

Quaternary Science; (MSc); 1372 September 2023 Intake

The purpose of this information sheet is to provide prospective students and applicants with further information about the nature of the degree, in order to help you decide if it is the right choice for you. Should you have any further questions, contact information is provided at the end of the flyer.

Section 1 – degree programme structure

Awarding institution	Royal Holloway, University of London
Accreditation(s) (where applicable)	None
Standard length of degree	One Year (Full Time) Two Years (Part Time)
Available part-time	Yes

The following table summarises the compulsory modules, which are referred to by Royal Holloway as mandatory course units, offered on this degree programme as well as the optional course units that are likely to be available. Please note that although the College will keep changes to a minimum, new units may be offered or existing units may be withdrawn, for example, in response to a change in staff. You will be informed if any changes need to be made. This programme requires a minimum of 6 students to enable the College to run the course. Should this number not be reached and we are unable to run the programme we will offer an alternative or refund any deposit paid.

Course unit name	Credits	Mandatory	Optional
(GG5201) Quaternary Sedimentology & Stratigraphy	10	Yes	
(GG5291) Quaternary Paleoclimatology	10	Yes	
(GG5232) Palaeoecology, Dating & Quantification	10	Yes	
(GG5293) Techniques of Quaternary Research	10	Yes	
(GG5234) Oral presentation	10	Yes	
(GG5230) Field Training Programme (Scotland)	20	Yes	
(GG5299) Dissertation in Quaternary Science	60	Yes	
five optional courses selected from a list of courses:			
(GG5203) Quaternary Palynology	10		Yes
(GG5207) Coleoptera	10		Yes
(GG5209) Micromorphology of Quaternary Sediments	10		Yes
(GG5212) Theory and applications of luminescence dating	10		Yes
(GG5220) Quaternary Microfossils	10		Yes
(GG5223) Quaternary Mammals	10		Yes
(GG5229) Late Quaternary Palaeohydrology	10		Yes
(GG5231) Chironomids and environmental change	10		Yes
(GG5233) Glaciers in the Climate System	10		Yes
(GG5290) Quaternary tephrochronology	10		Yes

Section 2 – degree programme costs

Essential costs*	You should budget between £200 and £400 for travel to fieldwork sites
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* These estimated costs relate to studying this particular degree programme at Royal Holloway. Costs, such as accommodation, food, books and other learning materials and printing etc., have not been included, and further information regarding these can be found on our website.

Section 3 – useful vocabulary

We understand some of the terminology used in this document may be new to you, and may differ from that used by other universities. To help with this, we have provided a brief description for some of the most important terminology:

Degree programme – Also referred to as ‘degree course’ or simply ‘course’, these terms refer to the qualification you will be awarded upon successful completion of your studies.

Course unit – Also referred to as ‘module’, this refers to the individual units you will study each year to complete your degree programme. Masters programmes consist of a number of taught course units – some mandatory and some optional - plus a dissertation/ project to the value of 180 UK credits in total. On completion of a minimum of 120 UK credits a student may be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma, while on completion of a minimum of 60 credits a student may be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate. Some Masters programmes may have progression requirements (where they are offered over more than one year of study) or pass requirements for degree title if they are accredited by a professional body.

H/EU – Different categories of students pay different levels of tuition fees. H/EU stands for students with Home or European Union fee status.

Overseas – Non-EU students are liable to pay the overseas rate of tuition fees, and are sometimes also referred to as international students.

Section 4 – contact information

If you have any further questions, you can contact the Admissions team by email at study@royalholloway.ac.uk.

This information is final at the time of publication (05/11/2019) and supersedes any previous information provided in publications or on Royal Holloway’s website.