



MSC GLOBAL CHANGE

Ecosystem Science and Policy



INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

A warm welcome to the MSc. in Global Change students at University College Dublin! This is a joint international master's degree Programme, which is unique in Europe, combining the well-established profiles of University College Dublin (UCD), Ireland and Justus Liebig University (JLU), Giessen, Germany.



The world is changing, and we need to adapt to the changes and this requires strong scientific information and inter-disciplinary dialogue. You will be taught the latest scientific methods and cutting-edge research methods to address mitigation and adaptation needs for global environmental change and to prepare policy-relevant information. You will hopefully acquire a long-life enthusiasm to inform yourself about latest global change issues and continue your training in scientific insights.

You will find some information below pertaining mainly to your time in UCD. You will receive a second handbook for your summer semester in JLU in due time.

The School of Biology and Environmental Science warmly welcomes you at UCD. The entire team involved in this programme is looking forward to working with you in the 16 months ahead.



Be the change you wish to
see in the world!



STAFF AND CONTACT DETAILS

» IN UCD

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ACADEMIC



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All official MSc Global Change and UCD communication by e-mail will be sent to your UCD-Connect E-mail address. You will be provided with a JLU student email to communicate with your JLU module coordinators and other JLU administrative staff. However, it is your responsibility to regularly check the UCD e-mail account throughout the duration of the programme and, where necessary, to act upon e-mails in a timely fashion.



PROGRAMME ORGANISATION

In order to successfully complete this MSc program, you will need to gather a total of 120 credits over the year. Credits are obtained on the successful completion of a module, but note that some modules run over more than one semester and different modules have different credit values. Modules are assessed in a variety of ways, including attendance, participation, specific assignments and presentations, performance in practical classes, in addition to conventional examinations. The module descriptors listed later in this handbook describe in more detail the assessment methods used and their weighting for each module.

STRUCTURE OF MSC GLOBAL CHANGE				
Semesters	AUTUMN semester	Work Placement	SUMMER semester	Research Thesis
Where?	UCD	Anywhere	JLU	Anywhere
When?	Sept-Dec	Jan-March	March-Aug	Aug-Dec
Credit points	35	20	35	30

Good interaction with staff is also an important feature of this MSc. In addition to the formal contact time in lectures and practicals, the academic staff also welcome you to approach them if you have specific concerns or questions. Information is also exchanged between staff and students through UCD's online learning system 'Blackboard'. Assignments are distributed and submitted through Blackboard (details on how to access Blackboard are given later in this handbook). Please familiarise yourself with this system and ask a member of the academic staff if you have any queries. Please also note that in accordance with UCD policy, email correspondence between staff and students should only occur through UCD email accounts, and not personal email accounts. You will have a JLU email account in due course also for communication with lecturers and administration in JLU. The teaching of this programme is carried out in a variety of facilities. The online timetable provides precise information regarding where lectures and practicals are held. Nevertheless, it is occasionally necessary to reschedule teaching activities; so please regularly check your email account and Blackboard to ensure that you are aware of any changes.



OVERVIEW OF MODULES

Click here to [view](#) all the module descriptors at once or click on each module to open the live module descriptor

UCD	CORE MODULES	CODE	CREDITS
	Global Change Ecology	ENVB40130	5
	Environmental Law & Policy (on-line)	LAW41730	5
	Science and Policy	BIOL 40140	5
	Data analysis & Interpretation (on-line)	ENVB40370	5
	Designing Global Change Research Projects	BIOL40780	5
	Environmental Impact Assessment Procedures	ENVB40040	5
	Total CP core modules in UCD		30
Optional module (5 CP needed)			
a)	Ecological mapping and QGIS	ENVB40540	5
b)	Peatlands and environmental changes	ENVB40310	5
c)	Energy system and climate change (on-line)	MEEN40900	5
d)	Management of sustainable fisheries (on-line)	ENVB40410	5
e)	Biology and ecology of coastal wetlands (Maternity leave)	BOTN40270	5
e)	Conservation of Biodiversity: Theory and practice	ZOO40510	5
f)	Carbon & Sustainability (on-line)	BSEN4072	5
	Total CP in UCD for taught modules		35
JLU	CORE MODULES	CODE	CREDITS
	Global Change: Modelling and Advanced Techniques	BIOL40680	5
	Adaptation to Global Change	BIOL40690	3
	Political Consulting – Environmental Policy and Development Cooperation	BIOL40580	6
	Resource Economics and Environmental Management	BIOL40230	6
	Biodiversity informatics	BIOL40160	3
	Sustainable agro-ecosystems	BIOL40740	6
	Total CP core modules in JLU		29
Optional modules (total of 6 CP needed)			
a)	Man in past climates and climate change impacts	BIOL40770	3
b)	Field Methods in Global Change Research	BIOL40660	3
c)	Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services	ENVB40560	6
d)	Stress Ecology	BIOL40700	3
e)	Into the Footsteps of a Researcher	BIOL40710	3
f)	World Food Economy	BIOL40570	6
g)	Global Governance	BIOL40750	6
h)	Humanitarian Disaster	ENVB40550	6
	Total CP in JLU for taught modules		35
	Module 'Work Placement'	BIOL40120	20
	Module 'Research Project/Thesis'	BIOL40130	30
	TOTAL CREDIT POINT AWARDED		120



RESOURCES AND E-LIBRARY

Most lectures are based on research material published in peer-reviewed journals or recent textbooks, so that you will be taught the latest research methods, shown the latest data and each module will have its own 'reading list'. These are available via the library. However, if some books are not available, do contact your module coordinator; or if this is an issue please do contact me.

A special **MSc Global Change e-library** has been set up in **Google Drive** to access e-books and other articles that pertain to topics that might be of interest to you.

For more information please consult: <http://masterglobalchange.org>

Follow us on Twitter: @MscGlobalChange; <https://twitter.com/MScGlobalChange>

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/GlobalChangeMasters/?ref=settings>

Linkedin (join our group to talk to Alumni): <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/7488255/>

Check Justus Liebig University website :

<https://www.uni-giessen.de/studium/studienangebot/master/globalchange>

E-mail us: Globalchange@ucd.ie

“The purpose of education is to learn the nature of your own gifts and how to use them for good in the world”
Prof. Robin Wall Kimmerer

