

BSc CLIMATE SCIENCE (F645)



Learn the science underlying past, present and future climate change

Course outline

Climate change is an existential threat to modern civilisations and our species in general, and our response to this threat will affect life on the planet for millennia. This new three-year Climate Science BSc (Hons) course delves deep into the science of how and why the Earth's climate has changed over geologic time, why it is changing now, and how it will change in the future.

This course, led by the Department of Earth Sciences, allows students to choose a range of modules in Earth Science, Geography and Archaeology. In Year 1 you will learn about climate change and develop your understanding of Earth processes, the environment and Earth resources. In Year 2 you can learn about glaciers, the carbon cycle, how the Earth's climate has varied in the past and how scientists reconstruct past climate change. In Year 3 you can study how a changing climate impacts coastal and Antarctic environments, or how it affected ancient civilisations. You could also study how humans manage the environment. A major part of Year 3 will be your dissertation - your chance to conduct fundamental research into an advanced topic of your choice related to climate science.

Typical course content

Topics covered by this course may include:

- Climate change
- Environment and Earth resources
- Mathematics for Earth scientists
- Geographical Information Systems
- The carbon cycle
- Glaciers and glaciations
- Environmental change
- Paleoclimate reconstruction
- Paleoenvironments
- Chemistry of the environment
- Environmental management
- Atmospheric circulation
- Oceans and sea level
- Archaeology and climate

Learning and assessment

You will learn through a mixture of lectures, practical classes, tutorials and optional fieldwork. You will be assessed through a combination of coursework, class tests and end-of-year examinations. A significant proportion of your final assessment will be through your climate science research dissertation in Year 3.

Entry requirements

Typical A level offer – AAB with two science A levels from: Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Geology, Geography, Economics, and Biology or Psychology are required. You may qualify for a contextual offer. For more information visit: dur.ac.uk/study/ug

Career prospects

This course will equip graduates with a comprehensive, state-of-the-art grounding in quantitative, multidisciplinary climate and Earth science. Students will develop strong problem solving, critical thinking and data analysis skills that will prepare them for a range of professional graduate employment opportunities.

Find out more: dur.ac.uk/earth.sciences/ugadmissions