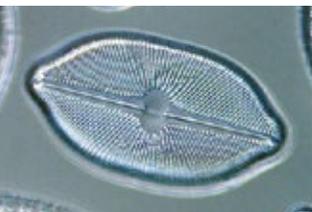


# MSc Quaternary Science

Comprehensive postgraduate training at the Centre for Quaternary Research, Royal Holloway University of London, on the processes of past environmental change, confronting some of the most profound issues of our time.



This course develops skills in: high resolution palaeoenvironmental proxies and dating, remote sensing and GIS, glaciology, sedimentology and stratigraphy, tephrochronology, fieldwork and mapping, and transferable skills in data analysis and evaluation.

For more information see

[www.royalholloway.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/geography/quaternary-science.aspx](http://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate/geography/quaternary-science.aspx)

**Centre for Quaternary Research**  
Royal Holloway University of London





## Centre for Quaternary Research

The Centre for Quaternary Research, in the Department of Geography at Royal Holloway University of London, is a leading research centre that promotes interdisciplinary research on Quaternary Environmental Change.

The Department of Geography was recognised in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework as overwhelmingly world class. It is home to a vibrant postgraduate community of 130 students from across the world.

## Innovative and highly respected

Our interdisciplinary, innovative and highly respected MSc comprises in-depth short courses that provide training on a wide range of methods. You will gain technical skills and a detailed understanding of the climatic and environmental processes operating during the Quaternary Period, as well as developing skills in reasoning, logic, numeracy and literacy.

You will join a world-wide exclusive club of MSc alumni, who have become established researchers and professionals in universities, NGOs and commercial companies around the world. Around 70% of our graduates go on to study for PhDs and pursue research careers in Quaternary Science.



The photograph below shows alumni of the MSc in Quaternary Science at a major international conference in Bern in 2011, demonstrating the role of this course in training future researchers.



## Strong research culture

The staff and facilities of the Centre for Quaternary Research provide a wide range of opportunities to students, including participation in internationally significant research programmes in Quaternary Science and links with potential employers.

This consortium of staff constitutes the strongest teaching team in the UK for the provision of Masters' teaching in non-marine Quaternary Science and environmental change. You'll have the opportunity to contribute to this leading research culture with your own individual research project.

## Course content

The first term of the MSc in Quaternary Science comprises core modules in:

- Sedimentology and Stratigraphy
- Quaternary Palaeoclimatology
- Palaeoecology, Dating and Quantification
- Techniques in Quaternary Research

These modules will develop your skills in key Quaternary Science areas and provide training in GIS and remote sensing, programming, graphics for creating scientific illustrations, and presenting information orally, in posters and on webpages.

The second academic term comprises option modules, including:

- Palynology
- Coleoptera
- Micromorphology
- Luminescence dating
- Quaternary Microfossils
- Quaternary Mammals
- Palaeohydrology
- Chironomids
- Palaeofires
- Tephrochronology
- Glaciers in the Climate System

You will also participate in our research-led Field Training Programme, with excursions to Wales, East Anglia and Glen Roy in Scotland. The cost of these trips is included within the tuition fees.

The third academic term and summer holiday comprise a 10,000 word dissertation, where students select and research a topic of their choosing.

Frequently students will participate in on-going research projects of staff members.



## Career prospects

On completion, graduates will have a thorough understanding of pressing environmental issues and their relevance for future global changes. Our exciting interdisciplinary training will develop your technical skills and numerical and literary abilities. You will gain skills in developing arguments, understanding large datasets, critical thinking, problem solving and project management. Around 70% of our graduates pursue further research. In recent years, our highly employable graduates have entered many Quaternary-related sectors, including:

- British Antarctic Survey
- British Geological Survey
- Scientific Publishing
- Historic England
- Environment Agency
- Natural Environment Research Council
- Environmental Consultancy
- Museum curation
- UK Government
- Natural England
- Teaching
- Archaeology



## Royal Holloway, University of London

We are widely recognised as one of the UK's leading teaching and research universities. We are one of the larger colleges of the University of London, with strengths across the sciences, social sciences and humanities.

As a cosmopolitan university, with students from 130 different countries, we focus on the support and development of the individual. Our friendly and safe campus, west of central London, provides a unique environment for university study.

## Applying

Students are expected to have achieved a 2:1 in a relevant undergraduate degree. If your first degree result does not quite meet this requirement, please contact us to discuss your case.

Consideration will also be given to relevant professional experience and qualifications

Please visit our website for the latest information and how to apply.

<https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/geography/home.aspx>