



UNIVERSITY
OF LONDON

2025

Postgraduate programmes in
Global Environment and Sustainability

With academic
direction from:



london.ac.uk/environment

World class. Worldwide.

Join the World Class

- 1 Stimulating and engaging programme content**
The programme equips students with a comprehensive understanding of key global environmental topics and provides opportunities to participate in critical thinking and problem-solving tasks, training a cohort of future global sustainability practitioners and researchers.
- 2 Progress to a master's qualification**
If you do not meet the requirements for direct entry to the MSc, you can apply via the Performance Based Admissions (PBA) route. Students on the PBA route may transfer to the MSc on successful completion of one module.
- 3 Study flexibly, at your own pace**
The online MSc Global Environment and Sustainability programme can be studied from anywhere in the world. The flexible programme design enables you to fit your studies around your schedule.
- 4 Opportunities to take your career further**
The programme provides career development opportunities for a wide range of individuals, including those with practical experience in environmental management and sustainability who are seeking to further develop their theoretical understandings in environmental sustainability.
- 5 A mark of excellence**
Earn an internationally recognised qualification from University of London. The University has a track record of teaching, innovation and research dating back 160 years.

A photograph of two young women in a study or work environment. The woman in the foreground is leaning over a desk, looking at a laptop screen. She has dark hair tied back and is wearing a blue button-down shirt over a tan top. The woman in the background is standing, wearing glasses and a plaid blazer over a dark top, looking towards the laptop. The scene is dimly lit with warm tones.

“In a fast-changing environment of worldwide access to higher education, a University of London degree continues to offer a guarantee of quality, value and intellectual rigour.”

Professor Wendy Thomson
Vice-Chancellor,
University of London

Your prestigious University of London qualification

About your qualification

When you graduate with a degree, diploma or certificate from the University of London you will receive two important documents – your Final Diploma (the parchment you receive on graduation) and a Diploma Supplement.

The Final Diploma

- Indicates that you were registered with the University of London and awarded a University of London degree, diploma or certificate.
- Gives the name of Birkbeck, University of London as the federation member that developed the syllabus and provided assessment.
- Features the University of London crest and the Vice-Chancellor's signature.

The Diploma Supplement

- Describes the nature, level and content of the programme you successfully completed.
- Includes the transcript of courses taken, marks achieved and overall classification.
- States the role of Birkbeck, University of London and the method of study.





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Key dates

April 2025 session
Applications open:
17 December 2024

Applications close:
10 March 2025

Registrations close:
24 March 2025

Programme starts:
April 2025

A University of London degree from anywhere in the world



Dr Persis Taraporevala

Programme Director

Dr Persis Taraporevala is a Lecturer in Environmental Geography at Birkbeck, University of London, and serves as Programme Director for the University of London MSc in Environment and Sustainability. She joined Birkbeck in 2023 and is a practitioner-academic with a background in advocacy and public policy, prior to completing her PhD in Geography from King's College London.

Persis' work is rooted in the complexities of citizenship rights and governance. Before embarking on her doctoral studies, Persis gained invaluable experience working for tanks and civil society organisations in India. Her work addressed pressing issues related to state-citizen relations, land use, conservation, and gender, providing her with a practical perspective that continues to inform her academic pursuits. Her expertise spans

multiple formats, encompassing academic publications, newspaper editorials, policy documents, datasets, and arts-based practices, showcasing her commitment to diverse and impactful forms of scholarship. This blend of policy experience and academic rigour enables her to approach environmental geography with a holistic and applied perspective.

In her teaching, Persis is a passionate advocate for the democratisation of knowledge, aiming to expand interdisciplinary approaches and incorporate varied forms of assessment to enhance the learning experience for her students.

A trusted name in global education

The University of London is one of the world's leading universities, internationally recognised for its high academic standards. This reputation is based on the outstanding teaching and research of our federation members.

Among former students are six Nobel Prize winners, including Nelson Mandela and Charles Kao, a pioneer in the development of fibre-optics. Graduates have made and continue to make significant contributions worldwide.

London made global

Founded in 1836, the University of London is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in the UK and is internationally regarded as a centre of academic excellence. In 1858, we made our degrees available to study anywhere in the world.

Today, we have more than 40,000 students in 190 countries, studying for 100-plus degrees, diplomas and certificates.

Delivered by experts in the field

Academic direction for the programme is from Birkbeck, University of London, which was founded in 1823 and joined the University of London in 1920.

90% of Birkbeck academics are research-active across a range of disciplines and regularly contribute to public debate and publish in leading academic journals.

You'll learn from highly experienced professionals and practitioners, combining academic excellence with industry-related knowledge and expertise.

A programme with global relevance

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the scale and urgency of crises that face society as a result of environmental degradation. This programme supports students to develop skills and contribute to increased social and ecological resilience to current and future threats.

The MSc Global Environment and Sustainability degree offers students modules covering pressing global contemporary environmental problems, including climate change and environmental hazards, global food systems and health, water and energy resources, waste and pollution and biodiversity, biosecurity and conservation.

Students will engage with real-world practical examples to examine drivers, concepts, and contested ideas related to environmental problems in diverse global, national and local contexts. Providing students with a holistic and interdisciplinary understanding of the causes and consequences of these urgent environmental issues, this degree will examine how environmental sustainability policy and management can effectively contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Through a substantial independent research project, students will develop in-depth knowledge in a particular specialist area of interest.



By studying this programme, students will:

- be able to critically evaluate the complex drivers and consequences of global environmental problems for different societal groups, applying academic concepts and theories
- develop in-depth knowledge in particular specialist areas of environment and sustainability through designing and executing a substantial independent research project
- gain critical and creative thinking skills and the ability to apply theory to practice

- be able to assess the effectiveness, equity and trade-offs of different sustainability goals and policies at global, regional and local levels and over time.

In some countries, qualifications earned by distance and flexible learning may not be recognised by certain authorities or regulators for the purposes of public sector employment or further study. We advise you to explore the local recognition status before you register.

How you study



The MSc Global Environment and Sustainability is offered fully online and allows you the opportunity to fit your studies flexibly around your schedule. You can choose to study individual modules on a pay-as-you-go basis and build up your qualification at your own pace.

There is no requirement to have a bachelor's degree in a related subject area to join the MSc programme. This programme is targeted at career-minded individuals who wish to develop their professional skills with master's-level understanding and skills applied to careers in business, environmental management, local government, policy work, and in environmental groups and charities.

Each module is taught over a 20-week session.

Programme structure

The MSc Global Environment and Sustainability consists of:

Five core modules
(30 credits each)

One project module (30 credits)

The PGDip Global Environment and Sustainability consists of:

Four modules (30 credits each)

The PGCert Global Environment and Sustainability consists of:

Two modules (30 credits each)

All of the modules from the MSc Global Environment and Sustainability, excluding the independent research project are available to study on a stand-alone basis, subject to module availability.

For further information on available modules, please visit:
london.ac.uk/environment

Online support

The programme is delivered online and there is no requirement to come to the UK as part of your studies. Our flexible online programme allows you to work around your own schedule and leads to a globally-recognised qualification.

When you register, we will create your Student Portal account. You can then access your University of London email account and other key resources including:

- the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), with online learning support, access to the student café and discussion areas, and other study materials
- the University of London Careers Service for tailored careers and employability support, including webinars, employer and alumni events and a range of online career resources
- the Online Library with over 100 million academic electronic items comprising E-books, E-journals, conference proceedings etc, and our Inter-Library loans service with the British Library
- Senate House Library for free reference access for all registered distance and flexible learning students.

Tutor support

All students receive online academic support while studying this programme. Tutors introduce the modules, respond to queries, monitor discussions and provide guidance on assessments.

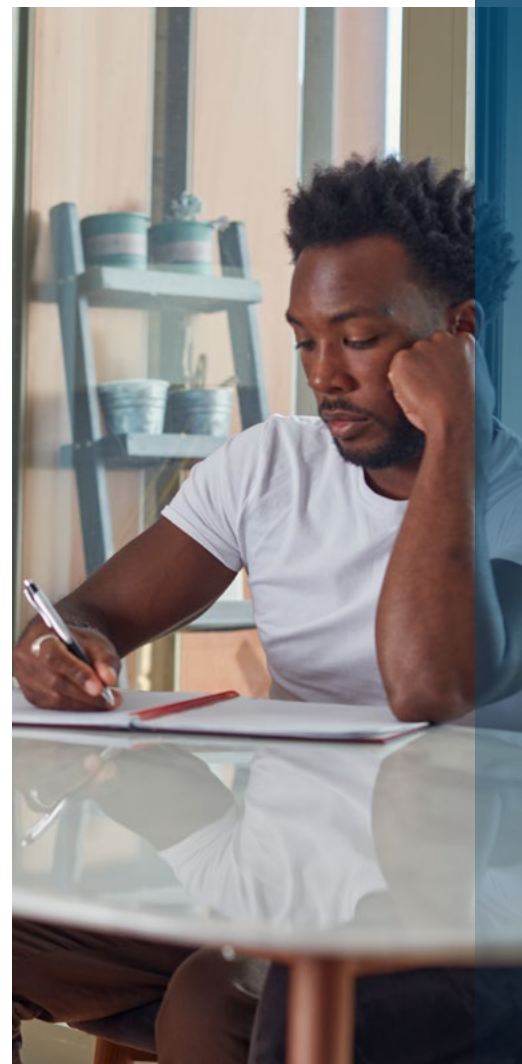
Study materials

All essential resources, activities, videos, discussions and support are provided through the VLE. This allows you to fit your studies around your work commitments. There is no need to purchase additional textbooks.

Time commitment

The flexible approach to learning allows students to complete the MSc in a minimum of two years (subject to module availability) to a maximum of five years.

You can study at your own pace, adjusting the intensity of learning to suit your needs.



Entrance requirements and further information

Entry requirements for the MSc, PGDip and PGCert

Entry route 1 – Direct Entry

Applicants will need a bachelor's degree which is considered at least comparable to a UK second class honours degree or a postgraduate qualification from an institution acceptable to the University.

Entry route 2 – Performance Based Admissions Route

If applicants do not meet the requirements for Direct Entry, they can apply for the MSc via the Performance Based Admissions (PBA) route. To qualify for entrance via the PBA route, applicants will need a bachelor's degree from an institution acceptable to the University.

Directly related professional work experience and/or directly related professional qualifications may also be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Students on the PBA route may transfer to the MSc on successful completion of one module (30 credits).

If you do not meet the standard requirements for entry, we will consider each application on its own merits. Any alternative qualifications or work experience you hold will be considered to see if they are suitable to study one of our Global Environment degrees.

Entrance requirements for stand-alone individual modules

To qualify to register for a stand-alone individual module, applicants will need a bachelor's degree from an institution acceptable to the University.

English language requirements

You must satisfy the English language requirements for the programme. For more information on the requirements please visit: london.ac.uk/environment

If you do not meet the English language proficiency requirements but believe that you can demonstrate the requisite proficiency, the University may, at its discretion, consider your application.

Computer requirements

The University of London sets minimum basic computer requirements because your study resources are accessed via the Student Portal and it is vital that you can access this regularly.

For this programme, you will need regular access to a computer with an internet connection to use the University of London's online resources and systems. A webcam may be required in the event that

online timed assessments (if offered) are proctored, and in such a case, it is your responsibility to ensure that you have access to a webcam.

For more information about specific software requirements, please visit: london.ac.uk/applications/how-apply/computer-requirements

How to apply

Please refer to the MSc Global Environment and Sustainability webpages for details on how to apply: london.ac.uk/environment

Fees

The total fee payable to the University of London for 2024–2025 will be published on our website once confirmed. On average, fees incur a five per cent year-on-year increase. For the latest information on programme fees, please visit: london.ac.uk/fees

Please note: student fees shown on our website are net of any local VAT, Goods and Services Tax (GST) or any other sales tax payable by the student in their country of residence. Where the University is required to add VAT, GST or any other sales tax at the local statutory rate, this will be added to the fees shown during the payment process. For students resident in the UK, our fees are exempt from VAT.



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Online enquires: london.ac.uk/enquiries

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