PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Name, title and level of final qualification(s)	**MSc Climate Change** **PG Dip Climate Change** **PG Cert Climate Change** (Level 7)
Name and title of any interim exit qualification(s)	PG Dip Climate Change (exit award for MSc Climate Change) PG Cert Climate Change (exit award for MSc Climate Change)
Awarding Body	University of London
Teaching Institution(s)	Birkbeck, University of London
Home school	School of Social Sciences
Location of delivery	Central London
Language of delivery and assessment	English
Mode of study, length of study and normal start month	MSc/PG Dip: Full-time (1 year) Part-time (2 years) PG Cert Part-time (1 year) October
Professional, statutory or regulatory body	Not applicable
QAA subject benchmark group(s) Higher Education Credit Framework for England	Not applicable
Birkbeck Course Code	TMSCLICH_C (MSc) TPDCLICH_C (PG Dip) TPCCLICH_C (PG Cert)
HECoS Code	101070 climate change 100381 environmental sciences
Start date of programme	2009/2010
Date of programme approval	Summer 2009
Date of last programme amendment approval	November 2023
Valid for academic entry year	2023-24.
Programme Director	Paul Elsner
Date of last revision to document	29/07/2022

Admissions requirements

A second class honours degree (2:2) or equivalent.

We welcome applicants without traditional entry qualifications as we base decisions on our own assessment of qualifications, knowledge and previous work experience. We may waive formal entry requirements based on judgement of academic potential.

Course aims

The programme aims to help students to understand climate change and how people, governments, and other organisations are impacted by and responding to climate change. We will do this by exploring key debates and ideas from a range of viewpoints, considering science, policy, social and economic perspectives.

Student are required to obtain 120 credit credits from the taught elements of the programme. This comprises of three compulsory 30-credit modules ("Climate Change", "Living with Climate Change" and "Energy and Climate Change"), plus one 30-credit option (or 2 x 15-credit modules).

Course structure

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credit	Comp Core/ Option	Likely teaching term(s)
MSc Climate Change, Full-time – 1 year					
L7	SSGE010S7	Climate Change	30	Comp	T1
L7	SSGE111S7	Living with Climate Change	30	Comp	T1
L7	SSGE112S7	Energy and Climate Change	30	Comp	T2
	Various	Option modules	30	Option	T1, 2 or 3
7	SSGEO83Z7	Research Methods Training	0	Comp	T1-3
7	SSCEO61D7	Dissertation Environmental MSc	60	Core	T2-3
MSc Climate Change, Part-time -2 years					
Year 1					
7	SSGE010S7	Climate Change	30	Comp	T1
7	SSGE112S7	Energy and Climate Change	30	Comp	T2
Year 2					
7	SSGE111S7	Living with Climate Change	30	Comp	T1
	Various	Option modules	30	Option	T1, 2 or 3 (Year 1 or 2)
7	SSGEO83Z7	Research Methods Training	0	Comp	T1-3
7	SSCEO61D7	Dissertation Environmental MSc	60	Core	T2-3
PG Dip Climate Change, Full-time – 1 year					
7	SSGE010S7	Climate Change	30	Comp	T1
7	SSGE111S7	Living with Climate Change	30	Comp	T1
7	SSGE112S7	Energy and Climate Change	30	Comp	T2
	Various	Option modules	30	Option	T1, 2 or 3

PG Dip Climate Change, Part-time – 2 years					
Year 1					
7	SSGE010S7	Climate Change	30	Comp	T1
7	SSGE112S7	Energy and Climate Change	30	Comp	T2
Year 2					
7	SSGE111S7	Living with Climate Change	30	Comp	T1 (Yr 2)
	Various	Option modules	30	Option	T 1, 2 or 3 (Year 1 or 2)
PG Cert Climate Change, Part-time – 1 or 2 years					
L7	SSGE010S7	Climate Change	30	Comp	T1
L7	SSGE112S7	Energy and Climate Change	30	Comp	T2
Indicative options modules for MSc and PG Dip:					
7	SSGE011S7	Environment and Policy	30	Option	T2
7	SSGE025S7	Environmental Science for Environmental Management	30	Option	T1
7	SSGE110S7	Sustainable Business Practice	30	Option	T1
7	SSGE103S7	Global Nature Conservation,	30	Option	T2
7	SSGE113S7	Introduction to Geographic Data Science	30	Option	T1
7	SSGE114S7	Spatial Data Analytics	30	Option	T2

Core: *Module must be taken and passed by student*
Compulsory: *Module must be taken but can be considered for compensated credit (see CAS regulations paragraph 24)*
Option: *Student can choose to take this module*

How you will learn

Your learning and teaching is organised to help you meet the learning outcomes (specified below) of the course. As a student, we expect you to be an active learner and to take responsibility for your learning, engaging with all of the material and sessions arranged for you.

Each course is divided into modules. You will find information on the virtual learning site (Moodle, see Academic Support below) about each of your modules, what to expect, the work you need to prepare, links to reading lists, information about how and when you will be assessed.

Teaching on this course is a combination of lectures (pre-recorded) and seminars. Lectures are designed to provide you with an outline or overview of the topic, to engage you with the material and direct you to other resources. They are a springboard for your own learning. Seminars are group sessions where you will be asked to contribute to discussion or group work around the topic, with material set in advance for which you need to prepare. Overall, your learning will be organised around the activities outlined at the beginning of each module. This can include seminars, in-class discussion in small working groups, development of larger projects in collaborative group exercises, field visits, and practical lab sessions.

How we will assess you

The course will use a variety of assessment methods. Assessment is used to enhance your learning rather than simply to test it. For most of the modules associated with this course, your assessment will be through the following types of assessment.

The specific assessments for each module will be stated at the beginning of term and can include short written exercises, essays which will develop in length and complexity as you progress through your studies, quizzes and multiple-choice questionnaires, and practical assessments of your work in a lab or studio.

Learning outcomes (what you can expect to achieve)

On successful completion of this programme, a student will be expected to be able to:

- critically discuss key concepts, issues and debates in climate science and policy, energy systems, and adaptation;
- assess the effectiveness of different policy approaches and societal responses to the climate change challenge;
- recognise the social, political and economic complexity of and the ethical issues that arise in mitigating and adapting to climate change;
- identify, evaluate and critically analyse relevant data and literature;
- apply, discuss, and justify research methods and analysis techniques;
- communicate complex information in ways that enable and enhance audience understanding and engagement.

Careers and further study

Graduates of this programme have developed successful careers in a wide range of professional sectors. This includes managers, researchers, practitioners, policymakers, educators, business, HR and finance; legal, local and national government; nature conservation; social and health sectors; marketing, engineering and construction, education professionals, clerical and secretarial, information technology and others.

Birkbeck offers a range of careers support to its students. You can find out more on the careers pages of our website.

Academic regulations and course management

Birkbeck's academic regulations are contained in its Common Award Scheme Regulations and Policies published by year of application on the Birkbeck website.

You will have access to a course handbook on Moodle and this will outline how your course is managed, including who to contact if you have any questions about your module or course.

Support for your study

Your learning at Birkbeck is supported by your teaching team and other resources and people in the College there to help you with your study. Birkbeck uses a virtual learning environment called Moodle and each course has a dedicated Moodle page and there are further Moodle sites for each of your modules. This will include your course handbook.

Birkbeck will introduce you to the Library and IT support, how to access materials online, including using Moodle, and provide you with an orientation which includes an online Moodle module to guide you through all of the support available. You will also be allocated a personal tutor and provided with information about learning support offered within your School and by the College.

Please check our website for more information about student support services. This covers the whole of your time as a student with us including learning support and support for your wellbeing.

Quality and standards at Birkbeck

Birkbeck's courses are subject to our quality assurance procedures. This means that new courses must follow our design principles and meet the requirements of our academic regulations. Each new course or module is subject to a course approval process where the proposal is scrutinised by subject specialists, quality professionals and external representatives to ensure that it will offer an excellent student experience and meet the expectation of regulatory and other professional bodies.

You will be invited to participate in an online survey for each module you take. We take these surveys seriously and they are considered by the course team to develop both modules and the overall courses. Please take the time to complete any surveys you are sent as a student.

We conduct an annual process of reviewing our portfolio of courses which analyses student achievement, equality data and includes an action plan for each department to identify ongoing enhancements to our education, including changes made as a result of student feedback.

Our periodic review process is a regular check (usually every four years) on the courses by department with a specialist team including students.

Each course will have an external examiner associated with it who produces an annual report and any recommendations. Students can read the most recent external examiner reports on the course Moodle pages. Our courses are all subject to Birkbeck Baseline Standards for our Moodle module information. This supports the accessibility of our education including expectations of what information is provided online for students.

The information in this programme specification has been approved by the College's Academic Board and every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information it contains.

Programme specifications are reviewed periodically. If any changes are made to courses, including core and/or compulsory modules, the relevant department is required to provide a revised programme specification. Students will be notified of any changes via Moodle.

Further information about specifications and an archive of programme specifications for the College's courses is available online.