



SAC



Scottish Agricultural College

Sustainable Environmental Management



Aberdeen • Ayr • Edinburgh
0800 269 453
www.sac.ac.uk/learning





Sustainable Environmental Management Course Information

Why study Sustainable Environmental Management?



What does sustainability mean to you?

Times are changing. World leaders have recognised that exploiting natural resources to a point where they are exhausted or unable to be replenished is no longer a sensible and responsible strategy for the future.

What does this mean in real life?

This programme of courses involves the study of those environmental issues causing increasing concern in a world no longer totally dominated by mass production and unlimited growth and where land use and the way we perceive the environment are changing.

SAC... a unique institution

SAC – the Scottish Agricultural College – is Scotland's specialist higher education institution for courses that relate to the existing and emerging land-based industries and pursuits, applied food, plant and animal sciences and sustainable land-use.

SAC offers courses in a wide range of subject areas, all related to how we make use of the land and environment around us: Agriculture, Science, Green Technology, Horticulture, Environment, Conservation, Business, Sport and Tourism courses are on offer at our three campuses in Aberdeen, Ayr and Edinburgh.

SAC offers HNC, HND and degree courses, and our degrees are awarded by the prestigious universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh.

In addition to its role in education, SAC has an innovative and leading research and development programme and runs an international advisory and consultancy service. This all means that as a student at SAC you are taught by a team of staff including lecturers, researchers, advisers and consultants. They will provide up-to-the-minute information and insight into the commercial world beyond the College environment. We believe no other education institution can offer this combination of expertise and experience.

The screenshot shows the SAC Learning website interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the SAC logo and the text 'SAC Learning'. Below the header, there is a main navigation menu with categories like 'Home', 'SAC Learning', 'About the College', 'Prospective Students', 'Courses', 'Lifelong Learning', 'Further Learning', 'Training', 'Parents & Teachers', 'News & Events', 'Course Finder', 'College for Schools', 'Degree for Schools', and 'Research'. The main content area features several tiles: 'Scotland's land-based Higher Education Institution' with a brief description and links to 'Courses', 'Open Days & Events', 'Prospective Students', and 'About the College'; 'Courses' with a list of offerings and a 'Read More' link; 'Popular Pages' with a list of key pages and a 'Read More' link; 'Open Days & Events' with a description and a 'Read More' link; 'Campuses' with a description of the three campuses and a 'Read More' link; 'Prospective Learning' with a description and a 'Read More' link; and 'Training' with a description and a 'Read More' link. At the bottom, there are four columns of links: 'Explore SAC', 'Explore Courses', 'Popular Pages', and 'Explore Training', each with a list of specific links.

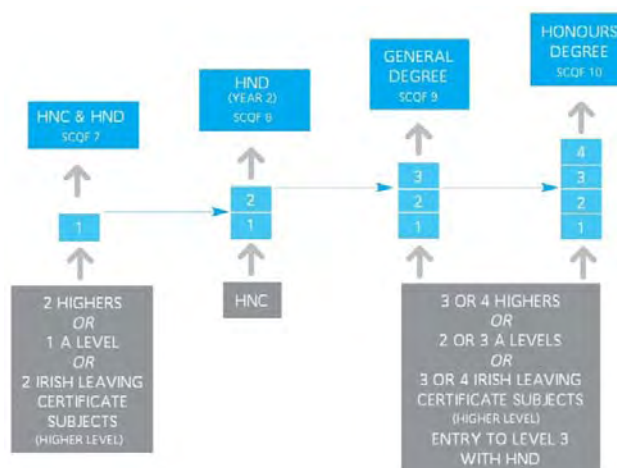
Sustainable Environmental Management at SAC: Which Courses Where?

Awards Available:	Campus		
	Aberdeen	Ayr	Edinburgh
BSc/BSc (Hons) Sustainable Environmental Management	✓	✓	✓
HND Environmental Management and Sustainability	✓	✓	✓
HNC Countryside and Environmental Management	✓	✓	✓

Qualifications to suit your needs

Our role is to help you achieve your true potential. This is why we have designed many of our courses to allow progression from one academic level to the next, with the possibility of a qualification at the end of each academic year (HNC, HND, degree, or Honours degree).

If, for some reason, you do have to leave before achieving an Honours degree, you needn't leave empty handed. Similarly, you may enrol for the HNC or HND, and as long as your performance is good enough, you can transfer to the degree course without any loss of time or repeated years.



SAC also makes provision for holders of many HNCs or HNDs from elsewhere to transfer to the second or third years, as appropriate, of a suitable HND or degree.

Application Details



Application for full-time study on HNC, HND and degree (BA/BSc) courses is through UCAS (www.ucas.ac.uk). Please consult the SAC web site or prospectus for further details.

Codes for UCAS application are as follows:

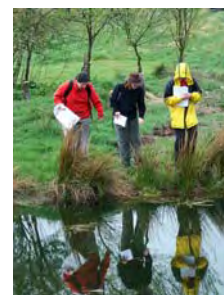
- Institution code name: SAC
 - Institution code: S01
 - HNC Countryside and Environmental Management 057F HNC/CEM
 - HND Environmental Management and Sustainability 47DF HND/EMS
 - BSc/BSc (Hons) Sustainable Environmental Management FN82 BSc/SEM
- The BSc/BSc (Hons) Sustainable Environmental Management degree is awarded by the University of Edinburgh.

Those wishing to study part-time, by flexible learning, or who wish to study individual modules as short courses should contact SAC for more information.

Methods of delivery and assessment

This course makes full use of the SAC rural settings at or near all our campuses to bring students into practical contact with the environment. Visits to industrial developments such as recycling facilities and wind farms regularly feature.

As with all courses at SAC a number of transferable skills are taught throughout the course. This allows us to produce confident individuals ready to apply for and fill responsible positions at the end of their period of study.



Entry Qualifications

- **Direct entry to Degree programmes:** Typically three Scottish Highers/ Irish Leaving Certificate subjects at Higher level (BCC) or two A-Levels (CC), preferably to include a Science subject or Geography.
- **HND/HNC:** 2 Highers (CC) or 1 A-Level pass, preferably to include a Science subject or Geography.

At all levels, alternative academic qualifications and applicants with vocational qualifications or workplace-based learning will also be considered. Applicants with Access courses are strongly encouraged to apply, and mature entrants with an interest and desire in the subject are encouraged to discuss application.

Contact Details:

Students wishing to study part-time or obtain specific programme advice should contact:

In Aberdeen:	In Ayr:	In Edinburgh:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• John MacDonald• 01224 711098• john.macdonald@sac.ac.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• David Rackham• 01292 886159• david.rackham@sac.ac.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alistair Hamilton• 0131 535 4417• alistair.hamilton@sac.ac.uk

Open Days



2011 Open Days are as follows:

- Saturday 10th September - Open Morning (10.30am-1.30pm)
- Wednesday 12th October - Open Afternoon (1.30-4.30pm)
- Wednesday 23rd November - Open Afternoon (1.30-4.30pm)

Applicant days are held in early 2012 for those applicants holding offers.

Please book your place through our web site at www.sac.ac.uk/opendays

2012 Open Days are as follows:

- Saturday 8th September - Open Morning (10.30am-1.30pm)
- Wednesday 10th October - Open Afternoon (1.30-4.30pm)
- Wednesday 21st November - Open Afternoon (1.30-4.30pm)

Visit Us:

Open days and evenings are held regularly and we encourage those interested in this course to attend in order to speak to staff, meet students, and see the facilities. In addition, each campus hosts a taster day each year. This is your chance to be a SAC student for the day. Details are available on the web site.

For more information please contact one of the Student Recruitment Officers or book through the web site. If you are unable to attend one of the open days, please contact us so that we can make alternative arrangements for you to visit.

General information and details about open days and taster sessions are available from:

In Aberdeen:	In Ayr:	In Edinburgh:
Student Recruitment Officer SAC Aberdeen Craibstone Estate ABERDEEN AB21 9YA Tel: (01224) 711189 Email: aberdeen@sac.ac.uk	Student Recruitment Officer SAC Ayr, Riverside Campus University Avenue AYR KA8 0SX Tel: (01292) 886196 Email: ayr@sac.ac.uk	Student Recruitment Officer SAC Edinburgh West Mains Road EDINBURGH EH9 3JG Tel: (0131) 535 4391 Email: edinburgh@sac.ac.uk

Career Prospects

The environmental sector is now seen as a real career option for both school leavers and mature students changing direction. Career paths related to this course include:

- Scientific Officer
- Waste Management Professional
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Environmental Planning Support
- Recycling Officer
- Environmental Auditor

SAC's graduate employment rate is 92%. The Earthworks web site: www.earthworks-jobs.com is a good place to research the sorts of jobs and careers on offer in the sector.

Student Profile

Dermott Keith was a mature student on the Sustainable Environmental Management degree at SAC Aberdeen. Brought up in Aberdeen he went into employment as a sales person for a North Sea diving company. His career progressed into consumer finance in the banking industry before moving on into retail finance with a merchant bank. He always retained a strong interest in the outdoors however, enjoying golf, salmon fishing, and hillwalking.



Dermott regarded joining the course as a positive career move, and was drawn to apply as SAC "caught my eye as offering the first environmental sustainability course in the North East". As the course progressed, Dermott was encouraged by "an increase in the number of career opportunities" suggested by the diversity of course modules and their integration of environmental, economic and community aspects in the context of sustainability.

He completed an environmental placement project at the end of his first year through the Shell Technology Enterprise Programme (STEP) working with Wood Group Pressure Control. The placement involved laying the groundwork for the implementation of the environmental quality assurance system, ISO14001, and involved energy, waste, materials and water auditing.

Dermott completed a second STEP placement after his second year, this time with an energy solutions company. This gave further experience in the oil and gas sector and involved ISO14001 implementation, waste management and energy efficiency. Dermott continued to work for the company on a part-time basis whilst studying for his third year, and graduated with his BSc degree in 2007.

Field Trips



Field trips and case studies illustrate the theory and add a practical element to the student experience. Field activities have included study tours to Wales and Norfolk, visits to wind farms under construction, and attendance at industry conferences and the Loch Lomond and Cairngorm National Parks' planning meetings.

Example Reading List



- An Introduction to Geographical Information Systems *by Ian Heywood, Sarah Cornelius, and Steve Carver*
- Dictionary of Environmental Science and Technology *by Andrew Porteous*
- Earth Education: A New Beginning *by Steve Van Matre*
- Ecology: Individuals, Populations and Communities *by M. Begon*
- Environmental Chemistry *by Ian Williams*
- Global Warming: The Complete Briefing *by John Houghton*
- Managing Habitats for Conservation *by William J. Sutherland*
- The ISO 14000 EMS Audit Handbook *by Gregory P. Johnson*
- Waste Treatment and Disposal *by Paul T. Williams*

Recent Honours Projects



- **Assessing the attitudes of access takers towards open access in the Pentland Hills regional park.**

Drawing from past studies, commissioned reports, face-to-face questionnaire survey of access takers and interviews with landowners and managers, the primary aim of this study has been to provide an assessment of access takers attitudes towards open access in the Pentland Hills Regional Park, a locally important area for countryside recreation.

- **A study into the feasibility of a commercial food waste composting service in Edinburgh.**

This project, undertaken jointly with the charity, Edinburgh Cyrenian Trust, investigates the feasibility of establishing a social enterprise to compost food waste collected from businesses in Edinburgh. The proposed social enterprise would divert food which would otherwise go to landfill, reducing emissions of methane and providing an environmentally sustainable alternative for businesses. 100 businesses, including restaurants, cafes and hotels, were surveyed, using a postal questionnaire.

Related Courses

The Sustainable Environmental Management course is one of a suite of courses offered by SAC:

- HNC Countryside and Environmental Management
- HND Environmental Management and Sustainability
- HNC/HND Sustainable Building Design
- HND/BSc/BSc (Hons) Countryside Management
- HND/BSc/BSc (Hons) Rural Resource Management
- BSc/BSc (Hons) Environmental Protection



HNC Countryside and Environmental Management

Also: HND Environmental Management and Sustainability Year 1
BSc/BSc (Hons) Sustainable Environmental Management Year 1
BSc/BSc (Hons) Environmental Protection Year 1
HND/BSc/BSc (Hons) Rural Resource Management Year 1

Course Content:

- 1 year full-time

Core Modules:

- Biodiversity Conservation
- Biology: An Introduction
- Chemistry and Physics for the Life Sciences
- Ecology and Ecosystems
- Economic Issues: An Introduction
- Environmental Awareness
- Geology and Geomorphology
- HNC Graded Unit 1
- Information Technology Applications Software
- Pollution and Waste Management: an Introduction
- Rural Land Use in Scotland: An Introduction
- Scottish Rural Development

Elective Modules (choose 3):

- Business Management: An Introduction
- Classification and Identification of Organisms
- Soil Management
- Transport: Towards a Sustainable Future

HND Environmental Management and Sustainability

Also: BSc/BSc (Hons) Sustainable Environmental Management Year 2
BSc/BSc (Hons) Environmental Protection Year 2

Course Content:

- 2 years full-time
- Year 1 of the HND is the HNC Countryside and Environmental Management.
- This HND is available in two streams: Environmental Protection, and Sustainable Environmental Management.

Core Subjects, both streams:

- Data Collection and Handling
- Environmental Management
- Environmental Science
- Freshwater Environments: Management and Protection
- Resource Economics
- Waste Management and Pollution Control
- HND Graded Unit 2: Exam
- HND Graded Unit 3: Project

Sustainable Environmental Management stream:

Core Subjects:

- Countryside Recreation and Access
- Education for Sustainable Development: Principles and Practice
- Habitat Management
- Terrestrial Ecosystems
- Tourism: Sustainability and Rural Communities

Elective Modules (choose 2):

- Developing Skills for Personal Effectiveness
- Ecological Survey
- Energy and the Environment
- Farm Scale Renewable Energy
- Marine Environments: Management and Protection
- Reclamation of Degraded land
- Rural Socio-Economic Development

Environmental Protection stream:

Core Subjects:

- Analytical Methods for Environmental Science
- Energy and the Environment
- Noise and Radiation
- Quality and Health and Safety Systems in Science
- Reclamation of Degraded Land

Elective Modules (choose 2):

- Countryside Recreation and Access
- Development Skills for Personal Effectiveness
- Ecological Survey
- Education for Sustainable Development: Principles and Practice
- Farm Scale Renewable Energy
- Habitat Management
- Marine Environments: Management and Protection
- Rural socio-Economic Development
- Terrestrial Ecosystems
- Tourism: Sustainability and Rural Communities

BSc Sustainable Environmental Management

Course Content:

- 3 years full-time
- Direct entry possible with the HND Environmental Management and Sustainability, HND Rural Resource Management or HND Countryside Management. Other HNDs may also be suitable.

Core Subjects:

- Climate Change and the Global Environment
- Conservation Management Planning
- Geographical Information Systems & Remote Sensing
- Planning and Environmental Impact Assessment
- Research Skills and Data Analysis
- Rural Development

Elective Subjects (choose two):

- Advanced Case Studies
- Ecology: Management and Impacts
- Economic Analysis for Business Decisions
- Education for Sustainability: Theory and Policy
- Environmental Biology
- Experimental and Analytical Techniques
- Land & Habitat Restoration
- Land-based Environmental Issues
- Management Skills and Entrepreneurship
- Managing Environmental Community Projects
- Tourism in Rural Areas of the UK
- Multipurpose Woodland Management
- Pollution Control
- Soil Environment Interactions

BSc (Honours) Sustainable Environmental Management

Course Content:

- 4 years full-time

Core Subjects:

- Environmental Economics
- Honours Project (3 credits)
- Sustainable Environmental Management
- Topical Issues

Elective Subjects (choose two):

- Action for Biodiversity
- Contemporary Issues in International Rural Tourism
- Earth Science Conservation
- Ecology: Issues and Investigations
- Environmental Modelling and Risk Assessment
- Environmental Policy Analysis
- Historical Geography
- Integrated Catchment Management
- Rural Sociology, Psychology and the Countryside
- Waste Reduction & Recycling

Environmental Courses – Elective Streams

Please note that elective streams within the Countryside and Environmental Management first year, and Environmental Management and Sustainability second year programmes must be chosen before the start of the course. Not all streams are available at all campuses – please check your chosen path carefully, or contact SAC for further guidance.

