# **Engineering & the Environment**



## **Environmental Science**

BSc Environmental Science MEnvSci Environmental Science including:

Aquatic Environments and Resources pathway; Biodiversity and Conservation pathway; Sustainable Environmental Management pathway and Environmental Change pathway.

Programme Handbook 2017/18 for new and continuing students

## Disclaimer

This information is issued on the condition that it does not form part of any contract between the University of Southampton and any student. The information given has been made as accurate as possible at the time of publication, but the University reserves the right to modify or alter, without any prior notice, any of the contents advertised. It should therefore be noted that it may not be possible to offer all modules or components of a programme in each academic session. This handbook is available in alternative formats on request.

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#### Welcome

We would like to extend you a very warm and personal welcome on your admission to the Faculty of Engineering & the Environment. We hope that you will find your stay here in Southampton both productive and enjoyable. Productive because you will gain skills and expertise that will serve you well in your future career. Enjoyable because you will make new friends, try new experiences, and generally widen your intellectual, cultural and social horizons.

We offer a range of programmes across the engineering disciplines of aeronautics & astronautics, mechanical engineering, ship science; audiology and acoustics; and civil engineering and environmental science. Each group in our Faculty has long-established and significant national and international reputations in teaching and research, and joining together establishes one of the foremost academic centres of excellence for engineering and the environment world-wide.

Our degree programmes are designed to equip you to become a professional environmental scientist, with the potential for a stimulating and rewarding career. Some of what you do, especially in the first year, may seem removed from the real world but you will often be surprised later on to find how relevant academic details can become. Our emphasis is on understanding rather than learning facts and a sound grasp of basic scientific principles will enable you to tackle almost any problem you are likely to face in your later career. Even if you end up feeling that a career as a practising environmental scientist is not for you, environmental science degrees are an excellent choice for a University education and an unequalled basis for careers in many other fields.

Our mission is excellence in teaching and research in environmental science. Our primary aim is to provide our students at undergraduate level with a thorough academic grounding in environmental science, together with a sound appreciation of the role of the environmental sciences and the environmental scientist in society. Specific learning pathways allow for specialisation as students' knowledge becomes more established. We also aim to provide a lively, informed and dynamic learning environment to meet the needs of diverse groups of students, drawing on the extensive research activity within the University to enhance students' knowledge and understanding, particularly in areas of specialisation.

To this end we take our responsibilities as teachers very seriously. New academic staff are required to obtain a professional teaching qualification. We review our degree programmes regularly to make sure that what we teach is up-to-date and relevant to the present and future needs of employers and the economy of the country. Continued internal observation and assessment ensures that we do our teaching in a lively and interesting way. We take a personal interest in each and every one of our students. In your first week here, as one of the forty or so new students in environmental science, you may wonder how that can be. We can assure you, however, that your personal tutor is keen to get to know you, to keep a friendly eye on your progress throughout your stay in Southampton, and to be on hand to offer advice and encouragement when it is needed. In time, more of us will get to know you and assist you with your studies, your enjoyment of the University experience, and maintaining the right balance between the two.

If anything in this handbook is unclear or if you have any questions, our staff are here to help. Questions about specific module material should be addressed to the module lead and questions of a general academic nature should be addressed to your Personal Academic Tutor or the Programme Lead. In addition, our Faculty Student Office staff can explain and advise on many matters and it is here that many of the administrative processes are undertaken. In short, there is a wealth of support and you are strongly encouraged to utilise all that we make available to you.

Should you have a health condition that would benefit from additional support either during the general course of your study or to help you during examinations, it is essential that you contact the <u>education support services</u> at the earliest opportunity.

If you have need for further pastoral support on any issues that are affecting your studies, please approach your personal tutor or call at the Faculty Student Office where you will be able to talk privately to someone about your needs or be put in contact with additional sources of support. We take student support very seriously, but this also places an obligation on you to seek that support when you need it.

Finally, life at university should be more than just study. There are many opportunities available to participate in sport, cultural and other types of activity within the University and also the wider community of Southampton. However, as a note of caution, the main reason for being at University is to complete successfully a programme to the best of your ability. At times, therefore, you may need to curtail your extra-curricular activities (including paid work employment) in order that your studies do not suffer. If you have any difficulties in this area please discuss them with your Personal Academic Tutor sooner rather than later. The key point is that your studies should be exciting and transformative. I hope you enjoy your time here and that you get as much as you can out of your degree programme.

We wish you every success with your studies, and trust you will use your time here to maximum benefit.

Patrick Osborne Director of Programmes

#### Introduction

The information contained within your programme handbook is designed to provide key information applicable to you and your programme during the 2017/18 academic year. It will complement the University's Student Portal. You can access the Portal by logging on to SUSSED, using your user name and password, and clicking on the Students tab in the top navigation bar. It is important that you make use of these resources as they support the regulations relating to your obligations and that of the University while you are a student at the University of Southampton. It also provides helpful information on matters such as housing, finance, leisure, healthcare and support facilities.

Key Faculty information can be sourced on the following links:

Resource	Weblink
Faculty website	http://www.soton.ac.uk/engineering
Faculty staff information	http://www.southampton.ac.uk/engineering/about/staff.page
Programme and module descriptions	Descriptions relating to your programme can be found via the programme pages on the web, and on Blackboard.  Your programme structure (i.e. which modules make up your programme) is available in your programme specification and via the on-line programme catalogue which is accessible via Banner
	To find links to broad generic descriptions of the programmes and modules, follow links to your programme starting from the Faculty web pages:  www.southampton.ac.uk/engineering/undergraduate/courses/environmental_sciences_list.page

## 1. General Information

## 1.1 Your Faculty Student Office

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm

Location: Building 13, room 2047

Contact email: <u>sofee@soton.ac.uk</u> (general enquiries)

exfee@soton.ac.uk (assessment and exams enquiries)

Telephone: (external) 02380 594171 (internal) 24171

You should visit the Faculty Student Office for all general queries relating to the administration of your programme (including coursework submission and collection of feedback, module registration changes, special considerations requests, sickness self-certification forms, suspension and withdrawal requests).

There is also a Student Reception area for Engineering and the Environment students at the new Southampton Boldrewood Innovation Campus, building 177 but be aware this is not often manned at present. <a href="https://www.southampton.ac.uk/visitus/campuses/bolderwood.html">https://www.southampton.ac.uk/visitus/campuses/bolderwood.html</a>

## 1.2 How we keep in touch with you

## <u>Email</u>

We will use your University email account to contact you when necessary. We will not use any other email accounts or social networking sites. It is your responsibility to check your University email account regularly and you must not let your inbox exceed your storage limit. Notification that you are due to exceed your storage limit will be sent to your University email account and you should take immediate action as you will be unable to receive further emails once your storage limit has been exceeded.

#### Written Correspondence

Formal correspondence regarding your programme of study (e.g. suspension, transfer or withdrawal from programme, academic performance (including progression/referral information), issues of academic integrity, student complaints and academic appeals) will be sent to your term-time (TT) or permanent (PM) address listed as active on your student record. You are responsible for advising the University if you change your permanent or term-time address. The University will not be held accountable if you do not receive important information because you failed to update your student record.

#### Use of social networking sites

We understand that students are increasingly using social networking sites to interact with members of their student community. You should note that any behaviour that affects other members of the University community or members of the general public in ways which might damage the standing and reputation of the University may be subject to disciplinary action within the scope of the University's Regulations.

## 1.3 Confirmation of your status as a student and information on Transcripts and Certificates

The Faculty Student Office can provide you with a certificate to confirm your status as a student (e.g. for bank account opening purposes). Please ensure that you give at least 48 hours' notice of your requirements (longer at peak times such as at enrolment or during the examination periods). Your award certificate will be produced using the legal name data you have provided within your student record. Please make any necessary amendments to your record immediately a change occurs to ensure that your certificate contains accurate information. Changes are made via <a href="Banner Self Service">Banner Self Service</a>.

In accordance with policy, a scale of fees exists for the provision of certificates, transcripts and award certificates. Please see point 11 '*Transcripts, Certificates and Award Letters*' within the <u>fees section</u> of the University Calendar for a list.

## 2. Supporting you through your studies

2.1 Supporting students with disabilities, mental health conditions or specific learning difficulties Enabling Services provides a wide variety of support for students who have disabilities, mental health problems or specific learning difficulties. Its expert team can provide advice and support relating to your studies throughout your time here. Please see <a href="http://www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport/index.page">http://www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport/index.page</a> for further information and contact details.

#### Self-help books

A small collection of self-help books will be available on level 3 of the library, near the Academic Skills Book Collection. Topics include stress, anxiety, eating disorders, self-esteem and depression.

## 2.2 The role of your Personal Academic Tutor

The University operates a tutor system to help support and advise students in their academic study. Upon the commencement of your programme you will be assigned a <u>Personal Academic Tutor</u> who will provide advice and support to you in matters related to academic work and your progress. Your Personal Academic Tutor can also be your first point of contact for pastoral issues and will work with you to provide appropriate support in resolving any difficulties or issues you may face during your time studying.

You can expect to see your Personal Academic Tutor, (who may or may not be one of the teaching staff you see in the course of your studies), at key points through your University career and, if you need to, you can contact them more frequently.

While your Personal Academic Tutor will be your primary point of contact, you may also arrange to meet with one of the Faculty's Senior Tutors to discuss any matter which may be affecting your academic progress. The Senior Tutors are Mrs Emma Mackenzie (ep@isvr@soton.ac.uk), Dr Victoria Watson (V.K.Watson@soton.ac.uk) and Dr Jae-Wook Kim (J.W.Kim@soton.ac.uk). Also Dr Xize Niu (X.Niu@soton.ac.uk) who deal specifically with international students. The Senior Tutors will have a more specialised understanding of supporting students, and may support you if you have a particular problem. The Senior Tutor will also be able to offer general advice and information relating to further sources of assistance.

You can also contact the Programme Lead if you wish to change your allocated Personal Academic Tutor.

The University expects that you will engage with your Personal Academic Tutor, attend the scheduled meetings, respond to messages from your Personal Academic Tutor, and notify your Personal Academic Tutor (or Senior Tutor, if you prefer) if you are experiencing problems which are affecting your performance, attendance or progress in your studies. In particular, you should contact your Personal Academic Tutor if you feel your performance in any forthcoming examinations will be affected by ill health or other special considerations, and check with your Personal Academic Tutor if you plan to cite him/her as a referee for job applications

## 2.3 Student buddying and mentoring schemes

University of Southampton faculties and societies provide new undergraduate students with opportunities to liaise with current students who are able to offer advice and guidance based on their own experience as they adjust to living and learning at the University. Some of these opportunities are described as student buddying, family or peer mentoring schemes.

## Undergraduate buddy scheme for new Part one students

Buddies are Part II, III or IV students who offer peer support to incoming Part I undergraduate students in the Faculty of Engineering and the Environment. The overall purpose of the buddy scheme is to help to facilitate the smooth transition of undergraduates to living and learning at Southampton. This support is provided both face to face and by online communication. Where appropriate, buddies will direct Undergraduates towards specific sources of advice, either in the Faculty or in the University. Buddies are allocated a specific group of Undergraduates to support and the norm is that Buddies are on the same Programme as Part I students. The Faculty provides formal support and coordination for the scheme until mid-December.

#### 2.4 What to do if you are ill

It is important that your doctor (as well as your Personal Academic Tutor) is immediately informed of any illness that is likely to affect your studies. If appropriate your GP may inform your Personal Academic Tutor that you are experiencing some health difficulties that may affect your academic performance. This will be done with your consent and you may wish the details of your illness to be withheld from your Personal Academic Tutor, although you should think carefully about this (your tutor will, in any case, respect your privacy). More information can be found in the General Regulations - Attendance and Completion of Programme Reguirements.

#### 2.5 External factors affecting your attendance or performance in your studies

We expect you to take responsibility for your studies to ensure that your full academic potential can be realised. However, sometimes difficulties can arise that can affect you.

If you are absent from an examination or other assessment or have other grounds for believing that your studies have been affected by external factors you must bring this to the attention of your Personal Academic Tutor or to the Faculty Student Office immediately. Whilst we recognise that students can sometimes be reluctant to discuss cultural, sensitive or personal issues, it is essential that you bring problems affecting you to our attention so that we can determine how best to help you.

#### Attendance at events and impact on assessment

Where a student wishes to prioritise another activity over attendance at a scheduled assessment the Faculty *Policy for Attendance at events and impact on assessment* applies. A copy of the policy can be obtained from the Faculty Student Office.

For scheduled assessment worth 30% or less of the total module mark the student will receive no mitigation if they decide not to attend the assessment session.

For assessments worth >30% of the module mark it is the responsibility of the Director of Programmes to decide whether to permit mitigation and what form this mitigation should take.

It is expected that the number of single assessments that a student misses which fall within this category would be very small.

It is possible that mitigation will be allowed for events benefiting the University and/or Faculty in terms of reputation, e.g. participation in international competitions; events the University and/or Faculty may use as significant publicity opportunities; events benefiting the student in terms of employment e.g. internship interviews.

Mitigation will not be allowed for events such as holidays or to pursue hobbies.

In all cases, permission to miss the assessment must be requested by the student at least 10 working days prior to the original date of the assessment.

#### 2.6 Special considerations

If you believe that illness or other circumstances have adversely affected your academic performance, this is known as <a href="Special Considerations">Special Considerations</a>. If you wish for these to be considered by the Faculty, you must complete a <a href="Special Considerations">Special Considerations</a> form. It is important that you submit this to your Faculty Student Office in a timely manner and prior to the Board of Examiners meetings and the release of marks. All claims must be substantiated by written documentary evidence, for example a medical certificate or GP/consultant letter, self-certification or a statement from your Personal Academic Tutor. The purpose of asking for supporting documentation is for you to be able to corroborate the facts of your submission.

All claims will be reviewed by the Special Considerations Board which meets regularly throughout the year. The Faculty Student Office will contact you via your University email account to let you know once approval has been made.

Full details of the University's policy on Special Considerations can be found at <a href="http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/special-considerations.html">http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/special-considerations.html</a>

#### 2.7 Fitness to Study

The <u>Fitness to Study</u> policy applies to enable the University to respond appropriately to situations where visible signs of illness, mental health difficulties, psychological, personality or emotional disorders may have a profoundly disturbing impact on the functioning of an individual student and or the wellbeing of others around them. The University has a positive attitude towards those with impairments and is committed to maintaining students' wellbeing. The policy identifies the procedure and support available to both students and staff when a student becomes unwell and/or presents a risk to self and/or others.

## 2.8 Suspending your studies

Should you feel that you need to take some time out from your studies, known as <u>suspending your studies</u>, you should first discuss this with your Personal Academic Tutor. A Suspension Request form should be obtained, completed and returned to the Faculty Student Office. Please note that, if you wish, you can suspend your studies in order to undertake an internship or period of industrial training outside of normal vacation time.

## 2.9 Withdrawing from your programme

If you no longer wish to continue with your studies, a Withdrawal Notification form should be obtained, completed and returned to the Faculty Student Office. Further information can be found in the <u>General Regulations - Transfer</u>, <u>Suspension</u>, <u>Withdrawal and Termination</u>.

The Students' Union Advice Centre has developed a Guide for students.

#### 3. Your safety

#### 3.1 Faculty Health and Safety Policy

The Faculty Local Organisation and Arrangements Document (FLOAD) can be found on the FEE Health and Safety Resource which should be in your course list when you log on to Blackboard. This contains all the specific Faculty information concerning Health and Safety and working hours. Everyone is required to access the FLOAD at their earliest opportunity.

#### 3.2 Access to Buildings

The FLOAD also contains all the specific Faculty information concerning access to buildings.

Please also refer to **Appendix C** for information pertaining to access to student learning facilities at Southampton Boldrewood Innovation Campus.

#### 4. Your Academic Programme

## 4.1 The academic year and the programme structure

The structure and modular content provided within the programme specification is specific to your own programme. You can view the most up to date version of the programme specification by accessing the <u>Unistats website</u> or <u>SUSSED</u>.

The taught components of the programme are delivered in modular form and typically run over two <u>semesters</u>. The teaching weeks are followed by a two to three week examination period. The semesters overlap the traditional three term structure which still determines the pattern of vacations at Christmas and Easter.

For any given programme a module is either core, compulsory, or option. The definitions of the first two are provided in the <u>General Regulations - Regulations and Definitions Applying to Progression for all Credit-Bearing Programmes</u>. Your student record will automatically record core and compulsory modules and these must be completed in accordance with the requirements applicable to your programme.

Transfer from Integrated Masters (MEnvSci) to the Bachelor (BSc) programme is normally permitted up to the last working day in February in Part III. Students who transfer from an Integrated Masters (MEnvSci) programme to a Bachelor programme will not normally be permitted to transfer back to the Integrated Masters programme.

Transfer from BSc Environmental Science to the Integrated Masters (MEnvSci) programme will be carried out at the end of Part I. Transfer is subject to fulfilling the criteria of the Integrated Masters (MEnvSci) programme and an interview with the student's academic tutor or the Director of Programmes.

Core, compulsory and optional modules for all degree programmes are listed in the Programme Specifications. All pre-requisites and assessments are documented in the module specifications. Specifically, all Part I modules are core with the exception of Environmental Science.

The progression regulations are as given in the University Calendar, Section IV.

#### 4.2 Registration and amendment to option modules

Most programmes will have a number of option modules. If applicable you will need to select a certain number of option modules to complete your portfolio of modules and fulfil the credit points as required for the programme. The structure and modular content provided within the programme specification is specific to your own programme. You can view the most up to date version of the programme specification through the <u>SUSSED</u> portal, from within the student information section.

The most up to date description of the content is in the Programme Catalogue, which can be accessed via SUSSED using the Banner Self-service facility:

https://studentrecords.soton.ac.uk/BNNRPROD/twbkwbis.P\_WWWLogin

To find links to broad generic descriptions of the programmes and modules follow links to your programme starting from <a href="https://www.southampton.ac.uk/engineering/undergraduate/courses/environmental\_sciences\_list.page">www.southampton.ac.uk/engineering/undergraduate/courses/environmental\_sciences\_list.page</a>

When choosing your options, you are strongly advised to ensure that you have a similar total number of modules in Semester 1 and Semester 2, to maintain a balanced work load throughout the year. Once you have registered your options, it is possible for you to make changes but there are restrictions. The substitution of modules is not allowed (i.e. you cannot take an extra module in Semester 2 to replace a Semester 1 module in which you failed to perform well).

You may request a change to your option module choice up to the **end of Week 2** of each semester. You should complete a Change of Module form to specify your request (forms can be obtained from the Faculty Student

Office). If your option module choices clash in your timetable, then you will need to amend your option choice accordingly by contacting the Faculty Student Office immediately.

You should regularly check your online student record for details of your registered modules. This is particularly important after you have made any changes and will help to maintain the accuracy of your student record. It will also save time and confusion during the examination period.

#### 4.3 Attendance

The <u>University attendance regulations</u> details the University's expectations relating to attendance. You should also note that within the Faculty, lab attendance is mandatory and will be monitored. In addition, you should note that attendance and engagement with all assessment activities is mandatory and is monitored. The Faculty Student Office can provide the faculty policy for 'Attendance at events and impact on assessment' see 2.5 above.

#### 4.4 Additional Costs

You may incur additional costs as a result of your programme, for example for materials, field trips or books. General programme costs are located in the programme specification. Modules that are optionally available to select may also include information on module specific costs. For modules where additional costs apply this information can be found in the Module Profile. The Module Profiles can be accessed through the online Programme Catalogue <a href="https://studentrecords.soton.ac.uk/BNNRPROD/twbkwbis.P\_wwwLogin">https://studentrecords.soton.ac.uk/BNNRPROD/twbkwbis.P\_wwwLogin</a>

In modules involving a residential field component, the costs assigned to accommodation, transport, breakfast and evening meal will be met by the university. In addition, specialised safety equipment will be provided by the University. You will be expected to provide suitable clothing when attending field courses, e.g. warm waterproof clothing, walking boots and wellingtons.

#### 4.5 Faculty Exchanges / Placement programmes

Within ENVS6010 – Work Based Learning, students undertake a period of work alongside professional environmental practitioners in a named workplace. The experience will provide insight into how the theoretical aspects of environmental science gained from courses within the University can be translated into applied practices within the sector. The timing of the placement is flexible and can be carried out either as a full-time placement consisting of four consecutive weeks, or a combination of weeks or weeks or on a part-time basis of a 20 day minimum.

## 5. Faculty Teaching and Learning Skills

#### 5.1 Time management

It is your responsibility to manage your time in order to ensure that you keep up to date with the material presented and with the requirements of the programme. Deadlines for work submission should be adhered to; otherwise marks will be deducted via the imposition of a late submission penalty. However, the framework of when lectures and classes occur and deadlines for submission of work will be made available to you well in advance, but if you are unclear about any aspect of your module you should talk this through with your module lead or director of programmes. This knowledge will allow you to plan your life based on how you know you work best. Effective use of your time will allow you to perform well on your course and to enjoy student life. One of the work-place skills you should aim to acquire at University is the ability to manage multiple priorities. If you have problems in this area please discuss them with your Personal Academic Tutor.

#### 5.2 Lectures

A single lecture slot lasts 45 minutes. It is therefore vital that you arrive promptly in order to gain maximum benefit from the time. Each lecturer will present material either using handouts or will require you to make your own notes. Transcribing lectured material into a form that you find most useful is an important part of the learning process. You should ensure that you understand the material and, if you have difficulty in understanding or applying the knowledge, use recommended textbooks or the assistance of teaching staff during tutorials to gain understanding. It is your responsibility to develop your ability in a given subject. How well you have acquired that ability and the associated knowledge is gauged by the examination and coursework assessment process. Lectures are provided for your benefit and you should take full advantage by ensuring you attend all of the lectures in a given course module. If, for any reason, you are unable to attend, ensure that you get hold of a copy of the notes or handouts from your module lead.

## 5.3 Use of electronic recording devices or mobile phones in lectures or classes

Out of courtesy to staff and other students, please ensure that mobile phones are switched off in lectures and seminars. You are advised that lectures are the copyright property of the lecturer and permission to audio-record a lecture must be personally sought from the lecturer before proceeding.

If you wish to use a lap-top computer to take notes in a lecture, you should do so in a way that does not cause disruption to those sitting near you.

If you have a health condition for which additional support is needed, you may, following assessment by the University's educational support services, make appropriate arrangements with staff for recording lectures.

#### 5.4 Tutorials/supervisions

Group tutorials/supervisions are timetabled for some modules. These sessions are intended for you to develop your problem solving skills as well as for you to discuss further with an experienced member of staff any particular

lecture material you are finding difficult to understand. It is essential that you come well prepared for these sessions. These sessions are one of the most effective ways of reinforcing the lecture material.

## 5.5 Fieldwork and practical sessions

Practicals and field sessions are timetabled for some modules. You may be provided by module coordinators with a specific lab timetable specifying which sessions you must attend.

### 5.6 Independent and Self learning

Independent study or self-directed learning involves using libraries, data retrieval systems, internet, etc., or in a group working on coursework, reading the lecture material or reading around the subject. This should also develop your investigative and problem solving skills in furthering understanding of the subject, creating links with other modules - past and present - and providing a broadening of your educational experiences and knowledge base.

Self-learning is your personal responsibility and your commitment to the programme. It requires discipline, motivation and focussing on achieving individually set targets. It enables you to reach your full potential academically, develops your personal skills and helps establish a successful professional career.

#### 5.7 Key skills

Key skills are those skills which can be applied to other disciplines and fields of work. Employers are increasingly seeking to employ individuals with well-developed key skills. More can be found on the Academic Skills pages of the library website.

#### 5.8 Faculty Policy on referencing

The University expects that all students will familiarise themselves with the following website <a href="http://www.studyskills.soton.ac.uk/integrity/">http://www.studyskills.soton.ac.uk/integrity/</a>

There are additional resources available on Blackboard to support understanding on referencing and plagiarism.

https://blackboard.soton.ac.uk/bbcswebdav/courses/SST-05-06/writing/understanding\_plagiarism.html

https://blackboard.soton.ac.uk/bbcswebdav/courses/SST-05-

06/writing/identifying\_plagiarism\_and\_avoiding\_poor\_practice.html

https://blackboard.soton.ac.uk/bbcswebdav/courses/SST-05-06/writing/avoiding\_plagiarism.html

https://blackboard.soton.ac.uk/bbcswebdav/courses/SST-05-

06/writing/introduction\_to\_quoting\_and\_paraphrasing.html

https://blackboard.soton.ac.uk/bbcswebdav/courses/SST-05-06/writing/using\_quotations.html

https://blackboard.soton.ac.uk/bbcswebdav/courses/SST-05-

06/writing/a\_strategy\_for\_effective\_paraphrasing\_and\_summarising.html

There is no particular Faculty policy on referencing, as you will need to learn to be flexible with your referencing style dependent upon the demands of your discipline. You may wish to familiarise yourself with Endnote, Jabref, Mendeley although it is not a specific requirement that you use any of these tools. If you have any doubts about whether you are adequately referencing your work you should seek guidance from your lecturer or Personal Academic Tutor.

## 5.9 Academic integrity

The University expects that all students will familiarise themselves with the <u>Regulations Governing Academic Integrity</u> which include the Academic Integrity Statement.

The Students' Union Advice Centre has developed a **Guide** for students.

#### 6. Assessment and Examinations

#### 6.1 Coursework assessment and submission

A number of modules include coursework assignments as part of the overall assessment. Coursework can often occupy a large amount of time. It is worth noting that getting a few extra marks on an assignment may not justify the extra time spent. Conversely, students who forget or do not bother to hand in work can make it very difficult for themselves to achieve their full academic potential.

Normally, all coursework should be accompanied by a completed Coursework Submission/Feedback form and submitted to the Faculty Student Office by 4.00pm on the published submission deadline. If both paper-based and electronic submission is required, you should note that your submission will not be considered complete until both formats have been submitted. If other arrangements are in force for submission of a particular piece of coursework, this will be advised by your module lead.

#### 6.2 Penalties for late coursework submission

When coursework is set a due date for submission will be specified and there will be associated penalties for handing in work late.

The University has a <u>uniform policy for the late submission</u> penalty for a piece of assessed work worth 10% or more of the final module mark.

Work submitted up to 5 days after the deadline should be marked as usual, including moderation or second marking, and feedback prepared and given to the student. The final agreed mark is then reduced by the factors in the following table.

University Working Days late	Mark
1	(final agreed mark) * 0.9
2	(final agreed mark) * 0.8
3	(final agreed mark) * 0.7
4	(final agreed mark) * 0.6
5	(final agreed mark) * 0.5
More than 5	Zero

#### 6.3 Coursework extensions

If you know there will be a valid reason why you cannot submit the work at the given date you must contact the Faculty Student Office as soon as possible. You should complete a Special Considerations form, which should provide adequate detail of the reasons why you are seeking an extension. Your completed form should be submitted to the Faculty Student Office who will arrange for your request to be reviewed and approved. The Faculty Student Office will contact you via your University email account to let you know once approval has been made. It is your responsibility to request an extension in a timely manner. See paragraphs 2.5 and 2.6 above.

#### 6.4 Examination preparation (also see Appendix B)

You will know yourself how best you prepare for examinations. It is always worth remembering that the sooner you start your preparation the better and that one of the aims of each module is to help you prepare for the examination. Make sure that you have a complete set of notes; that you understand their content; that you can apply the material by solving the example sheet questions; and that you have practiced questions from past papers under examination time constraints. The University's online archive of previously set examination papers is available to assist with your learning and preparation for forthcoming examinations.

Past Exam Papers are available via the library.

Remember that if you get into difficulty during your revision process on a particular subject ask someone to help you. This may be either one of the lecturers or teaching assistants on the module. For helpful hints on revision strategy and examination techniques, please refer to Appendix B.

#### 6.5 Examinations

The dates of University examination periods are published annually on the exam timetables web page.

When students repeat modules externally, it may be impractical for them to undertake the normal assessment activities, for example assessed laboratory or group work. In such cases where external repeat is permitted, the Faculty will provide an alternative but equivalent form of assessment which will meet the required learning outcomes.

## 6.6 Illegible exam scripts

If your examination script is considered illegible, the <u>Illegible Examination Scripts Policy</u> will be instigated. You will be asked to come in to dictate your script so that it can be transcribed. The cost of this work will be met by you. If your script is not transcribed then it will receive a mark of zero (0).

## 6.7 Coursework and examination feedback

Feedback comes in many forms and you must learn to recognise the merits of all of these. The <u>Student Feedback</u> <u>Policy</u> provides an overview of formal feedback. Formal feedback is well documented and the following paragraphs identify ones that you are officially entitled to. Informal feedback is just as important and comes in the form of individual chats with your Personal Academic Tutor, module leads or project supervisors, or group meetings with academics after a lecture or practical session. Also tests and quizzes on Blackboard, which are available for several modules, can provide valuable feedback on how you are progressing.

All coursework will be marked and returned to you, accompanied by feedback which will relate to the standard of your work and the reasons for the mark/grade given. You should note that all marks are considered provisional until they have been reviewed and confirmed by the Board of Examiners. This feedback will typically be returned within four weeks following your submission. Large assignments (e.g. your dissertation/project work) may take slightly longer to be returned. Bear in mind that if you hand in work late, your feedback may be delayed.

Where appropriate, for example with smaller problem solving exercises like calculations, the lecturer will decide if feedback should be given individually, or reported back to the whole group. You are, however always free to ask the lecturer personally how you are progressing.

## 6.8 Access to coursework/examination scripts

Students are entitled to view their examination scripts on request to the Faculty Student Office. You are only permitted to view an examination script to enable you to see how you can improve your future performance and no mark or other annotation on the script is negotiable or open to alteration. The absence of annotation on a script does not mean that it has not been marked.

#### 6.9 Release of results

Students will be given, as a matter of course, the marks they obtain in each individual module of study after they have been ratified by the Board of Examiners. More information can be found in <a href="mailto:the Release of Marks">the Release of Marks</a> procedure.

You should note that the official transcript of your marks would normally show the latest mark obtained in each subject with a note, where appropriate, that it was obtained at repeat or referral attempt.

#### 6.10 Prizes

Each programme group has a number of prizes, which *may* include prizes for each Part, project prizes, and overall performance prizes. Details of new prizes will generally be announced by e-mail.

#### 6.11 Final assessment

At the end of your programme, your overall performance will be assessed.

If you satisfy the academic standards necessary, the examination board will recommend you for award.

#### 7. Staff/Student Liaison: getting your voice heard

## 7.1 Module Survey

The Faculty aims to consult with and to provide opportunities for all students and staff to make their views known.

You are encouraged to offer your comments/suggestions to members of staff and feedback is requested for each module undertaken. Module Survey forms can be completed online and details of how to do this will be communicated to you during the academic year.

Module Survey outputs are considered by Subject Panels, Education Boards and by Faculty Programmes Committee, where your nominated student representative, the Faculty Officer, has the opportunity to discuss specific issues raised and actions taken.

## 7.2 Module Reports

Your feedback to module surveys will be reflected upon by the module leader and will be included in the Module Report. Modules reports are available via SUSSED under the "programme specific information' tab.

#### 7.3 Staff Student Liaison Committee

Staff-Student liaison committees have representatives from across each programme. These committees have the role of monitoring the organisation and management of the student programmes, to note any difficulties that students may be encountering, and to take advice about ways of improving the programmes.

#### 7.4 Student Representation

Through the <u>Students' Union</u> you will be invited to elect your Faculty representatives (Faculty Officers, Academic Presidents, Academic Vice-Presidents and Course Representatives) who co-ordinate the student voice on Faculty committees to enable your voice to be heard.

More information on the Students' Union officers and their roles is available on the <u>Students' Union Representation</u> <u>webpages</u>.

## 8. Careers and Employability

The <u>Careers and Employability Service</u> provides support to students at all levels of study and has a range of opportunities on offer. Research\* shows that graduates with no previous work experience are unlikely to be successful during the selection process and over 30% of positions will be filled by graduates who have already worked for that organisation. We provide drop-in advice. 1:1 guidance, workshops, skills sessions, Careers Fairs and employer led events to support your career planning as well as the following opportunities:

#### 8.1 Excel Southampton Internships

The <u>Excel Southampton Internship Programme</u> offers 4-12 weeks paid internships which enhance your CV, expand your network and open graduate recruitment opportunities.

#### 8.2 Business Innovation Programme

The <u>Business Innovation Programme</u> provides an opportunity to develop your business acumen, team working and problem-solving skills by working on an 8 week project put forward by local businesses or not-for-profit organisations.

#### 8.3 Year in Employment Placements

The <u>Year in Employment</u> is a work placement of up to 12 months duration taken after your second year of study enabling you to develop the skills employers value and gain insight to an industry of your choice. Eligibility criteria is available <u>here</u> please check before applying.

#### 8.4 Volunteering Bank

<u>Volunteering</u> is a great way to help you gain many of the skills employers are looking for, build your network and develop yourself in new ways. Opportunities may vary in duration and the type of role advertised.

#### 8.5 Employability events within the Faculty

The Careers and Employability Service work closely with departments and Faculties to provide targeted careers support within and alongside your curriculum. Activities and opportunities may appear within the timetable, or be advertised within your Faculty. Examples include lectures and workshops, online learning options, and events featuring alumni/employers. There are often opportunities to connect with organisations that offer themed events focussed on employability. Some companies offer projects linked to dissertations or specific research.

You will be enrolled on the Faculty wide Blackboard, "FEE Student Employability". This site is used to let you know about specific events, jobs and study opportunities which are particularly targeting students from your subject. It also includes a folder of job search resources and an employer database which you can search by subject.

Careers staff linked to your subject will attend Staff Student Liaison meetings, so you can make suggestions via your student representative for additional careers and employability activities.

#### 8.6 Professional Accreditation

Please use the following link for the professional accreditation offered for your Programme. <a href="http://www.southampton.ac.uk/engineering/undergraduate/study/accreditation.page">http://www.southampton.ac.uk/engineering/undergraduate/study/accreditation.page</a>

#### 9. Further study opportunities

Perhaps you are considering postgraduate study. There is a wide range of programmes leading to various qualifications available to you, and selecting the appropriate programme may not be easy. The first thing to realise is that you need to make a well informed decision and therefore the key is to obtain all the information you need. The Faculty always aims to retain its best and brightest students for research. However when collecting information about postgraduate studies, you should cast your net wide. You need to select an area that interests you – a difficult task in itself because you will also seek an area that has good employment prospects. There is also the choice between taught postgraduate programmes leading towards a Master of Science (MSc) and/or research postgraduate degrees (MPhil or PhD).

Further details on the programmes offered by the Faculty of Engineering and the Environment can be found on the Faculty's website.

#### 10. Regulatory Issues

We hope that you will be satisfied with your experience during your time as a student at the University of Southampton but we do recognise that, on occasion, things can go wrong. If you have a concern about any aspect of your experience at the University we encourage you to raise it as soon as the concern arises. It is always better to let us know that you feel there is a problem as soon as possible so that the matter may be resolved quickly. You may alternatively wish to consult with your student academic president if it is an issue in common with other students. Please be reassured that you will not suffer any disadvantage or recrimination as a result of raising a genuine concern, student complaint or academic appeal.

## 10.1 Academic appeals

Provided you have grounds, you may appeal against any academic decision made by the University. There are some exceptions and you should note you cannot appeal against a decision that has been made in the proper exercise of academic judgment. The <u>Regulations Governing Academic Appeals by Students</u> outlines the regulations and procedure that should be followed should you wish to make an academic appeal.

The Students' Union Advice Centre has developed a Guide for students.

## 10.2 Student complaints

The <u>Regulations Governing Student Complaints</u> sets out the process that should be followed should you wish to raise a complaint about a matter relating to either the facilities and services provided by the University, its academic programmes, and the conduct of University staff, and which has materially affected you.

## 10.3 Dignity at work and study

The <u>University's Dignity at Work and Study Policy</u> applies to the conduct of staff and students, in the context of their University work or study, or which otherwise affects the working, learning or social environment of the University. Fair criticism of staff or student performance or conduct will not be considered to be bullying or harassment provided that those involved are treated with dignity, courtesy and respect. Any allegation of harassment, bullying or victimisation will be treated seriously, regardless of the seniority of those involved, and anyone found to have behaved unacceptably may be the subject of disciplinary action up to and including dismissal or expulsion.

## 10.4 Student Discipline

As members of the University community, all students are expected to conduct themselves with due regard for its good name and reputation and are required to comply with the University's Regulations at all times. Any allegation of misconduct will be considered within the <a href="Student Discipline Regulations">Student Discipline Regulations</a>. In accordance with the evidence and circumstances presented. Information for students on discipline is available from the <a href="Student Services website">Student Services website</a>.

## 11. Training, Sponsorship and Employment

It is never too early to devote thought to your future career direction, although when you start your degree, the decisions may seem years away. However, time will pass quickly, and you will be in a better position to pursue your future ambitions if you have a career focus to your studies. The Careers and Employability Service will be able to help guide you in career choice.

Environmental sciences offer a wide range of challenging and rewarding careers. Employment opportunities are available in a wide range of areas; many organisations and businesses employ our graduates, and the education you have received also opens up many other routes such as research, teaching, the armed forces or the financial service industries. Other graduates decide to continue their studies by entering postgraduate instructional/research programmes at Southampton and other universities. Past experience confirms that Southampton graduates are in a very competitive position when seeking career opportunities. As part of your professional development, we encourage you to obtain work experience and training before, during and after your university programme.

If you are interested in a longer period, it is possible to take a year out of the programme; after the second year is quite common. Employers are increasingly looking for students at this stage: they can be of real use to them, and they get a look at them before the recruitment round the following year. If you wish to do this, you need permission from the Faculty (approach your personal tutor in the first instance). The one hazard is that there could be changes in programme structure or syllabus while you are away, and you may find you have to do some extra 'matching' work on your return. Note that such absence must be for a whole number of academic years (October to September). You cannot take part of a year, nor a year spanning two academic years.

Finding temporary or permanent employment is your individual responsibility, but we can provide much assistance. We maintain contacts with many companies seeking students. All members of Environmental Science staff maintain lists of company contacts and opportunities for placements. Please contact them for upto-date information. A significant number of students obtain formal sponsorship from a company before or during the programme. We can help you to find such positions.

Also, the University's Careers and Employability service provides a comprehensive professional service, which includes both temporary and permanent posts. You should make contact with them to discuss initial ideas early in your programme (during Part I), and then call on them from time to time thereafter.

The experiences of some past graduates are given on our website at <a href="http://www.southampton.ac.uk/engineering/undergraduate/our\_students.page">http://www.southampton.ac.uk/engineering/undergraduate/our\_students.page</a>.

#### **Appendices**

## **Appendix A - Programme Specific Information**

## A1 Undergraduate programmes

The Centre for Environmental Science offer three year Bachelor of Science degrees in Environmental Science, Environmental Monitoring and Modelling and Environmental Science with Business. In addition, we run a four year Master of Environmental Science degree. Our Degree programmes use the flexibility of the Faculty's module system to provide different combinations of subjects appropriate to your degree. The BSc degree requires you to obtain 360 credit points. You obtain these by successfully passing modules – which are usually worth 15 credit points each. In each of the first and second years you must take 120 points, usually 8 modules per year split over the two semesters. In the third year, your independent research project is worth 30 credit points, and you take the additional 90 credits in taught modules (usually 6 split over the two semesters). The MEnvSci degree runs over four years, again with 120 credit points taken each year. In the final year the advanced research project is worth 60 credit points, and the remaining credit points are made up with taught modules (usually four modules split over two semesters). Some modules are core to your degree programme – you must pass these in order to complete your degree programme.

### A2 Programme content

Please note that the most up to date description of the content is in the Programme Catalogue, which can be accessed via SUSSED using the Banner Self-service facility:

https://studentrecords.soton.ac.uk/BNNRPROD/twbkwbis.P\_WWWLogin

To find links to broad generic descriptions of the programmes and modules follow links to your programme starting from

https://www.southampton.ac.uk/engineering/undergraduate/courses/environmental\_sciences\_list.page

#### A3 BSc or MEnvSci?

Most students joining our course are on the BSc programme (three years full time). Some students with particularly strong academic qualifications have registered at the outset on the MEnvSci programme, which is taken over four years. Students on the MEnvSci degree must achieve a predetermined level of performance in the second year for progression on to the four year programme.

Students on the BSc course can apply to transfer to the MEnvSci towards the end of year 1. The selection process includes an academic interview, and an assessment of academic progress at the time of transfer. Students wishing to transfer from BSc to MEnvSci will need to ensure that funding is available from their Local Education Authority (LEA) for an additional year of study. The application process starts near the end of Year 1 to allow time for you to speak to your LEA.

We also run a separate Environmental Management Masters programme comprising a postgraduate MSc. This programme is open to candidates who have successfully completed a relevant first degree.

#### A4 Progression

## Part 1 (120 CATS)

## Requirements for progression to part 2

You must achieve a mark of 40% or more to pass core modules and satisfy requirements and regulations as specified in the University Calendar to proceed to part 2. If your performance does not permit direct progression to part 2 of your programme, the Faculty of Engineering and the Environment will require you to take reassessment during the summer vacation or the following academic year before you can proceed. If you meet the requirements to proceed to part 2 but do not wish to do so, you may exit the programme with a Certificate of Higher Education.

#### Part 2 (120 CATS)

#### Requirements for progression to part 3

For the BSc, you must achieve a mark of 40% or more to pass core modules and satisfy requirements and regulations as specified in the University Calendar to proceed to part 3. To proceed to part 3 of the MEnvSci, your overall average mark for part 2 must also be 55% or higher. If your performance does not permit direct progression to part 3 of your programme, the Faculty of Engineering and the Environment will require you to take reassessment during the summer vacation or the following academic year before you can proceed. If you meet the BSc programme requirements to proceed to part 3 but do not wish to do so, you may exit the programme with a Diploma in Higher Education. If you are registered for the MEnvSci programme, you may transfer to the BSc programme during or at the end of part 2 provided that you meet all conditions for progression to part 3 of the BSc.

## Part 3 (120 CATS)

## Requirements for progression to part 4 (MEnvSci only)

You must achieve a mark of 40% or more to pass core modules and satisfy requirements and regulations as specified in the University Calendar to proceed to part 4. You must pass all core modules and achieve an overall average of 55% or more in part 3 to proceed directly to part 4 of the programme. If your performance does not permit direct progression to part 4 of your programme, the Faculty of Engineering and the Environment will require you to take reassessment during the summer vacation or the following academic year before you can proceed. If you do not wish to proceed to part 4 but meet the criteria to qualify for the award of BSc honours degree in Environmental Science, you may exit the programme with this award.

#### Level 4 (MEnvSci only; 120 CATS)

Requirements for part 4 (MEnvSci only)

You must achieve a mark of 40% or more to pass core modules. You must pass all core modules to qualify for the award of MEnvSci (Hons). If your performance does not permit this award, the Faculty of Engineering and the Environment will require you to take reassessment during the summer vacation or the following academic year before an award can be made.

#### **Honours classifications**

Your degree classification is based on the 100-point mark scheme for the final degree average, i.e.:

70% and over	First class
60 - 69%	Second class, upper division
50 - 59%	Second class, lower division
40 - 49%	Third class

Part 1 work is excluded from the final degree classification. A weighting of 0:1:2 is used for the three parts of the BSc (honours) programme, and a weighting of 0:1:2:2 is used for the four parts of the MEnvSci programme. If your unrounded average mark is within 2% of class boundary, you may be awarded the higher class, depending on the weighted distribution of marks for the credits you have accumulated through modules taken.

All core module and progression requirements for all parts of the programmes, as outlined above, must have been fully met for an award to be made.

#### A5 Educational aims of the BSc programme

The programme is designed to provide a flexibly structured and coherent programme of study that prepares you for employment in a variety of careers. The programme requires you to develop as an autonomous, reflective environmental scientist, and fosters the development of an enquiring and creative approach. Aims of the programme are:

- 1. To provide you with a thorough understanding of the functioning and management of the environment based on firm scientific foundations.
- 2. To give you the opportunity to develop specialist knowledge and understanding in a chosen area of the environmental sciences, whilst maintaining a broader view of the environment on an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary basis.
- 3. To produce graduates who can think critically about the environment in the contemporary world and are able to pursue independent study in the subject with enthusiasm.
- 4. To provide an education suitable for a wide variety of careers in the environment, including training for higher degrees.
- 5. To provide the key skills transferable to other disciplines so that graduates are capable of reaching their full potential and play a full role in society including careers in non-environmental science professions, industry and commerce.

## A6 Educational aims of the MEnvSci programme

This programme is also designed to provide a flexibly structured and coherent programme of study that prepares you for employment in a variety of careers and requires you to develop as an autonomous and reflective environmental scientist. Studying towards the MEnvSci fosters in particular the development of an independent and self-directed approach, in terms of both your learning and research. As such, this degree programme demands not only a high level of academic ability (as does the BSc) but also a willingness to take on responsibility to control and direct the content of the degree both towards an area of specialization and broad, interdisciplinary understanding. Aims of the programme are:

- 1. To provide you with a thorough understanding of the functioning and management of the environment based on firm scientific foundations.
- 2. To give you the opportunity to develop an extensive and in-depth specialist knowledge and understanding in a chosen area of the environmental sciences, whilst maintaining a broader view of the environment on an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary basis.
- 3. To provide you with extensive knowledge and understanding of the interactions of the environment and society.
- 4. To enable you to undertake a substantial research project.
- 5. To produce graduates who can think critically about the environment in the contemporary world and are able to pursue independent study in the subject with enthusiasm.
- 6. To provide an education suitable for a wide variety of careers in the environment, including training for higher degrees.
- 7. To provide the key skills transferable to other disciplines so that graduates are capable of reaching their full potentials and play a full role in society including careers in academic and/or professional environmental fields, and in non-environmental science professions, industry and commerce.

#### A7 BSc and MEnvSci Programme outcomes

These programmes both provide opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills and other attributes. The programmes are interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary and provide opportunities for choice, but each has an integrated set of learning outcomes. Your options are selected to relate to a major theme within environmental science, chosen from one of the four "pathways": *Biodiversity and Conservation*,

Environmental Change, Sustainable Environmental Management or Aquatic Environments and Resources. Selection of optional modules is guided by module profiles and supported by your tutor. Programme outcomes have been formulated with reference to the benchmark statement for Earth Sciences, Environmental Sciences and Environmental Studies.

The Centre for Environmental Science operates a common module structure which is consistent with, and operates within, the University Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme as set out in the University Calendar.

#### A8 Pathways

When you start your degree you will be asked to choose a "pathway" each with a clear theme of study and component modules to help and guide you towards developing your focus creating a coherent and specialised portfolio of knowledge and understanding through your degree. The purpose and focus of each pathway is outlined separately and a typical range of options for each pathway over the whole degree programme provided. Please bear in mind that some modules will go and new ones will become available - changes are inevitable as staff may change, or modules may be developed to reflect new ideas and research. Naturally, the integrity of the Environmental Sciences degree will be maintained through any changes in the modules available.

The Pathway system gives you the flexibility to construct a large part of your own degree around your own interests and specialisation, but within a coherent framework. Your final year research project (which must be Pathway-oriented) will add considerably to your specialist expertise, complementing the modules you have taken and the skills you have acquired to place you well to work towards your future career. Remember as well that everyone works better and performs better when they are doing things they are interested in – this is highly important when selecting optional modules and project work.

## **Biodiversity and Conservation**

This pathway will examine the diversity of living organisms on earth, and their inter-relationships with the environment and each other. Key themes include plant and animal diversity and evolution, behaviour, physiology, ecological theory and applications, population ecology, applied biology, pest control, and plant pathology. Modules that contribute to this pathway explore both the principles of ecology and the application of those principles in conservation-oriented environmental management.

## **Environmental Change**

The aim of this pathway is to study past and present environmental change at local through to global scales, incorporating pertinent scientific understanding with an emphasis on drivers and impacts of environmental change. Thus, this pathway considers modern human-induced changes such as global warming, sea-level change and ozone depletion, in conjunction with natural climatic changes (long and short term) in order to understand better the magnitude of contemporary and predicted changes. Techniques to monitor environmental change by field and satellite image analysis may be addressed. This pathway also incorporates subjects that emphasize physical aspects of changing environments such as geomorphology, the sedimentary environment, hydrology and environmental geology. The range of options available enables a balance between geology, geography and oceanography.

#### Sustainable Environmental Management

This pathway aims to give insights into the human use of the environment and to explore how scientific principles, theories and methods can be applied to resolve environmental problems in sustainable ways. Overall focus emphasizes applications of environmental science theory and the way that this understanding is translated into management approaches in reality. There is thus a vocational remit to this pathway that necessarily draws on modules from a diverse range of disciplines (biological sciences, geography, geology, oceanography, engineering and law) to develop specialist skills in, for example, sustainability, resource management, conservation, land use and planning, environmental management or environmental impact assessment.

#### **Aquatic Environments and Resources**

This pathway aims to consider biological, chemical, physical and management aspects of water in the environment, and also the interaction between humans, water and aquatic environments. Aspects of aquatic environments and water-related resources, and our relationship with them are covered through a diverse range of modules that address topics such as hydrology, geomorphology, oceanography, aquatic ecology, and river management. Interests in both freshwater and marine environments may be maintained, and can be combined with topics concerning our use of water as an essential resource.

## A9 Fieldwork requirements

All students on both the BSc and MEnvSci are required to attend a field course of approximately one week in the Easter vacation of the first year (ENVS1007). MEnvSci candidates are also required to attend a field course (ENVS3011) of approximately one week in the summer vacation between the second and third years.

#### A10 Practical classes, laboratory work and other coursework

In Parts I and II and selected Part III/IV modules you will undertake laboratory work, practical class-based work and other coursework in addition to attending lectures. The principal objectives of these activities are to:

- i. illustrate and enhance the appreciation of the lecture material;
- ii. provide experience of the use of specialised test equipment, instrumentation and facilities;
- iii. provide appreciation of the philosophy of measurement and associated experimental error;
- iv. provide practical experience of computing, engineering design and drawing;
- v. provide an opportunity for team activity;

vi. develop skills in communication, critical analysis, decision making and working in a group.

In the main, such coursework consists of two or three exercises per module. However, some modules are assessed wholly by coursework, which may comprise essays, assignments, projects, etc. For all modules, the contribution of coursework to the final mark is given in the module profiles and/or through Blackboard.

#### A11 Project Work

It is essential that you consult your project supervisor(s) on a regular (e.g. weekly) basis to discuss progress of work. The arrangement for this should be discussed at the start of the project and incorporated into the project plan.

Research involving human participants must always be subjected to ethical scrutiny, to ensure it is carried out in a way that reduces the risk of harm to the participants and increases the potential for benefit. Such benefit may mean, for example, the advancement of knowledge, or the educational benefit of a student. In 2005 the University adopted the Research Governance Framework; according to its recommendations, all research that involves any human participation must have a Research Sponsor. In the case of undergraduate students, the project supervisor can act as the Research Sponsor. If your project work does involve human participation then you must ensure that your project supervisor completes a questionnaire indicating whether they have any ethical concerns about the project and whether it needs to go to the Ethics Committee for consideration.

## A11.1 Individual Project

Rules governing Individual Projects and their assessment, along with important information and advice about completing an Individual Project are in the "Individual Project: Guidance for Students" document available on Blackboard.

Late submission of the final project report is subject to penalties described in section 6.2. The project is a core module therefore a pass mark (40%) must be obtained in the Individual Project in order for a degree to be awarded.

All BSc students are required to carry out an Individual Project in Part III. Individual Projects have a value of 30 CATS credit points and run through two semesters. The process of Individual Project selection is carried out in Semester 2 of Part II. Following the allocation of projects and the completion of the literature survey, you must:

- i. submit a preliminary project plan. (Semester 1, weeks 1-3); you will be informed of when this will take place by email;
- ii. submit an interim project report to be assessed by your supervisor and a second examiner (end of week 9);
- iii. submit a final project report to be assessed by your supervisor and a second examiner (Semester 2, in week 10):
- iv. attend a student poster presentation day beginning of June (Semester 2, week 12) where you present your project on a poster to at least 2 examiners

Guidance to students, including the calendar of events can be located from Blackboard and is stored under FEEG3003.

All MEnvSci students undertake an Advanced Research Project in Part IV. This has a value of 60 CATS credit points and runs through two semesters with projects being selected in Semester 2 of Part III. Guidance to students is available from Blackboard under module code ENVS6009.

#### A12 Prizes

The Faculty likes to recognise outstanding performance in its students and offers a range of prizes.

#### Appendix B Revision Strategy and Examination Techniques

#### B1. Revision strategy

Revision should be an on-going process which starts very early in your programme. The amount of knowledge to be accumulated and the variety of skills and techniques to be developed are large and they are best assimilated gradually and consolidated as you go along. Regular revision is really a part of the learning process but, of necessity, becomes more concentrated as the examination approaches. "Re-vision" means looking again at things you have already seen – it is not about learning for the first time.

#### B1.1 Final revision programme

At the start of your final revision schedule (during the Christmas Vacation for Semester 1 exams, and during the Easter Vacation and at the end of the taught element of the programme for Semester 2 exams) you must get organised, and the best way to do this is to devise a revision timetable. Plan your time carefully, give yourself definite objectives for each session, revise actively, test yourself regularly, make notes, and practice problem solving. Use revision sessions to study topics you have worked on before, as revision is simply the process of reminding you of topics and techniques previously understood. You will appreciate how well-organised notes will help you during your revision. Write out important definitions, proofs, formulae and equations, checking them against your notes. Re-work previously solved problems without looking at your previous solution, then attempt questions that you have not looked at before. Make special revision notes for quick reference on cards to keep in your pocket and charts to hang on the wall of your study room. Practice your examination technique.

#### Examination practice

You should be familiar with the courses and syllabuses you will be examined in at the end of Semester 1 and Semester 2. Analyse recent examination papers. Work out how long you have for each question and become familiar with the style of questions.

During your ordinary study periods you will have attempted many questions but will have seldom given yourself strict time restrictions. In examinations the timing of your answers to questions is vitally important. Practice answering examination questions in mock examination conditions, allowing yourself only the normal available examination time and the equipment you are permitted to take into the examination room. To obtain 'mock examination' practice save one or two complete examination papers so that you can use them as final test papers 'against the clock'.

Examination nerves are common and understandable but will be lessened if you have followed a sensible course of study and revision. You may not do yourself justice if you have a poor examination technique. The hints below should help you to tackle the examination with greater confidence.

## **Examination techniques**

## Before the day

Before the actual day of your examination, make sure you know:

- the date, day, time and venue of each paper for your course;
- how to get to the examination venue if it is not well known to you;
- · your student ID (take your ID card to all examinations);
- the telephone number of the Faculty Student Office (external) 02380 594171 (internal) 24171.

Prepare any equipment you will need for your particular examination:

- pens which are comfortable to use;
- · sharp pencils, a pencil sharpener and rubber;
- drawing instruments such as a ruler, compasses, protractor, set squares;
- University approved calculator (if allowed) and spare batteries (check that you know how to replace them
- · an accurate watch or small clock.

## On the Day

#### Before the examination:

Check that you have all the equipment you will need before setting off for your examination with plenty of time to spare. If you are delayed, contact the Faculty Student Office (have the telephone number with you) to explain what has happened. Arrive at the examination room early; a late start to an examination cannot be a good start and you will not be permitted to enter the examination room later than 30 minutes after its scheduled start time.

## Just before the start:

Listen carefully to the invigilator. There may be some changes or special instructions which you were not expecting or some errors in the paper. Fill in any details, such as your student ID, when the invigilator instructs you to do so.

## Reading the instructions

When the invigilator says that you may begin, read the instructions on your examination paper very carefully. Make sure that it is the correct examination paper, and in particular, note:

- the number of sections and questions you have to do;
- · how much time you have to do them in;

- · which questions (if any) are compulsory;
- what choice of questions (if any) you have;
- how to present your answers.

#### Planning your time

Quickly calculate the length of time you should spend on each question. You will have practised doing this for past papers but make sure that you use the instructions on your actual examination paper, rather than making any assumptions. Try to allow about 10 minutes at the end for checking your paper

Choosing the questions

Read through the whole examination paper carefully, checking that you have read each page. If you have a choice of questions:

- · cross out the ones you can't do;
- tick those you can definitely do;
- · choose the correct number to do;
- · mark the order in which you are going to attempt them, attempting your best question(s) first.

#### Answering the question

Before you attempt to answer a question, read it all again carefully, jotting down points such as formulae and information relating to that question. These hints should help you when writing an answer.

- Plan before you write the stress of working under time constraints in the exam room can make all your good study intentions disappear. However, this is when it is more important than ever. Take a few minutes to think and plan.
- Think about what the question is actually asking. What are you expected to include in your answer? Which
  material will be relevant?
- Underline the key words in the question; identify the main topic and discussion areas; choose a few points/arguments about which you can write; make a mini plan which puts them in order before you start writing. You can cross through it afterwards.
- · Make sure that your writing is legible.
- · Present your answer in a neat, logical and concise way.
- Show all your working; marks are often given for methodology as well as your answers.
- You should be able to refer by name to the main theorists/researchers in your topic, giving the year of their major works. You do not need to give page numbers of lengthy quotes, except in an open book exam. You do not need a reference list.
- · Do not do things you are not asked for.
- If relevant, state any principles, results, formulae used and indicate your reasons for using them.
- · Check any formulae you use with the formula sheet, if provided.
- Always do a rough estimate of any calculation to check that your answer is sensible.
- When using a calculator, make sure that each calculation is shown clearly in your answer and give your final answer to the required degree of accuracy.
- · If you get 'stuck', re-read the question carefully to check that you have not missed any important information or hints given in the question itself.
- When you have completed your solution, re-read the question to check that you have answered all parts.

#### Examination discipline

It is important that you try to keep to the times you have allocated to answering a question or section and that you answer the correct number of questions. If you answer less than the number of questions required you are limiting the number of marks available to you.

#### At the end

Before handing in your examination script, check that:

- any 'front sheet' is completed according to the instructions;
- every loose page is clearly marked with your student ID, etc.
- · every answer is numbered correctly;
- · pages are numbered clearly and in order.

## Access to student learning facilities at Southampton Boldrewood Innovation Campus

The Faculty is opening up access to many student learning facilities at the Boldrewood campus 'out of hours', after piloting some extended access, and discussion through Staff-Student Liaison Committees.

#### When can I access facilities?

You are welcome to access student learning facilities between 0600-2300, seven days-each-week, excluding University closure periods - typically at Christmas, Easter and Bank Holidays. Your access includes weekends and May and August bank holidays.

• Colour code	Days and times	Access permitted for students?
• Green - 'normal working hours'	Monday to Friday 0800- 1800 EXCEPT 'Red' or 'Amber' days	<ul> <li>Yes; buildings open, teaching and exams routinely scheduled.</li> <li>Access to labs and workshops may be restricted; activities must be risk assessed.</li> </ul>
• Amber – 'out of hours'	Monday to Friday 0600- 0800      Monday to Friday 1800- 2300      Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays 0600-2300 EXCEPT 'Red' days	<ul> <li>Yes; Boldrewood campus buildings are open to the Faculty's staff and students. Teaching and exams occasionally scheduled.</li> <li>Buildings open to visitors/the public only by special arrangement.</li> <li>Staff and students have access to social spaces and common learning spaces at Boldrewood.</li> <li>Access to labs and workshops is highly restricted; activities must be risk-assessed. Lone working in labs and workshops is not permitted.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Red – 'University shut down'</li> </ul>	• 2300-0600 on all dates	• No
	Also at all times over the University closure period at Christmas and Easter, Bank Holidays and any other date notified as 'University shutdown'	It is exceptional for staff to be granted access to buildings during shut down periods – a rigorous permissions process applies.

## What facilities are available?

- Building)176L/1101 SMMI Design and Project Studio 48 PCs [eating and drinking *not* permitted, except bottled water]
- B176L level one CLS rooms and meeting rooms<sup>1</sup>, toilet facilities
- B176 level one 'out of hours' building entrance, toilets and shower facilities
- B176 level two Cafe area and vending machines<sup>2</sup>, toilet facilities
- B176 2013 Seminar room<sup>2</sup>
- B177 level one building entrance, social area and vending machines, toilet facilities
- B177 level one multi-faith room
- B177/2021 PC workstation cluster 15 PCs [eating and drinking not permitted, except bottled water]
- B177 2011/2012 CLS room/s<sup>2</sup>, toilet facilities
- B177/3011 Design (and Fabrication) Studio [where eating and drinking is permitted], toilet facilities

Faculty meeting rooms can be used by students to work or eat their lunch. The rooms will need to be vacated if a formal meeting has been booked.

## What is **not** available 'out of hours'?

Unless specific arrangements have been made with a member of staff, students are not permitted to enter or remain in labs and workshops, staff and PGR offices, kitchens and B176 levels three and above.

The B176 level one labs and B177 level two workshops are not open 'out of hours'.

<sup>1</sup> Unless those rooms are booked/in-use for teaching/assessment/meetings or other events, including set-up and take-down periods.

<sup>2</sup> Unless those rooms are booked/in-use for teaching/assessment/meetings or other events, including set-up and take-down periods.

The Faculty's Boldrewood Student Office, based in building 177 (the Annex) is not always manned and it is best to visit the Faculty Student Office in B13 on Highfield campus.

Academic staff/your tutor is not available to see you 'out of hours', unless they've made a special arrangement with you.

## What is expected of me?

You are expected to...

- respect your fellow students and University staff, by behaving reasonably and keeping noise levels down
  inside the buildings
- respect the needs of our partners on the campus, in the Lloyds Register Global Technology Centre, and local residents, by behaving reasonably and keeping noise levels down outside the buildings
- co-operate with signs and instructions about where you may eat and drink
- co-operate with directions given by University security and other staff
- leave the buildings promptly by 2300
- keep areas clean and tidy, reporting any accidental damage or equipment faults to Security before leaving the site
- return furniture to its initial layout if you move things (being careful not to damage yourself or furniture/floors)
- ensure that you do not let others use your card for access, or 'tail-gate' you into and out of buildings
- and of course, comply with the University's regulations and policies, as set out in your Student Handbook (see <a href="http://www.southampton.ac.uk/studentservices/faculty\_handbooks/">http://www.southampton.ac.uk/studentservices/faculty\_handbooks/</a>).

#### How do I get in and out 'out of hours'?

Access applies only to students enrolled on programmes in the Faculty of Engineering and the Environment. Permission for out of hours access must be provided by the Faculty Safety Officer - Mr David Lynock email D.J.Lynock@soton.ac.uk. Students enrolled on programmes in other Faculties do not have 'out of hours' access.

	Building 175 level one and building 176	• Building 177
• 'Normal working hours'	Through B176 level two reception area and card-access turnstiles	Through B177 level one reception area – automatic doors (inner and outer)
• 'Out of hours'	• Through B176 level one 'out of hours' door at the bottom of the steps – swipe card access point to the side of the door.	• Through B177 level one reception area -swipe card access point outside outer and inner doors; white release switch inside the inner door; swipe card point inside the outer door.
University shut down	• No access	• No access

#### What do I do if...?

- I need help?
- I need a first aider?
- I observe others misbehaving?
- I accidentally damage something or find something damaged?
- I believe people are in the building who should not be here?

In all these cases, you alert the University Security staff, who are present on the campus 24/7. They are based in building 176, level two, office 2025 (although they patrol the campus, and may not be in the office all the time). You can call for assistance via the University's Central Control room on 023 8059 3311, or dial 23311 from any internal phone extension.

## · the fire alarm goes off?

Leave the building by the nearest available exit, without delaying to collect your belongings. Assemble on the west that has the bronzed artwork located, and wait to be let back into the building when it has been declared safe. If you wish to leave the site/not wait, please make sure that a member of staff/Security/Fire Warden knows you have exited the building safely already.

## • there is a problem with my ID card?

There may be a technical issue with your status in the access control system, or with your student record/enrolment status; unfortunately you will need to wait until normal working hours for this to be investigated and resolved. Please email <a href="mailto:boldrec@soton.ac.uk">boldrec@soton.ac.uk</a>, giving your student number and details, or drop in to the Boldrewood Reception in B176 level two, between 8.30am and 5.15.

I've lost my ID card? ... my ID card has been stolen? ... my ID card is damaged? You will need to get a replacement ID card. See <a href="https://www.southampton.ac.uk/studentservices/id-cards/index.page">https://www.southampton.ac.uk/studentservices/id-cards/index.page</a> for further information about how to apply, charges and timescales.