

Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)

Interdisciplinary graduate programme » MA or MS and PhD

The earth is undergoing environmental changes that are historically unique. Increased levels of greenhouse gases are changing the climate; depletion of harvestable fish species and desertification are threatening food security and air and water pollution is affecting human and environmental health. Explaining the causes and consequences, reporting on the relevant issues and designing the appropriate counteractive and management methods are well beyond the ability of a single discipline. In the ENR programme at the University of Iceland we foster interdisciplinary thinking and analysis in our search for solutions. Critical yet creative thinking!

In Iceland, with its significant use of renewable energy, the largest wilderness area in Europe, heavy reliance on natural resources and visible impact of climate change, students get an unequalled opportunity to participate in the search for solutions.

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Interdisciplinary graduate programme

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www.environment.hi.is



UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND



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Environment and Natural Resources

The graduate programme in Environment and Natural Resources at the University of Iceland is organised jointly by all the five Schools of the university; Education, Engineering & Natural Sciences, Health Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences. This cross-disciplinary collaboration fosters interdisciplinary thinking and gives students a unique opportunity, in consultation with their supervisor, to design a tailor made study programme based on their interests.

Master's Programme

The two-year master's programme in Environment and Natural Resources is ideal for those who have finished BSc or BA degrees, fulfill minimum GPA criteria, and want to concentrate on issues such as sustainable energy and industrial systems, environmental science, policy and management, natural resources management or energy economics, policy and sustainability. Students will graduate with a MSc or a MA degree in Environment and Natural Resources.

Recent master's thesis focal areas include:

- » Sustainable energy systems
- » Biofuels
- » Ecological footprints
- » Low carbon fuels for transportation
- » Environmental management systems
- » Corporate social responsibility
- » Environmental impact assessment
- » Life-cycle analysis
- » Education for sustainable development
- » Landscape classification
- » Water quality
- » Air pollution and health
- » Climate change policies



PhD Programme

Admission requirements for the three-year PhD programme include a MS or MA degree in Environment and Natural Resources or related disciplines. The programme is intended for those who want to deepen their understanding of the field. .

Recent and current PhD focal areas include:

Sustainability of industrial systems
Cost benefit analysis of energy transitions
The economic value of ecosystem services
Life cycle assessment of fisheries and aquaculture
Societal implications of geothermal development

Pressing questions

- » What is the supply potential of renewable energy?
- » How to adapt to and mitigate climate change?
- » How to facilitate sustainable economic prosperity?
- » How important are ecosystem services?
- » How does air pollution affect human health?
- » How to design environmental management systems?
- » How to enhance environmental impact assessments?

Programme Organisation

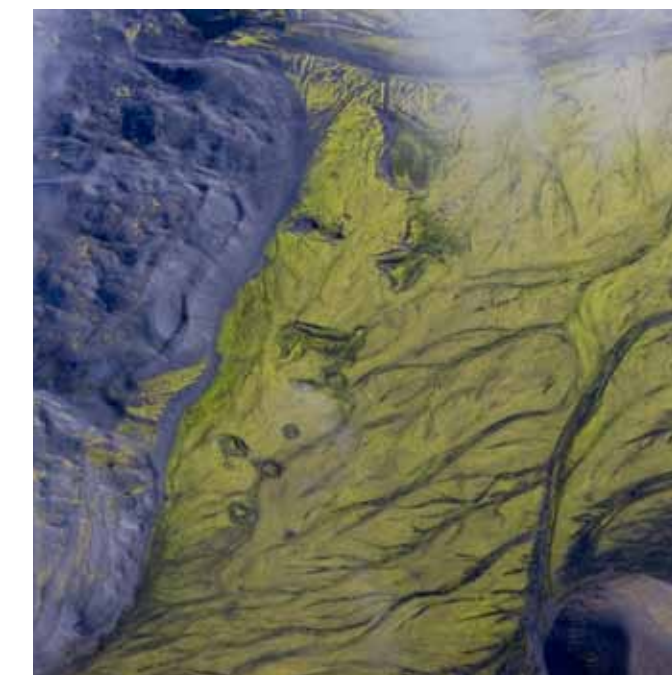
Master's programme - MA or MSc

The two-year (four semesters) master's programme in Environment and Natural Resources consists of 120 ECTS, divided between core classes, a thesis (30 or 60 ECTS) - and up to 10 electives at any of the University's Faculties chosen in collaboration with core faculty of the ENR programme.

Students are expected to complete courses from different disciplines, fostering a broad understanding of environmental and resource issues. The research project offers an opportunity to explore a chosen subject in greater depth and acquire research experience. The programme is conducted in English.

Doctoral programme - PhD

The three-year theoretical and practical research-based doctoral programme in Environment and Natural Resources is primarily based on the doctoral candidate's independent research, culminating in the PhD dissertation. 180 ECTS credits are required for the PhD dissertation. However, the PhD committee may require the candidate to take courses in addition to the research.



A small example of available courses

- » Introduction to Environment and Natural Resources
- » Sustainable Development, Environmental Policy and Resource Management
- » Environmental Governance - Government, Public and Corporate Responsibility and the Environment
- » Ecological Economics
- » Climate Change, the Past, Present and the Future
- » Competitive Environmental Strategy
- » Management of Protected Areas
- » Sustainable Futures
- » Environmental Economics
- » Sustainable Energy Options
- » Conservation Biology
- » Life-Cycle Analysis
- » Energy Economics, Policy and Sustainability

Application deadline and contact information

Application deadlines are February 1st for international students, April 15th for Nordic students and April 15th and October 15th for Icelandic students. For more information and for application forms please send an email to umhverfi@hi.is or consult www.environment.hi.is. Electronic application form can be found online at www.environment.hi.is.

The University of Iceland - International and Unique

The University of Iceland is a progressive educational and scientific institution, renowned in the global scientific community for its research. It is a state university, situated in the heart of Reykjavik, the capital of Iceland. A modern, diversified and rapidly developing institution, the University of Iceland offers opportunities for study and research in almost 400 programmes spanning most fields of science and scholarship: Social Sciences, Health Sciences, Humanities, Education, Natural Sciences and Engineering. Some of the resources available at the University are uniquely Icelandic. These include exceptionally complete genealogical data and climatological, glaciological, seismic and geothermal records. The University of Iceland holds a leading role in sustainable energy and environmental research.