It is with great pleasure that I introduce our portfolio of postgraduate programmes and opportunities within the School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Science. Supported by our academics and technical staff across Geography, Earth Sciences, Environmental Science, Chemistry and colleagues elsewhere in the University, our taught programmes and postgraduate research are aimed at producing people who will be uniquely able to confront the global challenges facing the world in the twenty-first century, address United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and meet the skills and knowledge base required by the environment sector in the UK, Europe and globally.

Employability and professionalism coupled with subject-based knowledge and linked skills lie at the heart of all our programmes. Among a number of things, this brochure notably introduces you to our Sustainable Earth Institute which encourages inter-disciplinary thinking. Focusing on sustainability, the Institute can provide you with links to specialists in business management, the natural and built environments, engineering and the arts and humanities. Plymouth prides itself on being an award-winning University for sustainability.

By showing an interest in our postgraduate programmes, you are taking a very important step in your future career or linking your organisation with our postgraduate students. I hope this brochure will answer most of the questions that you have, give you a flavour of our underlying ethos, and understand the relevance of our programmes to the modern world within which we live. We are confident that you’ll not regret joining us in the co-production of learning that meets your needs and the needs of employers over the next decade.

Do not hesitate to get in touch, and ask us questions or pay us a visit.

Professor David Gilvear

Taught postgraduate programme Lead
The School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences is proud of its tradition of hosting a range of postgraduate programmes and research opportunities. These cover a wide spectrum of activities which contribute to interdisciplinary study of our planet. Research and teaching in the School focuses on 5 themes - Sustainable Water, Life on Land, Healthy Oceans, Resilient Cities and Communities and Resources and Consumption. We are a School with experts in planning, human geography, physical geography, environmental science, ecology, earth sciences and analytical chemistry. We also can draw upon “experts” elsewhere within the University. A significant number of these experts also have relevant professional experience and have been practitioners in their areas of specialism.

Our current portfolio of postgraduate provision encompasses MSc, MRes and PhD research and so represent a spectrum of education opportunities from predominantly taught programmes through to essentially independent research. In some cases, students progress from an MSc or MRes to PhD research, but independent learning, research and critical thinking are embedded in all we do at postgraduate level. Our programmes currently include not only our long-standing and highly successful Masters in Planning, Environmental Consultancy and Sustainable Environmental Management. We also have MRes/ResM programmes in Human Geography, Environmental Science and Sustainable Environmental Management.

All programmes have been recently re-structured and re-shaped taking into account the outcome of our own research, but independent learning, research and critical thinking are embedded in all we do at postgraduate level. Our programmes currently include not only our long-standing and highly successful Masters in Planning, Environmental Consultancy and Sustainable Environmental Management. We also have MRes/ResM programmes in Human Geography, Environmental Science and Sustainable Environmental Management.

We aim to develop graduates who:
- have thorough knowledge, understanding and practical knowledge in key areas related to employability;
- are competent in a wide range of key skills including laboratory-work and field-work;
- are rational, critical and creative thinkers;
- are confident, adaptable and independent learners and workers;
- are readily employable with sought after skills and attributes; and
- are able to play a responsible role in society tackling local and global issues in the twenty-first century.

By 2014, over half (54%) of the world’s population lived in an urban area and the twenty-first century has been coined the ‘urban century’ (UN-Habitat, 2008). Forecasts predict that the global urban population will increase to 66 per cent by 2050 (6.5 billion), with much of the expected urban growth taking place in countries of the developing regions. Planners are therefore centrally placed to influence future development through their policies and decisions over individual development applications as well as their collaboration with actors, stakeholders and communities. For example, it is estimated that US$350 trillion will be spent on urban infrastructure and usage over the next 30 years and it is important that sustainable development is a defining principle in the planning and delivery of such investment. Future urban development must respond to the challenges of an increasing global economy, social and environmental inequalities that can be created as well as the mitigation and adaptation of a changing climate. Planning has the potential to contribute to most, if not all, of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals for 2030.

The planning system in the UK is well established and has responded to the changing economic, social and environmental challenges of the twenty-first century through various reforms. It has been transformed from its traditional relatively narrow statutory role of planning and regulating land use to a much wider remit facilitating action and intervention in the mediation of space and creation of place (RTP, 2004). The emergence of spatial planning, which has a focus on sustainability, integration, collaboration, inclusion and place-making, creates a basis for rational choices over future development. The planning profession is therefore critical to the future of people’s livelihoods and well-being on planet earth.

The MSc Planning programme at the University of Plymouth has full accreditation from the United Kingdom’s Royal Town Planning Institute and so provides a professional education to address these real-life challenges both for UK students and students from overseas.

Dr Stephen Essex
MSc PLANNING

“Within a month of completing the MSc at Plymouth, I secured a job as the line manager for planning, advice and compliance at county level. This promotion increased my wage by over £10K and I am positive that the quality of the MSc had a lot to do with my appointment.”
Jamie Staples – Previous Lead Officer for County Planning, Advice and Compliance, Buckinghamshire County Council, now working for Interserve.

Designed to offer a comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing the formulation and delivery of spatial planning policy across the built and natural environments, this programme has full professional accreditation from the Royal Town Planning Institute. It therefore provides a stepping stone to a career as a professional planner. The programme has been developed to be taken either full time over one year or part time over 2.5 years.

Programme Overview

Core modules cover the general foundations of spatial planning, while the specialism options can be selected from coastal urban regeneration and rural planning. Our programme will enable you to develop a professional career in planning in the public, private or voluntary sector. We offer a supportive learning environment which emphasises the critical skills necessary for professional effectiveness in planning-related careers and benefits from strong links with professional practice in the region. MSc Planning students have access to the MSc Planning base room, located in the heart of campus, where most of the lectures and seminars are delivered and which also acts as a study space for the students on the programme.

Career Opportunities

This programme offers a proven professional career route in local planning authorities, planning consultancies and the development industry with a strong record of success. Starting salaries for graduates are about £20,000+. Chartered town planners can expect to earn £35,000–£55,000+.

GLOBAL GRADUATES

“The MSc Planning was a great fit for us as international students. The lectures were held by knowledgeable and inclusive lecturers. Through the degree we were introduced to a variety of challenges that one might face in planning and what we can learn from previous actions taken. The historic development of planning in the UK was an important part of the course, and we gained knowledge on how planning has gradually changed from focusing on the motor vehicle, towards a focus on the people between the buildings and sustainable development. Even though the planning hierarchy is somewhat different here in Norway, we have been able to transfer the main principles of planning and apply our knowledge towards planning for a more sustainable development. We both work in Bergen municipality, where our job is to receive planning applications prepared by planning consultants. Our job is to make sure that the planning applications are within the rules and regulations, which is set by the local government.

We face various challenges, often in regards to reluctance of private owners to see beyond their own projects. We feel that the MSc Planning programme has prepared us for the variety of challenges that surfaces when planning in the built environment. Attending the MSc Planning course gave us an insight to what it means to be a planner. The modules taught us about the various aspects of planning. We were encouraged to think critically, be reflective and recognise the importance of comprehensive planning.

We are very happy with our experience of the MSc Planning degree and recommend other international students to consider University of Plymouth for further studies.”

Ole Petter Løtvedt and Ida Martine Kästel, MSc Planning graduates in 2015 are now working as planners in Bergen municipality, Norway.
MSc ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANCY

“The MSc honed knowledge and skills gained during my BSc (Hons) Environmental Science undergraduate degree at the University of Plymouth and provided me with direct access to contacts in the industry. The practical nature and vocational focus of the course prepared me for my future career as a Catchment Scientist.”

James Gilbert, Senior Evidence and Engagement Officer, Westcountry Rivers Trust.

Programme Overview

You’ll become fluent in the latest techniques used by environmentalist professionals with this hands on course. Ample field-work opportunities are provided; you’ll spend a week investigating how environmental issues have been managed in the South West and undertake an eight week work placement – many students are offered permanent positions before they graduate as a result of this placement. With our state-of-the-art analytical equipment including our research vessel Falcon Spirit, you’ll have the facilities in place to undertake your own environmental impact assessment and an exciting research project.

Career Opportunities

The vast majority of our graduates are in professional environmental consultancy jobs within 12 months of finishing the course, graduate destinations include; multi-national consultancies, smaller bespoke ecological consultancies, the Environmental Agency, Natural England and local environmental NGO’s. Roughly 20-30% of our graduates end up working with their placement organisations.

Programme Content

You’ll become a specialist in Environmental Consulting.

- SEMESTER 1
  - GEES519 Environmental Knowledge from field to stakeholder
  - GEES515 Professional Practice in the Environmental Sector
  - Optional module choose one from:
    - ENVS502 Ecological Survey and mitigation
    - MATH501 Big Data and social network visualisation

- SEMESTER 2
  - GEES517 Environmental Assessment
  - Optional module choose one from:
    - ENVS501 Investigation and assessment of contaminated environments
    - GEES508 Climate Change (science and policy)
    - GEES505 Management of freshwater environments

- SEMESTER 1, 2 & 3
  - ENVS504 Professional experience in environmental management

- SEMESTER 1 & 2
  - GEES510 MSc Dissertation

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

2:1

COURSE DURATION

1 year full time (part time routes are available)

START DATE

September

FEES

Visit: www.plymouth.ac.uk/fees

www.plymouth.ac.uk/study/postgraduate

Graduate CASE STUDY

Hannah Clarke

Environmental Consultancy graduate

As part of this industry led course you’ll work with both industry and governments to reduce human impacts and provide solutions to environmental problems, enabling you to develop practical skills with an eight-week industry placement built in to the course.

For the last two years Wolf Minerals has hosted students studying for MSc Environmental Consultancy at the University of Plymouth, and this October a group of 38 students accompanied by Dr. Sean Comber, Associate Professor (Reader) in Environmental Sciences, visited Drakelands Mine.

During the visit Hannah Clarke, Wolf Minerals’ Senior Environmental Officer gave the group a presentation on how her team manages the various environmental considerations on site which incorporates so much of the course content and involves: monitoring levels of noise and dust; water quality and emissions for compliance; restoration and land management including ongoing tree planting and maintenance, habitat management, species management and mitigation and management; and monitoring of minerals waste as well as hazardous waste. Damian Andrews, Shift Supervisor then gave the group a tour of the site and provided an overview of the physical process that takes place from the Processing Plant through to the Mine Waste Facility.

Hannah Clarke herself is an MSc Environmental Consultancy graduate and other members of the team, Jessica Easterbrook and Alex Dawson are both Environmental Officers, also graduates of Plymouth (BSc Physical Geography and BSc Physical Geography and Geology and MGeol respectively). In fact, Matthew Elmer, Wolf’s Junior Environmental consultant graduated this year from the MSc Environmental Consultancy, starting in September and visited Wolf Minerals last year as part of his course.

As former students of University of Plymouth the entire team at Wolf understand first-hand how valuable it is to experience the practical application of elements of the course. Hannah said “the course provides such a wide range of study units which are directly applicable to work here and I never imagined that I would be working with so many of those aspects in a single role”.

Hannah Clarke has since presented to the Group at University of Plymouth on ISO: 14001 implementation.

EMPLOYER

Wolf Minerals

JOB TITLE

Senior Environmental Officer

www.plymouth.ac.uk/study/postgraduate
Josh Gittins
Sustainable Environmental Management graduate

“After graduating, within a few weeks I had moved to the Middle East to start a job as an Environmental Specialist with a large, multinational engineering and design firm. From there, I was involved in large infrastructure projects across Asia and Africa. The day-to-day was extremely varied, giving me experience in soil, air and water sampling; diving; boat handling; and technical report writing for various clients.

Another 12-months down the line and I was looking for a new challenge, and a new career path in research; so I began studying a PhD at Lancaster University. My project combines some of my skills at Plymouth, with others from my time in industry, to explore research questions on the links between sustainable farming practices, freshwater quality and the ecology.

What was excellent about both my undergraduate and postgraduate was the breadth of content the courses covered. I really felt like I had the opportunity to sample so many different disciplines and topics, whilst also having the chance to delve deeper into the ones I found most interesting. This was very beneficial for being able to turn my hand to anything in industry or academia.

Straight off the bat I managed to secure a role within the environment sector. I truly believe that not only the qualifications I received at Plymouth helped me with this, but the contacts I met, the experiences I had, and the reputation of the University played a key part in marketing myself for such a job. As I said above, the level of support from staff and others at the University was second to none, and the variety of content covered on the SEM course was broad and contemporary, but with enough detail to prepare you for a post in a variety of research or industry-based posts.”
“Westcountry Rivers Trust (WRT) and the University of Plymouth have forged a good working relationship over recent years and have combined on a number of projects with some students going on to gain employment at WRT. The insight and knowledge that students can bring to the organisation is invaluable and the opportunities made available by the trust can help both WRT and the University of Plymouth move forward together in the fields of research, practical delivery and problem solving.”

Matthew Healey
River Officer for Westcountry Rivers Trust

“We really value the opportunity of taking on placement students from the university as their range of skills help us to enhance the natural infrastructure and environment of Plymouth.”

Chris Avent
Natural Infrastructure Officer (Planning) for Plymouth City Council

Some examples of employer and placement organisations our students have worked at:

- Acorn Ecology Ltd
  www.acornecology.co.uk
- Atkins
  www.atkinsglobal.com/en-gb
- Babcock
  www.babcockinternational.com
- Crestwood, Wolverhampton
  www.crestwoodenvironmental.co.uk
- Devon Biodiversity Records Centre
  www.dbrc.org.uk
- Devon County Council
  www.new.devon.gov.uk
- Devon Wildlife Trust
  www.devonwildlifetrust.org
- EAD Ltd
  www.eadconsult.co.uk
- Eco Sulis Ltd.
  www.ecosulis.co.uk
- EnterpriseMouchel
  www.enterprisemouchel.com
- Environment Agency
  www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency
- FSC Slapton NNR
  www.held-studies-council.org/centres/slapton/slaptonley.aspx
- Green Ecology Ltd
  www.green-ecology.co.uk
- Arcadis (International)
- Land Use Consultants
  www.landuse.co.uk
- Langage Farm
  www.langagefarm.com
- Living Coasts
  www.livingcoasts.org.uk
- Marine Ecological Surveys
  www.mesl.co.uk
- MBA
  www.mba.ac.uk
- Mott MacDonald
  www.mottmac.com
- National Marine Aquarium
  www.national-aquarium.co.uk
- Natural England
  www.gov.uk/government/organisations/natural-england
- Parsons Brinckerhoff Ltd
  www.pbworld.com
- Plymouth City Council
  www.plymouth.gov.uk
- Plymouth Marine Lab
  www.pml.ac.uk
- Richard Green Ecology
  www.richardgreenecology.co.uk
- Royal Haskoning DHV
  www.royalhaskoningdhv.com/en/united-kingdom
- RSPB Cornwall
  www.rspb.org.uk/groups/cornwall
- South Devon AONB
  www.southdevonaonb.org.uk
- South West Water
  www.southwestwater.co.uk
- West Country Rivers Trust
  www.wrt.org.uk
- Astra Zeneca
  www.astrazeneca.co.uk/home
- European Copper Institute
  www.copperalliance.eu
- Really Green Credentials
  www.reallygreencredentials.com
The University of Plymouth is fantastically situated to explore many amazing places. It is a great university for those interested in studying/researching during the week and getting out into nature at the weekends!

- **National Parks:** It is home to two national parks; Dartmoor and Exmoor National Park. Both are wild open moorlands, with woodlands, river valleys, a rich history and rare wildlife. Great for walking, cycling, horse riding, camping, canoeing, climbing and lots more!
- **UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site:** Jurassic Coast is a 95 mile stretch of coast between Exmouth in East Devon and Studland Bay in Dorset. It is a site of outstanding international importance for Earth Science, with the layers of sedimentary rocks revealing the history of the Earth across 185 million years and forming a near complete record of the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods.
- **UNESCO Global Geopark:** In September 2007, the English Riviera received international recognition for its rich geological, historical and cultural heritage by becoming a UNESCO Global Geopark. Situated within the stunning, rolling hills of South Devon, Torbay’s geology has created the beautiful coastline of today, which fundamentally links the rich diversity of landscape with wildlife, people and culture.
- **Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB):** An AONB is exactly what it says it is: an outstanding landscape whose distinctive character and natural beauty are so precious that it is safeguarded in the national interest. In the South West, we have 13 AONBs!
- **South West England beaches:** South West England is justly famous for its diverse and intriguing coastline and beaches. Cornwall and Devon’s rugged north shores, which receive the brunt of uninterrupted Atlantic weather systems, are a mecca for surfers in the UK. Calmer seas, crystal clear waters, large sandy beaches and beautiful secluded coves can be found on the south coast.

**GET INVOLVED!**

Whilst you are at the University, we encourage you to take advantage of our Sustainable Earth Institute.

- The SEI holds events and workshops throughout the year, which you will be able to attend. For example, we have recently had evening talks from Sir Tim Smit (Founder of the Eden Project), Professor Iain Boyd (DEFRA Chief Scientist) and George Monbiot (Guardian journalist).
- The SEI also has an annual conference that brings together research and action and recent keynote speakers include: Sir Mark Walport (UK Government Chief Scientist), Wendy Darke (former BBC Natural History Unit), and Craig Bennett (CEO, Friends of the Earth).
- The Future Leaders Programme is open to any students with an interest in helping to lead sustainability education. Working in partnership with the Centre for Sustainable Futures and in an informal team setting, your vision and enterprise will help us to innovate new learning opportunities both within and beyond the campus. The programme also provides you with personal development opportunities to develop your leadership, creativity, teamwork and communication skills.

Sustainable Earth Institute
sei@plymouth.ac.uk

Centre for Sustainable Futures
csf@plymouth.ac.uk
**MRes SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

Explore where social, political and economic issues converge with sustainability and natural science. With a focus on practical teaching and proactive modules which see you undertaking field work and developing your extended dissertation project you’ll become an expert both broadly and in a specific area close to your interests. You’ll also benefit from our research groups, such as the Marine Institute and the Centre for Sustainable Transport.

**Programme Overview**

The MRes Sustainable Environmental Management course will provide you with a broad knowledge base that will support your research into a key area of your choice; with a range of optional modules you’re in control of your learning. Teaching staff are research-active, so you’ll explore issues that are contemporary and garner skills that are in demand by research excellence. Working with a supervisor you’ll benefit from high levels of contact time and support as you produce your extended dissertation and immerse yourself in a real world issue.

**Career Opportunities**

This masters route particularly suits those who are interested in a career in research or who wish to undertake further study to PhD level. You’ll also be primed to pursue a career in consultancy and work with specialist environmental agencies, government organisations and NGO’s.

**Accreditations**

Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)

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**MSc HUMAN GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH**

Explore the diverse and exciting subject of Human Geography. Geographers are fascinated by society and environment and examine how places are understood, imagined, used, shared and contested by different peoples. Geographers study the world at a range of scales, from the local to the global, and have a keen appreciation of how places are connected.

Be part of a rich discipline that engages with a vast range of philosophies and methodologies in its quest to understand people's diverse relationships with the world.

**Programme Overview**

The aim of this MSc programme is to offer a high quality and distinctive course that develops students into critical and effective researchers in Human Geography. The programme provides training in qualitative and quantitative research techniques and develops a critical knowledge of human geography research. It is delivered in an environment underpinned by research excellence. Working with a supervisor you’ll benefit from high levels of contact time and support as you produce your extended dissertation and immerse yourself in a real world issue.

**Career Opportunities**

With an onus on independent, supervised study you’ll be prepared for the nature of independent PhD research and will be able to develop your own in-depth research interests which will prime you for further study. The key skills and knowledge gained in this course will prime you for jobs in market research; local government and consultancy.

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**MRes SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**Programme Overview**

The MRes Sustainable Environmental Management course will provide you with a broad knowledge base that will support your research into a key area of your choice; with a range of optional modules you’re in control of your learning. Teaching staff are research-active, so you’ll explore issues that are contemporary and garner skills that are in demand by research excellence. Working with a supervisor you’ll benefit from high levels of contact time and support as you produce your extended dissertation and immerse yourself in a real world issue.

**Career Opportunities**

This masters route particularly suits those who are interested in a career in research or who wish to undertake further study to PhD level. You’ll also be primed to pursue a career in consultancy and work with specialist environmental agencies, government organisations and NGO’s.

**Accreditations**

Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)

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**MSc HUMAN GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH**

**Programme Overview**

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"I chose to do my research dissertation on strategic environmental assessment and gained a considerable amount of experience developing my own ideas and concepts and making contacts. I subsequently gained employment as Biodiversity Action Plan Officer with Scottish Natural Heritage, largely on the basis of my knowledge of international environment policy and my dissertation topic.”

Kathrina Mannion, currently Senior Policy Officer, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

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"With an emphasis on small group teaching via tutorials and seminars, you’ll engage actively with staff to foster critical thinking and communication; skills invaluable to a career in research.”

Professor Richard Yarwood
Professor of Human Geography
ResM
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Prime yourself for further study at PhD level; this 18 month research intensive course allows you to strengthen your knowledge and build an area of your own expertise. Benefit from the support of our expert academic and technical staff, unique location and ISO accredited labs to assist you in the undertaking of your research project.

You may have an existing area of interest that you’d like to build on further from your dissertation, or be passionate about an emerging area of Environmental Science. To find out about our academic teams area of expertise and find a suitable project supervisor please visit plymouth.ac.uk/research/beach and review our staff profiles.

Programme Overview

The ResM Environmental Science programme will provide you with the opportunity to conduct research alongside staff at the forefront of the environmental science subject discipline. Research project opportunities, in the following contemporary areas, include combinations of laboratory and field work with access to high specification analytical facilities and excellent field sites:

• Sources fate and impact of chemicals in the environment
• Mine site restoration
• Air quality and human health
• Peatland habitat restoration
• Marine pollution from plastics
• Application of social and economic techniques to nature conservation
• Public engagement and communication of environmental issues

Working with a supervisor the programme offers you the flexibility to shape your research in an area of particular interest to you, alongside the opportunity to gain research skills from our taught modules.

Career Opportunities

This masters route particularly suits those who are interested in a career in research or who wish to undertake further study to PhD level. You’ll also be primed to pursue a career in consultancy and work with specialist environmental agencies, government organisations and NGO’s.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

You’ll require a 2:1 in a relevant subject area and will also need to provide a research project proposal agreed with one of the research staff. To find out about our research areas visit www.plymouth.ac.uk/research/beach

COURSE DURATION

Full Time 12-18 months (includes up to 6 months writing-up period). Part-Time 24-36 months (including up to 12 months writing-up period)

START DATE

September

FEES

Visit www.plymouth.ac.uk/fees

In an era of rapid and escalating environmental change rewilding has emerged as a unique and increasingly popular form of ecological restoration. It broadly aims to create healthy, functioning ecosystems across multiple scales that are better able to respond to global environmental change. There are a number of different versions of ‘rewilding’ that can be loosely distinguished into four categories: Pleistocene rewilding often garners most media attention and aims to restore ecosystem processes lost through Pleistocene extinctions. The ‘wooly’ mammoth’ approach to rewilding if you will. The Three C’s approach however emphasises the protection, restoration and connection of core areas of ‘wilderness’, whilst Trophic Rewilding is an ecological restoration strategy that uses species reintroductions to restore top-down trophic interactions to promote self-regulating biodiverse ecosystems. The fourth, rewilding through the creation of Novel Ecosystems, does not focus on holding or returning to a historical baseline but is embedded with a strategy that accepts that novel ecosystems crated through rewilding will be different from any past analogs.

The development of any new conservation practice such as rewilding also raises a series of political, social, and ethical questions. Whilst rewilding can enhance biodiversity it can also bring social, economic and cultural impacts to marginal rural areas and/or urban communities. Therefore understanding the effects of rewilding initiatives on cultural landscapes as well as communities. Therefore understanding the effects of rewilding initiatives on cultural landscapes as well as communities. Therefore understanding the effects of rewilding initiatives on cultural landscapes as well as communities.

At Plymouth within Geography we have a variety of academic staff at the forefront of research that examines the phenomenon of rewilding and its impacts on both environments and communities. These include Dave Gilvear, Professor of River Science, Associate Professor of Physical Geography Nicki Whitehouse and Lecturer in Human Geography Kim Ward.

Dr Kim Ward
Lecturer in Human Geography

www.plymouth.ac.uk/study/postgraduate

www.plymouth.ac.uk/study/postgraduate
ESRC SOUTH WEST DOCTORAL PROGRAMME

The ESRC’s South West Doctoral Training Partnership (SWDTP) is a collaboration between the University of Plymouth, University of Bristol, University of Bath, University of Exeter and the University of the West of England (UWE) and supports doctoral students by developing not only their research skills, but by offering a wide range of training, placements, activities and events as well.

What is an ESRC studentship?
The SWDTP funds 45 fully-funded studentships from ESRC that are available through twelve disciplinary pathways that span the social sciences, including human geography. The programme supports part-time as well as full-time students, in recognition that students have different needs (e.g. caring responsibilities) and can require different flexibilities.

Students with a Masters degree that fulfils the ESRC’s training requirements may apply for a MPhil/PhD on the three year (1-3) route. Students without a suitable masters must apply for a Masters in Human Geography Research followed by three year MPhil/PhD (1-3 route). Our MSc in Human Geography Research is an exciting and tailored course that meets ESRC requirements and provides the foundation for doctoral study.

Who is eligible for ESRC funding?
To be eligible for a full award (stipend and fees), you must have:
- settled status in the UK, meaning there are no restrictions on how long you can stay;
- been 'ordinarily resident' in the UK for three years prior to the start of the studentship grant. This means you must have been normally residing in the UK (apart from temporary or occasional absences);
- not been residing in the UK wholly or mainly for the purpose of full-time education. This does not apply to UK and EU nationals.

To be eligible for a fees only award, you:
- must be ordinarily resident in an EU member state, in the same way as UK students must be ordinarily resident in the UK.

We welcome applications for ESRC studentships (either +3 or 1+3, full or part-time) from students interested in any aspect of human geography. Here at Plymouth research in human geography has focused on, but is not confined to, the following themes:
- big data and quantitative methods;
- culture, landscape and nature;
- environmental management and climate policy;
- migration, identity and place;
- mobility and transport;
- political and military geographies;
- risk and resilience;
- rural and agricultural geography;
- spatial planning and governance.

For an informal discussion please contact Professor Richard Yarwood: R.Yarwood@plymouth.ac.uk

Alumni Discount
An alumni discretionary award is available if you are:
- a graduate of the University of Plymouth;
- enrolled on a full-time or part-time taught postgraduate programme on which a postgraduate fee is charged and no student loan is available;
- self-funded;
- part funded/sponsored the discount will apply to the self-funded element of the tuition fee only.

For more information on alumni fees and funding, contact our alumni team at alumni@plymouth.ac.uk.

Worshipful Company of Water Conservators Award
One award of £5000 is available to a student applying for the Environmental or Sustainable Environmental Management programmes and who has a track record and interest in the water industry and aquatic environments.

For more information visit www.plymouth.ac.uk/schools/school-of-geometry-earth-and-environmental-sciences/water-conservators-student-award

Postgraduate Loans (PGL)
The government has introduced a non-means tested loan, the loan is paid directly to you as a contribution towards the cost of postgraduate studies and can be spent on tuition fees, accommodation, books, general living expenses etc. Visit www.plymouth.ac.uk/postgraduate to find out more.

Am I eligible?
You must be under the age of 60 at the commencement of the course.

Loans are available for both full-time and part-time study. And funding will be given to MSc and MRRes programmes of study. Postgraduate loans are not available if you have an equivalent or higher level qualification already with the exception of PGDip or PGCE.

How do I apply for a loan?
You can apply online for a loan to Student Finance England online at www.gov.uk/postgraduateloan.

Applications can be made up to nine months after the start date of the programme.

When am I expected to repay the loan and what interest rate will I be charged?
The loan is repayable but not until you have left or finished your course and your income is over £21,000 a year. Visit www.gov.uk/postgraduateloan to find out more about repayment.

Professional and Career Development Loans are bank loans to help pay for courses and training that help with your career or help get you into work. You may be able to borrow between £300 and £10,000. Loans are usually offered at a reduced interest rate and the government pays interest while you’re studying.

Care Leavers Bursary
Our care leaver bursary is an annual £2,000 non-repayable grant. It is available to postgraduate students on taught courses at University of Plymouth who are care leavers or are current Foyer (or similar residential housing) residents and satisfy the eligibility criteria. Visit www.plymouth.ac.uk/postgraduate to find out more.
Research in the School covers earth sciences, geography, environmental science and chemistry. We aim to create and support high quality research opportunities that attract the best talents and build capacity for future high quality international research in the disciplines covered by our school. Many of our staff are at the cutting edge of research – as shown by our performance in the most recent national assessment of UK research (REF2014) and our researchers have access to our world-class analytical facilities that underpin both our teaching and research.

We offer PhD studentships on a competitive basis in all areas of research focus. Studentships are advertised widely and come from a range of funders including the ESRC Doctoral Training Programme and external funding bodies; studentships are usually advertised through the autumn and spring of the preceding academic year but may come up at any point within the academic year.

Our research is associated with several research Centres and Institutes. The Centre for Research in Earth Sciences (CRES) brings together an outstanding research team that spans the spectrum of Earth science disciplines from structural geology, palaeomagnetism, volcanoes, landslides and geomorphology to the evolution of life on Earth. Our main research themes include active tectonics and geohazards; formation and deformation on Earth. Our main research themes include active structural geology, palaeomagnetism, volcanoes, and their impacts on nutrient cycling and climate change; the study of the behaviour of pollutants and nutrients in soil.

The Centre for Research on Environment and Society (CeRES) has a geographical focus on three linked fundamental elements, namely environment-society interactions, environmental processes and change, and their governance through regulation, management policies and stakeholder involvement. The centre blends the traditions of the natural sciences (physical geography) and social sciences and humanities (human geography, politics). Much of the work that the centre is engaged with is interdisciplinary. Major research themes include catchment and river science; the study of Quaternary landscapes and environments; environment, development and governance; society, culture and mobility.

Further details of our research may be found here: www.plymouth.ac.uk/schools/school-of-geography-earth-and-environmental-sciences/research

The School of Geography Earth and Environmental Science operates four complementary ISO: 9001 certified analytical testing facilities:

- Analytical Research Facility (ARF)
- Biogeochemistry and Environmental Analytical Chemistry (BEEACH)
- Consolidated Radioisotope Facility (CORIF)
- Pore-Cor Research Suite

The Consolidated Radio-isotope Facility (CORIF) is a dedicated laboratory for the manipulation and analysis of natural and enhanced radioactive materials and applications of radioactivity in material analysis. Radioanalytical instrumentation comprises three state-of-the-art gamma spectrometers and two liquid scintillation counters. Geochemical analyses are undertaken using a wavelength dispersive X-ray fluorescence (WD XRF) spectrometer with associated fusion machine and pellet press. Advanced radiocentral and geochemical facilities are complemented by a laser granulometer. The Facility houses a wide range of associated equipment for processing and preparation of any sample type. CORIF has a licence to hold and dispose of alpha, beta and gamma radionuclides which are used to support many of applications in research and consultancy. Data quality is assured through regular participation in external proficiency tests: e.g. Max Rubner Institute (MRI), Germany; National Physical Laboratory (NPL), UK; International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Austria (data available on request).

The Biogeochemistry and Environmental Analytical Chemistry Facility includes a segmented flow analyser for nitrate/nitrite, ammonia, phosphate, silicate and other inorganic elements in water, and a Shimadzu TOC-V instrument is available for the determination of total organic carbon (TOC), dissolved organic carbon (DOC) and total dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC). Aims of dissolved trace metals in natural waters (sub mM) can be performed using portable flow analysis instruments with spectrophotometric, chemiluminescence and fluorometric detection, which are used both onboard ship and in the laboratory.

The Analytical Research Facility comprises a Class 100 clean laboratory for trace metals analysis using an extensive equipment base, including ICP-MS instruments, QFAAS, ICP-AES, FAAS and multicollector-TIMS for isotope ratio measurements. We also have an extensive suite of instrumentation for the determination of organic compounds, including GC, HPLC, LC-MS and GC-MS.

The Pore-Cor Research Suite provides expertise in modelling and experimental facilities for surface area measurement and diffusion. Mercury porosimetry from vacuum up to 400 kPa enables the measure the porosity and void size distribution in a capillary equivalent diameter of 4 nm. We use our own computer software ‘PoreXpand’ to correct for the compression of mercury, expansion of the glass sample chamber or ‘penetrometer’ and compressibility of the solid phase of the sample.
PLYMOUTH

Plymouth is the largest city in the South West – but its true brilliance is in the proximity of stunning natural landscapes to city convenience.

Enjoy an excellent quality of life that can provide wild camps and sunrises on Dartmoor, hot summers days on the beach and excellent nightlife and sunsets in the city.

www.plymouth.ac.uk/study/postgraduate
Contacts

The University aims to make the application procedure as simple and efficient as possible. Our Postgraduate Admissions and Enquiries team are on hand to offer help and can put you in touch with the appropriate faculty if you wish to discuss any programme in detail.

If you have a disability and would like further information about the support provided by the University of Plymouth, please visit our Disability Assist Services website: https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/student-life/services/learning-gateway/disability-and-dyslexia.

Support is also available to overseas students applying to the University from our International Student Advisory Service via international.advice@plymouth.ac.uk

If you would like any further information, please contact the Postgraduate and Enquiries team:

Telephone: +44 (0)1752 585858
Email: admissions@plymouth.ac.uk

Submitting an application

To apply for postgraduate study, first search for a course at www.plymouth.ac.uk/postgraduate.

Alternatively, you can download a copy of the application form to be submitted by hand, by post or via email with accompanying attachments. To download the application form please visit: https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/uploads/production/document/path/6/625/Postgraduate_Application.pdf

Additional guidance information can also be downloaded on how to fill in the postgraduate application form please visit: https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/study/postgraduate
By 2025 1.8 billion people will be living in regions with absolute water scarcity and two thirds of the world’s population could be living under water stressed conditions.