School of Development Studies
MSc in Climate Change and International Development
New for 2008/09

www.uea.ac.uk/dev
**MSc in Climate Change and International Development (MScCCID)**

**Introduction**

*Climate change is the defining human development challenge of the 21st Century. Failure to respond to that challenge will stall and then reverse international efforts to reduce poverty. The poorest countries and most vulnerable citizens will suffer the earliest and most damaging setbacks, even though they have contributed least to the problem. Looking to the future, no country—however wealthy or powerful—will be immune to the impact of global warming.*

**Human Development Report 2007/08**

**Integrating climate and development**

The implications of climate change for international development are profound. This course, the first of its kind, will integrate natural social science understandings of climate change issues through an international development perspective. The course material will draw from existing and ongoing research and applied work through the School of Development Studies and the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. It will cover international and local dimensions of both mitigation and adaptation in resource-poor and vulnerable settings.

**Who is the course for?**

This course will meet the career needs of people working in development and climate change policy and practice, and provide an opportunity to deepen understanding of linkages between the two. It specifically targets those with existing experience in development who foresee that climate change brings additional dimensions to their work. The course aims to develop conceptual understanding of climate change and underlying processes that mediate environment and development and to impart specific knowledge and skills relevant to addressing climate change concerns across society.

**Key components of the course**

The course will provide a framework for understanding climate policies at different scales and the interplay of various actors and stakeholders in climate change, set within a development context. Case study examples will be used to explore policy outcomes at different levels and the application of different methods relevant to mitigation and adaptation practice. The approach is interdisciplinary and will take a fully integrated perspective on climate change and development.

You are eligible to apply if you have a good academic background in a related field (natural or social sciences), or significant professional experience in any agency involved in environment and development issues.
DEV welcomes about 150 postgraduate students each year, to study for one-year taught Masters and Diploma degrees. With 36 teaching staff and a team of support staff, the School offers students a friendly and supportive environment. Particular attention is given to supporting international students: English and academic skills tuition, and computer training from very basic levels upwards, are provided.

A particular strength of the MSc is the opportunity for students to take units outside the school: notably the more science-based units covering climate change in The School of Environmental Sciences.

Students following the programme, MSc in Climate Change and International Development are required to gain 180 credits, as follows:

**Coursework:** 120 credits
Six 20 credit taught units are taken between October and May. Details of compulsory and optional units are found on the following page.

**Examination:** 20 credits
One examination paper is taken in April/May.

**Dissertation:** 40 credits
A dissertation of 8,000 to 12,000 words - researched and written from May to September - is a requirement of all courses. Students have complete freedom to choose their dissertation topic and supervisor, with the stipulation that the topic should address an issue of broad relevance. Overseas students who wish to work on issues from their home country should try to organise potential projects and data sources before arriving at UEA.

Examples of dissertations conducted under the our MScEID course include; examining synergies between climate change and biodiversity, a study of media perceptions of climate change and development, resolving linkages between climate change and health in East Africa, and critiques of clean development mechanisms. We also have a range of major research projects underway in the School on climate change and development.
All students take six units, three of which are compulsory units. These are: Understanding Global Environmental Change, Climate Change Policy for Development, and Tools and Skills in Environment and Development. The three remaining units can be selected from around 20 postgraduate units offered by the School of Environmental Sciences especially the unit ‘The Science of Climate Change’ and our own School which include:

**Autumn Semester:**

- Research Techniques and Analysis
- Policies and Issues in Environment and Development
- Development Perspectives
- Gender Concepts for Development
- Governance, Democracy & Development
- Gender and Rural Livelihoods
- Introduction to Education & Development
- Introduction to Social Development
- Microeconomics of Development
- Econometric Methods for Development

**Spring Semester:**

- Conflict, Peace and Security
- Contemporary World Development
- Educational Policy & Practice in Development
- Gender, Difference and Social Policy
- Globalisation, Industrialisation and Development
- International Economic Policy
- Macroeconomics of Development
- Rural Policies
- Research Skills for Social Analysis

Please visit our website for more detailed information on all the units we offer.

**Understanding Global Environmental Change**

This unit aims to provide students with an interdisciplinary introduction to the analysis of the diverse perceptions and the understandings of global environmental changes, their meanings and implications; and of the relationships between environment and development.

The unit provides students with:

- critical understanding of social constructions of cause and effect relationships in environment and development issues, including a critical understanding of scientific assessments;
- skills to develop their own perspectives of environment and development issues;
- understand the somewhat different perspectives in less developed countries on environment and development issues.

**Climate Change Policy for Development**

This unit provides understanding and analytical skills around the politics and policy processes of international and national responses to climate change and the development challenges this poses.

The unit provides students with:

- an understanding of the key policy actors and processes in response to climate change at local, national and international levels.
- knowledge on International policy frameworks on climate change: retrospective and prospects ;
- ability to critically assess the obstacles to effective decision-making and policy formulation.
Student Experiences

Stuart (2004-2005) USA

“I earned my MSc in Environment and Development in 2005. When I entered the job market, I became aware of how much this degree had helped provide me with the right skills and knowledge in securing employment at the level I was seeking. I thoroughly enjoyed Norwich and UEA and look back with great appreciation at the friends and experience I gained. Today I work as a Freshwater policy officer with WWF-UK, working with business and development audiences to better understand risk and security issues in water management.”

Susannah (2002-2003) UK

“After a ten year career in public sector management I decided to do the MSc in Environment and Development at UEA. It turned out to be one of my better career choices. Not only was the year intellectually refreshing and stimulating, it also helped me refocus and start working in a new field, landing myself a job at the Sustainable Development Commission working on policy development.”

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The School of Development Studies (DEV) applies economic, social and natural sciences to the study of international development, with special emphasis on social and environmental change and poverty alleviation.
Teaching Faculty

The core teaching faculty for the programme includes:

Prof. Kate Brown
Professor of Development Studies
I work on environmental change and development, focusing on how people understand, respond to and manage change, including climate change, biodiversity and conservation.

Dr. Declan Conway
Senior Lecturer in Natural Resources
I work on hydrology and water resources management; climate variability; climate change impacts and adaptation. I work in Egypt, Ethiopia, East Africa, India and China.

Dr. Tim Daw
Lecturer in Natural Resources
I work on links between social and ecological systems, particularly in fisheries, with a focus on the role of local knowledge in fisheries governance. I have recently worked in Seychelles, E Africa, Malaysia and Europe.

Prof. Peter Newell
Professor of Development Studies
My interests are in the political economy of environment and development. I am interested in issues of environmental governance around climate change and agricultural biotechnology globally as well as in specific developing country settings such as Argentina and India and questions of corporate responsibility, regulation and accountability.

Dr. John McDonagh
Senior Lecturer in Natural Resources
I work on tropical soil fertility management, sustainable farming systems; nutrient and water balance studies. I work in east and southern Africa.

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