

Frequently Asked Questions

Environmental Science

Question: What are some of the key topics I would cover?

Answer: The living environment, the physical environment, pollution, energy resources, agriculture,

fisheries and forestry

Question: What is the learning style like within this subject?

Answer: Lessons revolve around discussions and linking the theory to topical aspects so students understand how what they are studying links to recent news stories. Concepts are illustrated using videos and photos, and there is a textbook written by the chief examiner that is sometimes used. Past paper questions are used in class to prepare students for the exams

Question: How will I be assessed?

Answer: There are two, three-hour papers sat at the end of the two years. They include short and longer answer questions, that require students to draw on their knowledge and understanding as well as interpreting unfamiliar data. Both papers include a 25-mark essay question, where students can choose one out of two to answer.

Question: What support can I access if I am struggling?

Answer: All course resources can be found on the subject SharePoint site. There is a textbook written by the chief examiner. In addition, we run workshops to help students that are struggling.

Question: Are there any subject specific entry requirements?

Answer: Yes, please refer to the prospectus here for general and subject specific entry requirements

Question: Are there normally any trips that I can go on?

Answer: During the course there are trips to Pulborough Brooks to receive training in environmental monitoring techniques, in addition trips to on HMS Callista at the National Oceanography Centre in Southampton, where students receive first hand experience of marine sampling techniques, and the Mechanical and Biological Treatment works run by Biffa, give students experience of a range of different practical techniques.



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Question: What do students who have studied this area normally do after Collyer's?

Answer: All companies in the UK should have an 'environmental officer' so the A-level is a very employable qualification. Students often go on to study Environmental Science at university and it can lead to a range of careers in conservation and environmental monitoring.

Question: What subjects go well with Environmental Science?

Answer: A lot of students choose Environmental Science due to aspects of ecology and conservation that they may have studied in Biology and Geography. In addition, to better understand the natural world, it goes well with Geology. If you enjoy Science, then the Applied Science BTEC is a good combination.