



PCA

In association with

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GLOBAL EDUCATION

FOR **GEDU** SCHOLARSHIPS
**FREQUENTLY
ASKED QUESTIONS**



Where can I find more information about the course content?

Information can be found on the MLA College website here

[BSc \(Hons\) Global Sustainable Development Programme](#)

[MSc Global Sustainable Development Degree | Study Part-Time](#)

[MSc Global Sustainable Development – Full-Time Degree](#)

When can I start the course? (think you have 3 intakes per year?)

January, May, September

How long is the course?

- BSc (Hons) Global Sustainable Development Programme – 24 months
- MSc Global Sustainable Development Degree | Study Part-Time – 32 months
- MSc Global Sustainable Development Degree | Study Full-Time – 12 months

Is the degree accredited?

Yes it is accredited by the University of Plymouth. This programme has been jointly developed and implemented with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). On successful completion of the programme, in addition to your degree certificate, graduates will be awarded a UNITAR certificate of completion.

What is the structure of the course?

MSc Global Sustainable Development:

- This Master's degree is delivered through distance learning and starts with a period of gaining a shared vocabulary and set of ideas around sustainability. This leads to investigating the various ways in which we might interrogate and analyse sustainability projects through a range of research methodologies and their associated techniques.
- The optional modules will be sector-specific, thus the MSc will investigate the sectoral responses to the sustainability challenge in greater depth. It shows that SDGs interact with a range of social and economic activities in a number of complicated and interconnected ways. This allows you to evaluate projects and progress against sustainability goals more critically.
- The Programme finishes with a significant piece of individual research on a topic of your choice.



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What is the structure of the course?

BSc Global Sustainable Development

- Introducing you to the concepts and thinking behind the idea of sustainability, the BSc (Hons) Global Sustainable Development programme starts by exploring key thinkers and issues in engaging the global community with the notion of sustainable development. At the same time, we introduce you to important ways to investigate, interrogate and analyse new research in sustainable development, and familiarise you with the expectations of higher education.
- We then focus upon the connections between the classic ‘three pillars’ of sustainability; society, economy and the environment. It is these connections that present the greatest challenges and opportunities to forge a sustainable world.

The course aims to:

- Provide a sound and critical understanding of sustainable development, particularly with reference to the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Show how sustainability is conceived and practiced differently across the globe.
- Provide key theoretical and practical knowledge of a range of subjects that are important considerations within the SDGs.
- Enable students to understand the role of individuals, communities, and institutions in delivering sustainable development.
- Foster debate and enable students to express reasoned, evidence-based arguments.

How much time do I need to commit each week for each course?

- **MSc:** For full time courses, you should expect to commit roughly 35–40 hours per week to the course. For part time courses, you should expect to commit roughly 18–20 hours per week to the course.
- **BSc:** you should expect to commit roughly 10–15 hours per week to the course.
- The exact time spent watching lectures will vary depending on the module and your individual study style, and will also include time for readings, assessments, and independent study.

How much time do I need to spend each week doing course work?

- Coursework is spread throughout the year rather than required every week. You will complete multiple assignments across the course, with submission points scheduled at key stages, allowing you to plan and manage your workload alongside lectures, reading, and independent study.



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What academic support is offered?

Module Tutor

- If you are studying a 13-week module, you will be allocated a tutor. Your Tutor is your main point of contact for general support and academic guidance. They are available to help with academic queries, provide feedback on your progress, and offer advice on how to succeed in your studies.

Supervisors

- If you are undertaking a research or project as part of your programme, you'll be supported by both a First and Second Supervisor. Your First Supervisor will be your primary guide—helping you shape your ideas, offering academic insight, and keeping you on track as you work through key milestones. Your Second Supervisor provides additional support and perspective, contributing their expertise and ensuring continuity in your academic journey. Together, they are there to help you succeed and make the most of your research experience.

Student and Programme Services

- This team is here to support you with a wide range of non-academic queries throughout your time on the programme. It is comprised of the Student Admin Team, the Student Experience Team, Admissions, and Student Finance. Together, they work to assist with enrolment, navigating systems required for your studies, accessing resources, and providing general guidance. They are also your key point of contact for questions about policies, deadlines, and where to find further support.

Technical Team

- The Technical Team is available to support you with any issues or questions related to the Total Learning Platform (TLP). Whether you're having trouble accessing materials, navigating the platform, or using specific tools within it, they're here to make sure your digital learning experience runs smoothly.

Is anything in person? Will I be able to meet others from my course?

Visiting us in person is not required; however, if you're in England and would like to visit the MLA team, we warmly welcome visitors and enjoy meeting our students, graduates, and alumni. Graduation ceremonies are held at the University of Plymouth several times throughout the year, providing a great opportunity to meet your peers and academic staff in person. In addition, we offer multiple ways to connect with fellow students and staff through a variety of online platforms, ensuring you're supported and engaged wherever you are.

When are the 'holidays' from the course?

Distance learning, up to them when they want to take it.



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What are the costs if I receive the 50% funded scholarship?

- BSc (Hons) Global Sustainable Development programme fees: £9,535 so 50% cost to you would be £4,767.50
- MSc Global Sustainable Development (full-time or part-time) programme fees: £10,700 so 50% cost to you would be £5,350

Will there be any additional costs? E.g. text books

No, all content is on TLP.

What are the entry requirement?

Entry Requirements for BSc Global Sustainable Development

Typically, eligible candidates will have one of the following:

- Foundation Degree, or equivalent, in a related subject area
- Demonstrable relevant work or life experience, evidenced via Recognised Prior Learning (RPL)
- English language GCSE Grade C or above, or international equivalent
- In some circumstances, it may be necessary for you to undertake our 8-week Global Sustainable Development Access Course (GSD101) in order to meet the entry requirements.

Entry Requirements for MSc Global Sustainable Development

Typically, eligible candidates will have one of the following:

- Bachelor's degree, or equivalent, in a related subject area
- Combination of higher education (e.g., Foundation Degree) and demonstrable relevant work experience, evidenced via RPL (Recognised Prior Learning)
- English language GCSE Grade C or above, or international equivalent
- There are multiple pathways onto the programme, and our Admissions Team is here to help. If you're unsure about your eligibility, get in touch – we'll be happy to discuss your experience and explore the best route for you. admissions@mila.ac.uk

What have other students from these courses gone on to do?

Graduates of our Global Sustainable Development courses have gone on to achieve a wide range of outcomes. Many have successfully transitioned into sustainability-focused careers after working in entirely different sectors, while others have progressed into more senior strategic or research-level roles within their organisations. Some alumni have moved into leadership positions, including becoming heads of departments, applying the knowledge and skills gained from the course to drive sustainability initiatives at a higher level.

What kind of job will I be able to get after completing this course?

Graduates of this course go on to work in a wide range of sustainability-related roles across the public, private, and third sectors. Depending on your background and career goals, this may include roles in sustainability and ESG, policy and research, environmental management, corporate responsibility, international development, consultancy, or project management.

The course is also well suited to professionals looking to transition into sustainability from other sectors, as well as those aiming to progress into more strategic, analytical, or leadership-level positions within their current organisations.

Will MLA College support me in finding a job after I've finished?

While MLA College does not offer a dedicated career placement service, we do provide valuable opportunities to build industry connections throughout your studies. You'll be exposed to industry partners and organisations through webinars and collaborative initiatives run during the year, which you can leverage as part of your job search. Additionally, many students on the programme are already working professionals with a few years of industry experience, offering strong peer-to-peer networking opportunities.

Do I need to be a UK resident?

No, you do not need to be a UK resident to study on the MLA programme. Our student community is truly international, with learners from over 65 countries worldwide.