



UNIVERSITY
of
GREENWICH

Natural
Resources
Institute

Agriculture for Sustainable Development MSc



Medway Campus

www.nri.org

Why study this programme?

Food security and the role of agriculture in stimulating economic growth are key issues in international development in today's challenging global environment. Globally, food production needs to increase by 50% over the coming 2-3 decades to feed a growing world population, while at the same time reducing the environmental impacts of agricultural production. Sustainable agricultural growth needs to be achieved against a background of ongoing climate change, increasingly globalised markets for agricultural inputs and products, rapidly evolving regional and global trade regulation and the appearance of new threats from emergent crop and livestock pests and diseases.

This programme seeks to look at these issues from the potential of agricultural and biotechnological science to revolutionise agricultural production, as well as the economic and social context in which agriculture operates. The programme focuses on agriculture in developing countries and draws on the Natural Resources Institute's (NRI's) unrivalled pool of expertise in issues of crop and livestock production, pest and disease

management, agricultural marketing, agricultural biotechnology, biosecurity and agroforestry. The programme is focussed around providing students with the key concepts needed to address these issues, learning from real case studies delivered by experts who are actively implementing sustainable agriculture projects around the world.



Why study with us?

NRI is a specialist development institute of the University of Greenwich and is based at the Medway Campus in Kent, England, approximately 30 miles from central London. This multi-campus university serves higher education needs locally, nationally within the UK

and internationally with a high percentage of students from Europe and across the world. It also provides research, consultancy and education services worldwide, primarily through NRI's long-established international activities on the sustainable management of natural and human resources. Our staff's wealth of international development knowledge and teaching experience is combined to support the learning of



each student. Staff are involved in development research and consultancy and provide practical experience as part of their teaching.

The Institute's international reputation is founded on a long history of experience in teaching, training, research and development in natural resources. Much of its work has been in tropical and sub-tropical countries, but its expertise is proving to be of growing relevance to the development and management of natural resources in industrialised regions. In the last 10 years, around a hundred students have graduated from the MSc Programme in Natural Resources, most of them international students.

Medway Campus is located in Chatham Maritime, a rapidly developing area that offers excellent leisure facilities. The town centres of Chatham and Gillingham and the historic city of Rochester are nearby. The campus is well served by public transport and has easy access to the country's motorway network and London's three airports. The University also provides a bus service between campuses.

What will you study?

The programme contains core courses which give students a firm grounding in research methods applicable to the study of sustainable



agriculture and the intellectual tools for understanding sustainable agriculture systems. A core course on integrated pest management acts as an introduction to various cropping systems and crop management approaches. Students can develop individual research interests through an independent research project submitted as a dissertation. The optional courses cover a range of specialist agriculture-related courses, and depending on their interests, students can specialise in molecular biology and biotechnology, integrated pest management, agroecology or a broader view of agricultural development. The courses provide students with an understanding of the theoretical approaches and frameworks of the topics, combined with empirically based learning from case studies of real projects and agricultural scenarios. A particular focus of the study will be NRI's corporate experience of looking at how research into agricultural issues, both in the natural and social sciences, can be translated into knowledge and products that have a real impact on increasing the effectiveness of agriculture in delivering food security and enhancing livelihoods for all stakeholders. The potential role of agricultural innovations in technology, including biotechnology, knowledge systems, extension services and institutional partnerships, in promoting development are also a strong theme in the courses.



Course list

(180 credits required for an MSc)

Core courses

Research Methods (15 Credits)

Tools for Sustainable Agriculture (15 Credits)

Integrated Pest Management (30 Credits)

Independent Research Project dissertation
(60 Credits)

Options

- Agricultural Innovation for Development (15 Credits)
- Agribusiness (15 Credits)
- Agroforestry (15 Credits)
- Agronomy & Crop Physiology (15 Credits)
- Economics, Agriculture, and Markets (15 Credits)
- Legal Issues in Biosecurity and Biotechnology (30 Credits)
- Livestock and Sustainable Agriculture (15 Credits)
- Plant Disease Management (15 Credits)
- Soils and Environments (15 Credits)
- Understanding Rural Development (30 Credits)

Career opportunities

This programme provides specialist expertise for those working or wishing to work in agricultural development or research, or seeking an advanced agricultural or development qualification in the UK and overseas. Students graduate with a broad general knowledge of agricultural applications in sustainable development and also more focused in-depth knowledge of an area of specialisation.

Teaching and assessment

Teaching and learning includes a variety of educational styles including seminars, lectures, group work, assignments and tutorials. Assessment consists of a combination of assignments, essays, presentations, reports, portfolios and formal examinations.

Financial information

For up-to-date information on tuition fees, bursaries and scholarships, visit www.gre.ac.uk/finance.





Key facts

Attendance:

1 year full-time, 2 years part-time

Entry requirements:

Applicants should have a degree or equivalent professional qualification in an appropriate subject. Where English is the second language, an IELTS average score of 6.5 (for each of the four areas) or 7 is required.

How to apply:

Applications should be made on-line, using the University application form. This is available from the Enquiry Unit or International Office or can be downloaded at www.gre.a.uk/apply.

Details are also available through the NRI website

(<http://www.nri.org/study/study.htm>)

Your next step

University Open Days are held several times a year. They include a programme of talks and offer you the opportunity to speak to staff and students. You may also be given a tour of the campus.

A list of dates can be found at

www.gre.ac.uk/opendays, or contact the Enquiry Unit or International Office for further information.



Why not sign up as a Greenwich VIP and create your own Greenwich webpage, personalised to

your choice of programme and interests? Becoming a Greenwich VIP is a fast route to ordering our publications, booking an Open Day and finding out more about the university. You can also take part in chat sessions with staff and students, receive text and e-mail alerts, and enter our online competitions. Sign up at **www.gre.ac.uk/study**.

For further information

To find out more about studying at the university, please contact:

Website: **www.greenwich.ac.uk**

UK students

Enquiry Unit

Telephone: 020 8331 9000

Fax: 020 8331 8145

E-mail: courseinfo@gre.ac.uk

International students

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FS 54723
ISO 9001



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