

MA Climate, Risk and Society

Explore the ever-growing challenges and risks to society and its resilience as a result of climate change.

Introduction

The MA in Climate, Risk and Society takes a **social science** approach to climate risk. Designed to equip you with an in-depth understanding of how changes in the global climate resulting from human activity are set to pose new risks and challenges to society whether in the form of natural physical events or more indirectly through political activity.

The course is likely to appeal to those with a background in social science, natural science or engineering. The course explores how climate risk is perceived, managed and mitigated by individuals, organisations and governments around the world, taking a social science approach to climate change and resilience in addition to risk.

The MA in Climate, Risk & Society provides students with an advanced understanding of anthropogenic climate change as an issue that poses new risks to society. The MA in Climate, Risk and Society course provokes students to think critically about how evolving understandings of risk, resilience and vulnerability shape efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

To further embed practice into the course, we work closely with the University's Institute of Hazard, Risk and Resilience (IHRR) and through this, you will gain a vital insight into practitioner and academic perspectives at the forefront of risk thinking and practice. The IHRR also hosts an annual seminar series tailored specifically to students on climate, hazards and risk postgraduate programmes.



Course Timetable

Term 1 October to December	Term 2 January to March	Term 3 April to June	Summer June to August
Understanding Risk (30 credits)	Risk Frontiers (15 credits)	Dissertation or Vocational Dissertation (60 credits)	Dissertation or Vocational Dissertation (60 credits)
Climate Change and Society (15 credits)	Social Dimensions of Risk and Resilience (15 credits)	Knowledge for Action and Leadership (15 credits)	
Research Methods for Global Challenges (15 credits)	Cities and Climate Change (15 credits)		
	Dissertation or Vocational Dissertation (60 credits)		

List of Modules

You will take the following modules which, together, add up to 180 credits:

Understanding Risk (30 credits) (Term 1)

Provides an overview of the key theories and concepts that reflect the interdisciplinary nature of risk involving human action and environmental events. You will learn the basic concepts and terms used to describe and communicate risk, as well as studying interventions involved in managing, preventing or mitigating against risk to populations, and building an understanding of the determinants of risk and its social inequalities.

Research Methods for Global Challenges (15 credits) (Term 1)

This module will provide advanced training in the use of research skills and techniques, with the aim of developing a range of transferable skills relevant to researching sustainable futures amid global challenges.

Cities and Climate Change (15 credits) (Term 2)

Provides an advanced understanding of human influence-based climate change as an issue that poses new risks to society, and will help you to develop tools for responding to these emerging natural and socio-political threats. You learn to think critically about how evolving understandings of risk, resilience and vulnerability shape efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Risk Frontiers (15 credits) (Term 2)

Is delivered in collaboration with the Institute of Hazard and Risk Research. This module looks at current risk research and provides training in the generic skills of interpreting, criticising and collating the emerging research. What you learn will help meet the demands of the risk industry and associated areas such as disaster reduction, security, development and humanitarian relief.

Social Dimensions of Risk and Resilience (15 credits) (Term 2)

This module considers issues relating to locations and timings, along with the key physical characteristics, of a variety of hazards. It offers both theoretical and practical training in how to understand and quantify such dimensions of hazards.

Cities and Climate Change (15 credits) (Term 2)

This module explores how the very nature of urbanization is profoundly connected to the challenges of sustainability and responding to climate change.

Knowledge for Action and Leadership (15 credits) (Term 3)

This module develops practical skills of leadership, engagement and dissemination relevant to creating sustainable futures.

Dissertation or Vocational dissertation (60 credits) (Terms 2, 3 and summer)

The dissertation allows students to design and execute an extended piece of research on a particular problem, challenge, or issue at the intersection of climate change and risk. The vocational dissertation option is based on working with a non-academic partner.

Contact

For more information please visit:
<https://tinyurl.com/4xnu25ay>

Find out about our Open Days and Virtual Tours visit:
www.dur.ac.uk/visit-us/

For general enquiries visit:
www.dur.ac.uk/about-us/how-to-contact-us/

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