



## Extreme City

Having given its name to the historic Paris Climate Agreement in 2015, and given the current mayor's commitment to climate action (she currently leads, C40 Cities, an international network of cities addressing the climate problem), Paris sees itself as a leader in the international climate debate. Given its geographical location, very high population density and unique urban structure, Paris faces particular challenges when it comes to both adapting to and mitigating climate change.

The aim of this module is to study and discover the city through a "climate change lens". Key questions include: How exposed is Paris to climate change? How will the city cope and adapt to it? What will the city look like in 30 years (urban planning, transport, architecture, spatial and class divisions)? As large carbon emitters, can "global cities" like Paris contribute to the broader struggle to curb global temperature rises and maintain them at acceptable levels?

### Module aims

- To acquire a foundation for the understanding of the links between climate change and urban environments, through particular attention to Paris
- To engage in site-based studies and interact with stakeholders involved in shaping and implementing Paris' climate plan (Plan Paris Climat)
- To develop a knowledge of advanced scholarship in the fields of environmental geography and environmental politics, and more specifically of the literature on the particular challenges that climate change poses to cities, their mitigation/adaptation strategies and their contribution to the international climate debate
- To understand how to relate primary and secondary material to inform their understanding of the relations between urban areas and climate change with particular attention to Paris
- To acquire the critical skills to pursue their work through a dissertation topic

### Module structure

Teaching will take place in 11 two-hour sessions (some of these will involve relevant stakeholders and professionals). Students will be expected to attend various events/conferences in the city related to the course topic. Set readings will be communicated in advance and each session will involve discussion, textual analysis and student presentations. Assessment will be through written coursework (a case study and an essay).