



THE UNIVERSITY
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MSc Climate Change Management



Dr Adam Hejnowicz | 21 November 2025

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Meet our staff



Adam Hejnowicz
Climate Change Adaptation
Programme Director and Cohort Lead



Kate Donovan
Climate Risk and Resilience



Andrew Schurer
Climate Change Science and
Modelling



Matt Lane
Climate Change Mitigation



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Climate Crisis:
A challenge for us all

- We are at the forefront of positive change
- Never has the climate crisis gained so much political and social traction... together we must ensure this leads to positive action!



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Why study this MSc?

- Join students from across the globe to tackle the challenges of climate change and creating a low carbon economy
- Designed to equip you with high-level knowledge and understanding of climate change and how it relates to economics, business, policy, and climate science
- Your studies will draw widely on the latest research in the climate change field as well as utilise case studies from Scotland and around the world



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Why study this MSc?

- Professional experts - including alumni of the programme - contribute to the discussions and provide guest lectures
- Interactive degree - you are expected to dive in and join the conversation, participate in group activities, and offer your critical analysis of the topics



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Why Edinburgh?

- What are the benefits of studying at Edinburgh?
 - World Top 30 University*
 - University-wide resources
 - Networking for post-course career opportunities
 - Meeting people from across the world
 - Social and cultural activities
- *Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2026



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Programme structure

Find a full list of compulsory and option courses on the [Degree Programme Tables](#)

Compulsory Courses	Semester	Credits
Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation	Semester 1	20
Foundations of climate science and politics	Semester 1	20
Professional Climate Change Skills and Methods	Semester 2	20
Climate Change Mitigation	Semester 2	20
Dissertation	April - August	60
2 to 4 option courses (10 or 20 credit options)	1 or 2 per semester	40



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Part-time structure

- Two and three-year part-time options are available.
- We recommend living within a commutable distance from Edinburgh in order to undertake part-time study, and we encourage you to contact us to discuss part-time study in more detail.

2-year programme	
Year 1	3 compulsory courses 1 or 2 option courses
Year 2	1 compulsory course Dissertation 1 or 2 option courses
3-year programme	
Year 1	2 compulsory courses 1 or 2 option courses
Year 2	2 compulsory courses 1 or 2 option courses
Year 3	Dissertation



Core
module
coverage
includes:



Teaching and assessment

- You will experience a range of teaching and assessment styles while you are studying
- Courses can be delivered through a mix of flipped-classrooms, lectures, seminars, guest presentations, workshop-style group discussions
- Assessments include essays, group presentations, technical reports (e.g. Climate Adaptation Plan), creating infographics



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Hours required

- 20 credits (one course) = 200 hours work
- This consist of **30 to 40 hours contact time in classes per course**
- The rest of the time is devoted to:
 - **in-class preparation** (c. 30 to 40 hours)
 - **reading** – guided and your own (c. 60 hours)
 - group work and assignments (c. 70 hours)
- Over 14 weeks, 600 hours is **43 hours of work per week**
- Assessment of work is based on the above time inputs



What a typical week looks like...

Semester 1, Week 3	
Classes	Timetable
Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation – Lecture and Tutorial	Mon, 14:10-17:00
Foundations of Climate Science and Politics – Lecture	Tue, 14:10-17:00
Option course: Fundamentals of Energy Systems and Technologies – Seminar	Wed, 09:00-12:00
Total class hours	Roughly 9hrs

- Please note that the option course listed is just an example – hours will vary depending on the option courses you choose.



Other activities

- Semester-based cohort activities (e.g., current students have put together their own volleyball group for example; at the end of semester 2 we have a three-day cohort trip to Loch Insh)
- School of GeoSciences and ECCI organised seminars occur throughout both semesters, and you are all welcome to attend those



Dissertation

- Explore a topic of your choice in relation to climate change and carbon management and prepare a dissertation that you can use to demonstrate your work to potential employers
- Typically up to 12,000 words
- You can even use the dissertation to explore your own business idea for tackling climate change through the business plan dissertation option
- You may also have the option to complete a dissertation project in partnership with an external organisation



Previous dissertation topics

- A systematic review of carbon colonialism perpetuated by forest carbon offsetting in East Africa
- Industry perspectives on decarbonising Norwegian shipping industry
- Developing a carbon impact tool for flood damage to residential buildings
- Potential of a circular food system as framework to meet Net Zero Targets: Barriers for UK arable agriculture sector
- Can low-middle-income countries use the adaptation pathways approach to adapt traditional water resources management to climate change
- How to attract private capital for renewable energy investments in South Africa: An independent power producer perspective
- Energy policy for low carbon development in Cambodia: A LEAP Model Application



Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate a multi-disciplinary understanding of key issues relating to global, regional, and local climate change management
- Be familiar with the tools used for climate impact assessment and adaptation planning across a range of sectors
- Develop and demonstrate an integrated view of mitigation and adaptation by individuals, communities, businesses, NGOs, and governments



Learning outcomes

- Recognise and assess the policy dimensions of a wide range of climate change and carbon management challenges
- Have a sound understanding of climate change science
- Demonstrate skills in interdisciplinary analysis, drawing upon different empirical sources, analytical perspectives, and sub-disciplines within carbon management studies



Edinburgh Climate Change Institute (ECCI)

- You will have access to the Masters Hub, located in the ECCI building at the Central Campus
- ECCI Vision: a resilient, just and climate neutral Scotland, showing leadership in global climate action
- Edinburgh Climate Change Institute (ECCI) (<https://edinburghcentre.org>)



Career opportunities

- Examples of where our graduates have gained employment:

- ☐ Bloomberg New Energy Finance
- ☐ Carbon Sense
- ☐ Mott MacDonald
- ☐ Costain Group
- ☐ PwC
- ☐ John Wood Group
- ☐ The World Bank
- ☐ SEPA

- Examples of roles our graduates do:

- ☐ Renewable energy project developers
- ☐ Commercial carbon management consultants
- ☐ Central, regional and local government civil servants - climate and decarbonisation policies
- ☐ Climate policy advisors to parliaments
- ☐ Low carbon investors & economic advisors
- ☐ NGO climate policy
- ☐ PhD research and academic career





Alumni: Part of a global community

- Diverse international cohort
- Climate & carbon experts
- 450+ Alumni around the world
- [Join the LinkedIn Group](#)



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Our alumni - Anna Lyn Duhme

- MSc Carbon Management (now MSc Climate Change Management)
- Graduated 2025
- "I particularly valued the interdisciplinary nature of the degree, which allowed me to tailor my focus through electives. Overall, the MSc challenged me academically, provided me with valuable insights and helped me build a strong professional network."



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When to apply?

- Due to high demand for this programme, we operate on a series of early application deadlines.
- We strongly recommend you apply as early as possible.
- You should avoid applying to more than one degree. Applicants who can demonstrate their understanding and commitment to a specific programme are preferred.
- If you plan to apply to more than one programme, you should discuss your choices with us before you submit your application.
- Where possible, we may make an alternative programme offer if you have been unsuccessful in your chosen programme.



Student cohort

- Study alongside a diverse range of students who are passionate about combating climate change
- The mix of our students' various backgrounds enhances the interdisciplinarity of the programme and encourages new ideas and approaches that help make the programme engaging
- 401 applicants for 2025 entry
- 37 new students on programme in 2025/26 (36 FT and 1 PT)



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Scholarships and funding

- Featured funding
 - [ScottishPowerMaster Scholarships](#)
 - [Chevening Scholarships](#)
- School of GeoSciences scholarships
 - [See potential funding for GeoSciences students](#)
- You are encouraged to research the range of potential scholarships and other funding outside the University for which you may be eligible.
 - [Search for funding](#)



Next steps...

<https://edin.ac/student-chat-pg>



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Contact details for follow-up questions

- We apologise if we did not get through all of your questions in the time allotted for this session. If you have further questions that have not been answered, please email: futurestudents@ed.ac.uk
- Or, Dr Adam Hejnowicz: adam.hejnowicz@ed.ac.uk





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Thank you

Dr Adam Hejnowicz

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