).
- CAE and CPE: total 176 (at least 169 in each module).
- Trinity ISE: ISE II (with distinctions in all four components).

Please note:

- English language requirements can be affected by government policy so please ensure you visit our degree finder to check the latest requirements for your programme: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/degrees
- Your English language certificate must be no more than two years old at the beginning of your programme.
- We also accept recent degree-level study that was taught and assessed in a majority English-speaking country (as defined by UK Visas & Immigration).

Abbreviations: IELTS – International English Language Testing System; TOEFL-iBT – Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-Based Test; PTE(A) – Pearson Test of English (Academic); CPE – Certificate of Proficiency in English; CAE – Certificate in Advanced English; Trinity ISE – Integrated Skills in English.

www.ed.ac.uk/english-requirements/pg

Tuition fees

The following table provides an overview of indicative fee levels for programmes commencing in 2018.

Figures marked * show the fee level set for the 2017/18 academic year. All other figures are indicative of expected fee levels for your studies during the 2018/19 academic year. Because these figures are indicative, it is important you check online before you apply and check the up-to-date fee level that will apply to your specific programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/tuition-fees/postgraduate

Please note:

- International students starting full-time taught programmes of study lasting more than one year will be charged a fixed annual fee.
- All other students on full-time and part-time programmes of study lasting more than one year should be aware that annual tuition fees are subject to revision and are typically increased by approximately five per cent per annum. This annual increase should be taken into account when you are applying for a programme.
- In addition to tuition fees, your programme may be subject to an application fee and additional costs/programme costs may apply. Please check the latest programme information online.

Tuition fees for EU students

EU students enrolling in the 2018/19 academic year will be admitted as Scottish/ EU fee status students. Taught masters students will be eligible for the same tuition support as Scottish domiciled students from the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS).

For UK/EU students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Annual fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taught programme 1-year FT</td>
<td>£12,200 (£13,800)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taught programme PT</td>
<td>£6,100 (£6,900)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSc by Research 1-year FT</td>
<td>£7,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSc by Research 2-years PT</td>
<td>£13,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other research programmes FT</td>
<td>£4,195*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other research programmes PT</td>
<td>£2,098*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Online Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Annual fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MSc</td>
<td>£14,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PgCert</td>
<td>£4,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For international students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Annual fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taught programme 1-year FT</td>
<td>£24,200 (£25,100)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSc by Research 1-year FT</td>
<td>£25,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other research programmes FT</td>
<td>£21,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Figure shown is the 2017/18 fee level.

All other fees quoted are indicative of 2018/19 fee levels. Because these figures are indicative, it is important you check online before you apply and check the up-to-date fee level that will apply to your specific programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/tuition-fees/postgraduate
Funding

A large number of scholarships, loans and other funding schemes are available for your postgraduate studies. It is only possible to show a small selection in print. To see the full range, please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/postgraduate.

Scholarships at the University of Edinburgh

- Beit Trust
- China Scholarships Council/University of Edinburgh Scholarships (China)
- Edinburgh Global Masters Scholarships
- Edinburgh Global Research Scholarships
- Edinburgh Principal’s Career Development Scholarships
- Enlightenment Scholarships
- School of GeoSciences Scholarships

Research council awards

- Edinburgh Syrian Postgraduate Scholarships
- GeoSciences Head Of School Scholarships
- Highly Skilled Workforce Scholarships

Research councils offer awards to masters, MPhil and PhD students in most of the Schools within the University of Edinburgh. All student applications from the research councils must be made through the University, your School or College office. Awards can be made for both taught and research programmes. Normally only those UK/EU students who have been resident in the UK for the preceding three years are eligible for a full award. For some awards, candidates who are EU nationals and are resident in the UK may be eligible for a fees-only award. The UK Government has confirmed that EU postgraduate research students commencing their studies in 2018/19 will retain their fee status and eligibility for research council support for the duration of their programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/research-councils

The University also offers a number of scholarships in partnership with the following overseas government agencies:

- Chile
- Colombia
- Ecuador
- Iraq
- Mexico

Other sources of funding

- Commonwealth Scholarships
- Chevening Scholarships
- Commonwealth Scholarships
- Marshall Scholarships (USA)
- Scottish Saltire Scholarships
- Chevening Scholarships
- Commonwealth Scholarships
- Marshall Scholarships (USA)
- Scottish Saltire Scholarships

Other sources of funding

The following are examples of the many scholarships and support schemes available to students from particular countries who meet certain eligibility criteria.

- Chevening Scholarships
- Commonwealth Scholarships
- Marshall Scholarships (USA)
- Scottish Saltire Scholarships

Postgraduate Loans (PGL)

- Pakistan
- Postgraduate Loans (PGL) Wales
- Postgraduate Loans (PGL) Scotland
- Postgraduate Loans (PGL)

Postgraduate Loans (PGL)

- Pakistan
- Postgraduate Loans (PGL) Wales
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- Postgraduate Loans (PGL)

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- Pakistan
- Postgraduate Loans (PGL) Wales
- Postgraduate Loans (PGL) Scotland
- Postgraduate Loans (PGL)
The School of GeoSciences is based in several buildings across two University campuses. The Head of School and the main offices are at King’s Buildings, about two miles south of the city centre. The Institute of Geography and the Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation are in the historic Old Town of Edinburgh.

Contact us
For more information about taught MSc programmes, contact the relevant programme secretaries:
For Carbon Capture & Storage; Ecosystem Services; Marine Systems & Policies; and Applied Geoscience (Geoenergy), contact:
Susie Crocker
Tel +44 (0)131 651 7126
Email geos.postgrad@ed.ac.uk
For Environment, Culture & Society; Environmental Sustainability; Environment & Development; Global Environment Challenges (PgCert) and Human Geography, contact:
Paula Escobar
Tel +44 (0)131 650 2543
Email geos.postgrad@ed.ac.uk
For Carbon Management (including PgCert Climate Change Management and Carbon Innovation); Geographical Information Science; Geographical Information Science & Archaeology; Earth Observation & Geoinformation Management; and Energy, Society & Sustainability, contact:
Karolina Galera
Tel +44 (0)131 650 2572
Email geos.postgrad@ed.ac.uk
For all collaborative programmes with Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC) (Ecological Economics, Environmental Protection & Management, Food Security, Soils & Sustainability, and Sustainable Plant Health), contact:
Elspeth Martin
Tel +44 (0)131 535 4198
Email elspeth.martin@sruc.ac.uk
For specific Geosciences taught masters scholarship queries please contact:
Natasha Black
Tel +44 (0) 131 650 7542
Email marketing@geos.ed.ac.uk
For more information about research programmes (PhD, MSc by Research and MPhil), contact:
PGR Recruitment Secretary
Tel +44 (0)131 650 5422/5854
Email pgrsupport.geos@ed.ac.uk

Visit us
Our Postgraduate Open Day is your opportunity to come and meet current staff and students. Our next campus based Open Day takes place on 15 November 2017. For more information, visit: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate-open-day

If you are unable to visit Edinburgh, contact info@geos.ed.ac.uk and we can arrange a video call with your prospective Programme Director or register your interest in a virtual Open Day.

Our visits to you
If you are unable to visit the University, we attend events throughout the year so you can meet and speak to us in person.

UK and Europe: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/uk-eu-events
International: www.ed.ac.uk/international/our-visits-overseas

Chat online
We offer all postgraduate students monthly online information sessions. To find out more and see when the next session will be: www.ed.ac.uk/postgraduate/online-events

For international students, Edinburgh Global runs two online chat sessions each month. These are timed to give students in all timezones a chance to get involved. You can find out more and register online: www.ed.ac.uk/international/chat-to-us-online

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http://instagram.com/edinunigeosciences

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Student Experiences Blog: http://edingeoscistudents.wordpress.com/
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www.facebook.com/geosciences
http://instagram.com/edinunigeosciences
On 23 June 2016 the UK electorate voted in a national referendum to leave the European Union. At the time of going to print, there was no immediate, material change known that would impact on applicants for 2018 entry. However we recommend that you check online for the latest information before you apply: www.ed.ac.uk/news/eu

The University’s standard terms and conditions will form an essential part of any contract between the University of Edinburgh and any student offered a place here. Our full terms and conditions are available online: www.ed.ac.uk/student-recruitment/terms-conditions

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