

Programme Specification

Programme Title and Name of Award	FdSc Forestry		
Academic Level	5	Total Credits	240
Professional Body Accreditation / Qualification	This programme is accredited by the Institute of Chartered Foresters. On successful completion of this award, you will gain 5 qualifying points towards Professional Membership Entry (PME) of the Institute.		
Date of Professional Body Accreditation	22.01.2021	Accreditation Period	On going
UCAS Code	D503		
HECoS Code	Forestry and Arboriculture 100520		
Criteria for Admission to the Programme	<p>The University's standard criteria for admissions apply. Please refer to the Applicant Information pages of the University website for more information. For APL, please refer to the University website.</p> <p>Detailed criteria for admission to this programme can be found on the programme webpage: https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/forestry/</p>		
Teaching Institution	N/A		
Owning Department	Science, Natural Resources and Outdoor Studies (SNROS)		
Programme delivered in conjunction with	N/A		
Principal Mode of Delivery	Face to Face		
Pattern of Delivery	<p>Full Time</p> <p>This programme is also available on an infill and block delivery part-time basis.</p>		
Delivery Site(s)	Ambleside		
Programme Length	Full-time – 2 years		

	Part-time – standard registration period 3 -5 years (Maximum registration period 7 years)
Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR)	Upon successful completion of this programme, you may receive a Diploma Supplement/Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR).
Exit Awards	Cert HE Forestry
Period of Approval	1 August 2020 to 31 July 2026

Cumbria Graduate Attributes

Throughout your studies, you will be provided with the skills and knowledge relevant to the global workplace. All successful graduates of the University of Cumbria will be:

- Enquiring and open to change
- Self-reliant, adaptable and flexible
- Confident in your discipline as it develops and changes over time
- Capable of working across disciplines and working well with others
- Confident in your digital capabilities
- Able to manage your own professional and personal development
- A global citizen, socially responsible and aware of the potential contribution of your work to the cultural and economic wellbeing of the community and its impact on the environment
- A leader of people and of places
- Ambitious and proud

Programme Features

Our Forestry Foundation Degree allows you to develop the intellectual, practical, analytical, digital, team-working and self management skills (QAA 2016 - 5.6.1-5.6.7) required to be a competent Forest Supervisor. Sustainable forest management is based on three pillars; environmental sustainability, social acceptability and economic viability (QAA 2016 - 6.6.12a) and your degree provides a strong background in these themes and the interaction between them.

These three themes, are explored in the modules you will study. There are also modules designed to develop your professional skills and also those that cut across the three main themes. This is illustrated below:



Level 4	Woodland Ecology		Measuring Trees & Forests, utilisation and industry	Introduction to Forestry, Silviculture, Practical Forest skills	Forest Fundamentals
Level 5	Forest Health & Protection,	Forests & People,	Managing Forest Operations,	Forest policy	GIS, Forest Design Planning

Your studies begin with an induction week where you meet the students on your course and those on other forestry and conservation programmes. The first module, Introduction to Trees and Forests is delivered in a block over a week and a half to rapidly provide you with a background to forestry. The three themes of environmental, social and economic sustainability are addressed as follows:

Environmental: Your programme provides you with a strong background in ecology. The environmental theme of the programme starts with a introduction to woodland ecology, this provides the underpinning ecological theory for other modules, such as Silviculture and Forest Health and Protection.

Social: The social aspects of forestry have become increasingly important with greater consultation and participation in forest management decisions. The main social modules you will study are scheduled in your second year when you study Forest and People, but aspects of this are important to other modules such as Forest Policy.

Economic: 'A wood that pays is a wood that stays'. The economic viability of forestry and forestry as a profession is as important to sustainability as the ecological and social aspects. Your first year introduces you to the skills required to estimate the volume and value of commercial forest stands (Measuring Trees & Forests) and the knowledge of wood as a material and how it is processed into a range of products (Utilisation & Industry). In the second year the Managing Forest Operations module introduces you to the skills needed for organising and supervising forest operations, including harvesting.

In addition to the three underpinning themes, you will study cross-cutting and professional modules. These develop specific skills (e.g. GIS) or provide an integrated view of an aspect of forestry (Introduction to Forestry).

The culmination of your learning is the integrative module, Forest Design Plan. This module brings together the analysis and critical thinking skills you have developed during your foundation degree through a long-term plan for an area of forest.

Your foundation degree is 2 years full time study with work placement optional module. The FdSc. has a vocational focus and it is expected that as part of your course you will acquire practical experience in forestry, either through short term employment, a placement or through shorter periods of work experience. There are opportunities to undertake voluntary work, through links we have developed with local organisations and through activities organised by the Forestry Society. This work experience reinforces the professional skills that you will learn during the course and it is important you gain such experience to improve your chances of employment. The work experience takes place between the first and second year with a requirement of at least 150 hours.

Employability is also embedded in other aspects of the programme. There are sessions on employment skills in your Forestry Fundamentals module and these are reinforced in employability sessions for the work experience module and through support in personal tutorials. The National School of Forestry has been training foresters for over 50 years and we have excellent links with the

sector. Each year potential employers are invited to meet with our students and describe the type of work that graduates undertake in their organisation.

Your programme has been designed so that many of the learning and assessment activities mirror the tasks that you will need to undertake as a forest supervisor. As part of the professional focus, the content of your FdSc. has been shaped by formal and informal consultation with the sector. We believe that your FdSc meets the needs of the sector and our graduates are attractive potential employees. The success of this approach is demonstrated by high employability of graduates. The National School of Forestry has good links with the sector and your qualification attracts points towards you attaining full membership of the Institute of Chartered Foresters.

Your course incorporates a substantial field work element with related lectures, seminars and workshops. These may be of varied lengths from half to full day. There are also typically two, study tours during the course which may incur additional charges.

Aims of the Programme

The overall aims of the Programme are:

The aims of this programme are, with a view to future employability, to:

- Prepare graduates for work as professionals in the forestry sector
- Allow you to develop a critical awareness of forest supervision from a multidisciplinary perspective
- Enable you to critically evaluate and apply key concepts underpinning professional practice within the forestry sector
- Provide opportunity for development of relevant and appropriate skills that are requirement of graduates and prerequisite for continuing personal and professional development

The subject specific aims of the programme are that you will be able to:

- Understand the scientific and socio-economic principles underlying forestry – physical and biological processes, silvicultural, economic and business concepts and social factors
- Critically appraise the structure and behaviour of forest ecosystems - characteristics of the world's forests and components of physical environments
- Evaluate the functions and impacts of forests - multiple-benefits, forest product utilisation, effects on society and environment and the main features of policy.

Level Descriptors

Level Descriptors describe in general terms the expected outcomes you will achieve at each level of study as you progress through your programmes. They describe the relative demand, complexity, depth of learning and learner autonomy associated with a particular level of learning and achievement. The University's Level Descriptors are aligned to the national [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) (FHEQ) and are a key mechanism for ensuring the academic standards of the University's provision.

At Level 4: (Usually Year 1 undergraduate), you will be able to demonstrate that you have the ability:

- To apply a systematic approach to the acquisition of knowledge, underpinning concepts and principles and deploy a range of subject specific, cognitive and transferable skills.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving well defined problems and communicate outcomes in a structured and clear manner.
- Identify and discuss the relationship between personal and work place experience and findings from books and journals and other data drawn from the field of study.

At Level 5: (Usually Year 2 undergraduate), you will be able to demonstrate that you have the ability:

- To apply and evaluate key concepts and theories within and outside the context in which they were first studied.
- Select appropriately from and deploy a range of subject-specific, cognitive and transferable skills and problem solving strategies to problems in the field of study and in the generation of ideas effectively communicate information and arguments in a variety of forms.
- Accept responsibility for determining and achieving personal outcomes.
- Reflect on personal and work place experience in the light of recent scholarship and current statutory regulations.

Programme Outcomes – Knowledge and Understanding

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the following:

After 120 credits of study (Cert HE) you will be able to:

- K1.** Explain in general the nature of forestry in the UK and globally
- K2.** Describe the important management aspects of a woodland
- K3.** Understand the properties of wood as a material and its potential uses
- K4.** Measure and estimate the volume of trees and stands
- K5.** Select the correct tool for forestry practical skills and prepare a risk assessment
- K6.** Explain the ecological principles behind natural resource management.

After 240 credits of study (FdSc) you will be able to:

- K7.** Describe critically the development of forest policy in the UK and the domestic and international influences.
- K8.** Manage and plan routine forest operations, including budgets.
- K9.** Understand the threats to forests and describe how they can be mitigated.
- K10.** Use GIS to map, describe and analyse forest information.
- K 11.** Understand the value of the forest environment to people.

Programme Outcomes – Skills and other Attributes (including Employability Skills)

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the following:

Programme skills outcomes at your different levels of study are described below:

After 120 credits of study (CertHE) you will be able to:

- S1.** Collect, summarise, analyse and present basic forestry information derived from the forest and online
- S2.** Use specialised forestry equipment to assess the volume and value of forest stands.
- S3.** Write a scientific report, adopting an appropriate structure and using an accepted system of referencing.
- S4.** Use a range of forestry tools safely
- S5.** Undertake ecological field data collection
- S6.** Keep a notebook of field activities
- S7.** Produce documents required for a job application, such as a CV and cover letter
- S8.** Create and deliver a professional presentation

After 240 credits of study (FdSc) you will be able to:

- S9.** Describe a forest and its potential management through GIS
- S10.** Plan and collect, analyse and present results from your own research study
- S11.** Organise, supervise and prepare appropriate records/ documentation for forest operations.
- S12.** Use participative and collaborative methods to inform forest planning
- S13.** Conduct a forest health survey of a forest area.

External and Internal Reference Points

The following Subject Benchmark Statements and other external and internal reference points have been used to inform the Programme Outcomes:

There are two main benchmark statements which relate to this programme. The first is the QAA 2016 Subject Benchmark Statement: Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Sciences. The second is the ICF accreditation criteria as these provide a measure of quality of the course within the forestry profession. These have been used as guidance when designing this programme of study. In addition, consideration of the proposals in the recent DEFRA (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment' have been considered when devising the content of your programme.

The programme has also been developed in reference to the following internal documents:

- University Academic Strategy 2014-20;
- Departmental Business Plan for Science, Natural Resources and Outdoor Studies;
- Departmental response to Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy 2014-17
- [UoC Strategic Plan](#)
- [UoC Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes](#)

Graduate Prospects

Your course is designed to provide you with the skills and knowledge that will enable you to be an effective forest supervisor. Our graduates are highly successful in finding forestry employment as managers or supervisors.

The forestry sector is creating many opportunities for those starting their career currently. The issue of succession planning is recognised by forestry organisations and the prospects of graduate employment in the forestry sector are good. Forestry employers, such as Tillhill Forestry, Scottish Woodlands and Forestry Commission England are offering graduate schemes, while others are offering sandwich year placements. Many of these opportunities have led to full-time employment for our students.

Your Foundation Degree also provides you with the grades for further studies through the BSc (Hons) Forestry (Top-Up), this will allow you to gain a recognised level 6 qualification.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies employed to enable the Programme Outcomes to be Achieved and Demonstrated

As a student at the University of Cumbria, you are part of an inclusive learning community that recognises diversity. You will have opportunities to learn by interacting with others in a collegiate, facilitative and dynamic learning environment. Teaching, assessment and student support will allow equal and equitable opportunities for you to optimise your potential and develop autonomy.

We seek to create a stimulating and innovative community of learning, whether encountered on campus or at a distance and whilst gaining experience in the workplace. Facilitated by our expert practitioner staff, you will experience a learning environment that is well equipped, flexible, and stimulating.

Learning and Teaching

The University's Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy has 4 themes; (1) Excellence in Learning, Teaching and Assessment, (2) Responsive Learner Support (3) Employability & Graduateness and (4) Developing Digital Capabilities of Students & Staff. The approaches adopted in your programme reflect these. Above all, learning, teaching and assessment are designed to engage you in experiences that are enriching, enjoyable and intellectually stimulating.

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used in your course to match the way that you learn. Delivery of your course is through practical sessions in the forest and in the classroom, through lectures and seminars and through field visits. The location of the campus at Ambleside allows us to access a large area of woodland, managed for many different objectives. The teaching facilities at the Ambleside campus are of a good standard and you have access to specialised teaching rooms such as a computer suite and laboratories.

While most assessment is individual, there are opportunities for group-working, particularly in outdoor practical sessions where data is collected. This will help you develop collaborative and organisational skills ready for the workplace. You are encouraged to reflect on your skills development and relate it to those required in the workplace. Most foresters work in small teams and so developing social, collaborative and organisational skills is important.

In addition to face-to-face learning you will also have access to Blackboard, our virtual learning environment. The material on this platform will support and enrich your learning experience, through provision of material used in classes but also additional material such as further reading, videos and tasks.

You will be supported in the progressive acquisition of subject knowledge and skills, gradually advancing towards more independent learning whilst developing a reflective approach to personal progress. This means many of the skills you learn are transferable across modules and build up through the levels. For example, in Level 4 we explore collection of basic forest information and its presentation, skills which are then developed in modules at Level 5, such as Managing Forest

Operations and GIS and which in turn are used in the later modules such as the Forest Design Plan. At each level your analytical and planning skills are developed further.

This programme is focused on providing you with the skills and knowledge to become a competent forest supervisor. Employability is therefore an important aim of the programme. Many of the assignments are designed to reflect the skills that would be required in the workplace and which involve collection of information, analysis and presentation of results. Another important element is using forest information to develop practical plans for managing woodlands.

An important option in the programme is the work experience. This involves working for a minimum of 150 hours in a role which is primarily focused on forestry and woodland work. Students can be selected on a competitive basis and so it is important that you develop academic and practical skills and gain some experience of the sector.

During your studies you will develop your digital skill and competency. In first year, Forestry Fundamentals will introduce you to using Excel to summarise and process forestry information and will provide you with basic map making skills using GIS. A full module in GIS in your second year provides you with the basic skills needed for forest planning. Through your assignments you will learn to use MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint in an effective manner.

Assessment

Our assessment strategy has also been developed to be in line with the University's Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy 2017-20.

The main drivers of this strategy are to:

- Provide innovative, challenging and stimulating assessment which will enable you to develop the knowledge and professional skills required for employment.
- Be student-centred, flexible and modern in both content and approach.
- Be fully supported by and integrated with technological approaches such as the Blackboard virtual learning environment (VLE).
- Impart academic rigour to the teaching and learning processes.
- Support the development of independence, autonomy and self-reflection.
- Support learners' needs at different stages of development.

As a consequence, we employ a wide range of different assessment methods appropriate to the needs of the module and its content. The range of assessment we employ includes:

- fieldwork reports
- computer-based assessments
- problem solving exercises (both of a practical and written format)
- devising plans, based on the collection and analysis of information
- oral, audio-visual and poster presentations
- group work
- unseen examinations
- open book examinations

Personal development and reflective practice will take place throughout the programme and will be implemented through the wide range of activities as well as via our structured personal tutorial process (see below).

Student Support

We provide responsive learner support that promotes student success. Our approach to learner support is designed to support achievement and progression, champion inclusivity and accessibility, prepare you for opportunities beyond study, and promote independence and resilience, enabling you to achieve your potential.

As a student of the University of Cumbria, you will be taught by academics and expert practitioners who facilitate learning through structured inquiry. You will be provided with access to high quality academic resources through physical and digital libraries and will be supported to develop skills that enable you to become a critical, reflective, discerning and independent learner and researcher.

Induction

You will have an exciting and stimulating induction week. This is designed to introduce you to your classmates, to the facilities and services offered by the university and to your programme of study. Normally there are two full-day outings. The first combines all forestry and conservation programmes and allows you to meet your classmates and other students you will study with. The second is normally for forestry students only and has a more woodland or forestry focus. There are also several generic sessions, such as library and information services, financial and mental health services, a laboratory induction and an introduction to the equipment stores.

Personal Tutoring

You will also be allocated a Personal Tutor. Your Personal Tutor will be proactively involved in the delivery of your programme and will have contact with you throughout your time at the University. They will support your learning and development, including through tutorials, Progress Reviews and other support as outlined in the Personal Tutoring Policy. In the Forestry, Conservation and Geography group we have a structured approach to personal tutorials focused on raising your academic achievement and employability.

Personal Development Planning

The range of personal and employment skills that are developed through the modules in your programme are described in the following two tables. For several modules, team working skills are employed for aspects such as data collection. This is important as most forestry jobs involve working in small teams. You will be required to organise yourself and others and plan your activities. Examples of modules using group data collection are the Measuring Trees and Forests, Silviculture, Woodland Ecology and Design Plan.

	Practical skills	Technical skills	Knowledge transfer skills	IT Skills	Numeracy skills	Communication skills	Leadership skills	Risk management skills	Project management skills	Negotiation skills
Introduction to Managing Trees, Woods and Forests		X	X							
Measuring Trees and Forests	X	X		X	X			X		
Silviculture	X	X	X	X	X	X				

Woodland Ecology	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
Wood utilisation and processing		X	X		X	X			X	
Forestry fundamentals	X		X	X		X				
Practical Forest Skills	X					X	X	X		X

	Practical skills	Technical skills	Knowledge transfer skills	IT Skills	Numeracy skills	Communication skills	Leadership skills	Risk management skills	Project management skills	Negotiation skills
GIS	X	X		X	X	X				
Managing forest operations	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Forest Policy and Governance		X				X				
Forest Health and Protection	X	X	X			X		X		
People & Forests	X		X		X	X		X	X	X
Design Plan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Work Experience	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

These skills, identified by the sector also relate to the Cumbria Graduate Attributes:

	Practical skills	Technical skills	Knowledge transfer skills	IT Skills	Numeracy skills	Communication skills	Leadership skills	Risk management	Project management	Negotiation skills
Enquiring and open to change							X			X
Self-reliant, adaptable and flexible							X	X		X
Confident in your discipline as it develops and changes over time	X	X	X							
Capable of working across disciplines and working well with others			X			X		X		X
Confident in your digital capabilities		X								
Able to manage your own professional and personal development	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
A global citizen, socially responsible aware of your potential contribution to wellbeing of the community and impact on the environment					X	X	X			
A leader of people and of places							X			
Ambitious and proud							X			

Library and Academic Support (based in Information Services)

Module leaders will collaborate with Library and Academic Advisors to ensure that your reading and resource lists are current and items are available via the library discovery tool OneSearch. In order to maximise access, availability and usefulness, ebooks and electronic journal titles will, in most cases, be prioritised. You can access a wide range of electronic and print content using [OneSearch](#) and you can find out more about key texts, databases and journals for your subject by accessing the library's [subject resources webpages](#). Where appropriate, module reading and resource lists will be made available to you electronically using the University's [online reading and resource list system](#).

The [Skills@Cumbria](#) service can help support your academic skills and success throughout your programme. The service is delivered by a team of professional Library and Academic Advisors. It includes a suite of [online self-help resources](#) accessible 24/7 via the University's website and Blackboard site. It also provides group and individual advice and guidance accessible through and alongside your course and by different means such as face to face, email or virtual. Visit [skills@cumbria](#) for more details.

IT and Technical Support

Technology is an invaluable asset when it comes to studying, so it's important you know how to make the most out of the excellent [facilities](#) we have available. Our aim is to ensure you can access university electronic resources from anywhere or any device, whether on or off campus. The [Student Hub](#) is your one-stop gateway to all university systems, Outlook email, and OneDrive.

Whether you consider yourself a computer expert or you're not confident about your IT skills, we're always around to ensure you get the level of support you need. We have a wealth of information and support available on the [website](#) and have a dedicated IT Service Desk where you can talk to someone by phone or log your question online from anywhere, at any time.

Student Support Services

Student Support Services offer a wide range of support, including: careers and employability, financial help, counselling, health and wellbeing and support for disabled students and those with specific learning requirements. We also offer mentoring by trained students which you can request at any point during your studies. We know that you want to get the most out of your programme, make the best use of your time and find or continue in the career you always dreamed of. Access university support and facilities easily and quickly via the [website](#) and/or via the Student Services guidance tile on the [Student Hub](#).

In addition to the range of guidance above, you have the opportunity to further develop your personal, academic and professional skills by taking part in a number of initiatives coordinated and delivered by professional services advisers:

Headstart

Head Start is a self-learning pre-entry module that is completed online and at your own pace. The module gives new undergraduate students an opportunity to prepare for their transition into university and to start to develop the academic skills that will help them become successful students.

All UG students are given the opportunity to register and complete Head Start prior to entry on their main programme of study. If you haven't been able to complete Head Start before starting your course, you can access the module via Blackboard by selecting the Skills@Cumbria tab and then the Head Start tile. Learning at university, academic writing and referencing are the key topics introduced in the module and previous students have told us how useful they have found the online resources and activities.

Head Start Plus

Head Start Plus is also an online skills development course, designed to support students who are about or who have just started study at level 5 or 6 (2nd and 3rd year undergraduate). This course is particularly recommended to students who may not have studied at HE level for some time or who are transitioning into the higher HE levels. The course provides a useful refresh on academic skills and practice and an insight into the expectations of tutors at those levels.

This course is free and available via the Open Education Platform powered by Blackboard. To access the course, follow the link to <https://openeducation.blackboard.com/cumbria> and set-up a free account with Open Education. Once logged on, select the course free of charge and work through it at your own pace.

Peer Mentoring @ Cumbria

You will be allocated a student Mentor who will be in touch to offer a non-judgemental and friendly hand and to help with various aspects of your student experience, from making friends to settling in, to helping you understand the expectations of academic study and dealing with assessment worries.

Mature Students' Events

Whether it is a coffee morning, lunchtime gathering or a social event, there are events happening throughout the year to link you up with other mature students who will also be juggling a number of commitments alongside their studies.

Help is at Hand Events

Keep a look out for these interactive events on campus around October and January. You are encouraged to attend these as they showcase the range of support available here and give you the opportunity to talk to people from Finance, Accommodation, the Students' Union, the Wellbeing and Disability Team etc.

Career Ahead+

Career Ahead+ is the University of Cumbria's Employability Award. Completing Career Ahead+ will help you recognise and develop your skills, providing a greater opportunity for you to get the job you want when you graduate. The award is based on what employers look for in an ideal candidate, in relation to skills, knowledge and experience. You will be supported with career direction, gaining experience, and providing all the skills needed to complete the perfect application and be successful in that all important job interview. Contact careerahead@cumbria.ac.uk or visit www.cumbria.ac.uk/careerahead for more information.

Programme Curriculum Map					
Academic Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Module Status*	Programme Outcomes achieved
4	HSOF4101	Introduction to Managing Trees, Woods and Forests	10	Compulsory	K1, K2, K11, S3
4	HSOF4102	Measuring Trees and Forests	20	Compulsory	K4, S2, S3
4	HSOF4103	Silviculture	20	Compulsory	K2, K6, S3, S6
4	HSOF4110	Woodland Ecology	20	Compulsory	K6, S6
4	HSOF4109	Wood Utilisation and Processing	20	Compulsory	K3, K11, S3
4	HSOF4100	Forestry Fundamentals	10	Compulsory	K2, S1, S3, S7, S8
4	HSOF4107	Practical Forestry Skills	20	Compulsory	K5, S4, S6
5	HSOF5102	Geographic Information Systems	20	Compulsory	K10, S9
5	HSOF5103	Forest Design and Planning	20	Compulsory	K11, K13, S1, S2, S9, S12, S15
5	HSOF5107	Managing Forest Operations	20	Compulsory	K8, S9, S2, S3, S9, S11
5	HSOF5104	Forest Policy and Governance	20	Compulsory	K7, S3
5	HSOF5105	Forest Health and Protection	20	Compulsory	K9, S3, S6, S13
5	HSOF5108	People and Forests	20	Optional	K11, S3, S12
5	HSOF5109	Work Experience	20	Optional	
Notes					

This programme operates in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes.

The forestry programmes use two 10 credit modules at the start of your studies. Forest Fundamentals and Introduction to Trees & Forests. Forest Fundamentals comprises an introduction with technical information on forestry including professional academic skills relevant to the sector along with report writing and mapping skills. The Introduction to Trees and Forests module is delivered as a block to both full and part time students over one week, getting you intensively engaged in the subject at the start of your degree.

Options

Optional modules may be subject to availability and viability. Options are chosen in the period March to May of the preceding year from when you wish to take them. Information is sent electronically to students via ICON for registration on modules for the forthcoming year. Around the same time, the programme leader will organise a seminar where module tutors will explain a little bit about the essential features and assessment of their module. Copies of the MDFs related to the modules will be available on the programme blackboard site for you to peruse.

In first year (level 4) all modules are compulsory

In second year (level 5) you will select one option (20 credits) from those that are available. If we have insufficient numbers of students interested in an optional module in any given academic year, this may not be offered. If an optional module will not be running, we will advise you as soon as possible and help you choose an alternative module. Level 5 optional modules are Work Experience and Forests and People.

Pre requisites

Maths GCSE GRADE C/4

*** Key to Module Status**

Core Modules	Must be taken and must be successfully passed
Compulsory Modules	Must be taken although it may possible to condone/compensate as a marginal fail (within the limits set out in the Academic Regulations and provided that all core or pass/fail elements of module assessment have been passed)
Optional Modules	Are a set of modules from which you will be required to choose a set number to study. Once chosen, it may possible to condone/compensate as a marginal fail (within the limits set out in the Academic Regulations and provided that all core or pass/fail elements of module assessment have been passed)
Qualificatory Units	These are non- credit-bearing pass/fail components that are used to satisfy relevant professional, statutory or regulatory body professional requirements that are associated with the programme

Programme Delivery Structure: Full Time				
Module Code	Module Title	Delivery Pattern	Method(s) of Assessment	Approximate Assessment Deadline
		Autumn Semester (1) / Spring Semester (2) / Extended Spring Semester / Year-Long		
HSOF4101	Introduction to Managing Trees, Woods and Forests	Autumn	Report (50%) Practical tests (50%)	Mid Semester End Semester
HSOF4102	Measuring Trees and Forests	Autumn	Report (50%) Written Exam (50%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF4103	Silviculture	Spring	Report (70%) Report (30%)	Mid Semester End Semester
HSOF4110	Woodland Ecology	Spring	Written assignment (60%) Exam (40%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF4109	Wood Utilisation & Processing	Spring	Set exercise (60%) Report (40%)	End Semester Mid Semester
HSOF4100	Forestry Fundamentals	Autumn	Report (100%)	End Semester
HSOF4107	Practical Forestry Skills	Autumn	Portfolio (100%)	End Semester
Students exiting at this point with 120 credits would receive a CertHE Forestry				
HSOF5109	Work Experience	Year Long	Portfolio (50%) Work Experience Record (50%)	End Semester 2 End Semester 2

HSOF5102	Geographic Information Systems	Autumn	Competence portfolio (70%) Exam (30%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF5107	Managing Forest Operations	Autumn	Set exercise (70%) Report (30%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF5104	Forest Policy and Governance	Year long	Written assignment (75%) Written assignment (25%)	End Semester 1 End Semester 2
HSOF5105	Forest Health and Protection	Spring	Report (70%) Oral Presentation (30%)	End Semester Mid Semester
HSOF5108	People and Forests	Spring	Written assignment (80%) Oral presentation (20%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF5103	Forest Design and Planning	Spring	Written Report (70%) Oral Presentation (30%)	End Semester End Semester
Students exiting at this point with 240 credits would receive a FdSc Forestry				

Programme Delivery Structure: Part time					
Module Code	Year	Module Title	Delivery Pattern	Method(s) of Assessment	Approximate Assessment Deadline
			Autumn Semester (1) / Spring Semester (2) / Extended Spring Semester / Year-Long		

HSOF4101	1	Introduction to Managing Trees, Woods and Forests	Autumn	Report (50%) Practical tests (50%)	Mid Semester End Semester
HSOF4100	1	Forestry Fundamentals	Autumn	Report (100%)	End Semester
HSOF4102	1	Measuring Trees and Forests	Spring	Report (50%) Written Exam (50%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF4103	1	Silviculture	Extended Spring	Report (70%) Report (30%)	Early Semester Early Semester
HSOF4110	2	Woodland Ecology	Autumn	Written assignment (60%) Exam (40%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF4107	2	Practical Forestry Skills	Autumn	Portfolio (100%)	Mid Semester
HSOF4109	2	Wood Utilisation and Processing	Extended Spring	Set Exercise (60%) Report (40%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF5109	2	Work Experience	Year Long	Report (50%) Work Experience Record (50%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF5102	2	Geographic Information Systems	Autumn	Competence portfolio (70%) Exam (30%)	Early Semester Early Semester
HSOF5107	3	Managing Forest Operations	Autumn	Set exercise (70%) Report (30%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF5104	3	Forest Policy and Governance	Year long	Written assignment (75%)	End Semester

				Written assignment (25%)	End Semester
HSOF5105	3	Forest Health and Protection	Extended Spring	Report (70%) Oral Presentation (30%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF5108	3	People and Forests (Optional)	Autumn	Written assignment (60%) Oral presentation (40%)	Early Semester Early Semester
HSOF5103	3	Forest Design and Planning (Optional)	Autumn	Written Assignment (70%) Oral Presentation (30%)	Early Semester

Methods for Evaluating and Improving the Quality and Standards of Learning

Mechanisms used for the Review and Evaluation of the Curriculum and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module Evaluation • Programme Validation and Periodic Review • Annual Monitoring • Peer Review of Teaching • External Examiner Reports
Mechanisms used for gaining and responding to feedback on the quality of teaching and the learning experience – gained from: Students, graduates, employers, placement and work-based learning providers, other stakeholders, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Student Forum • Module Evaluation Forms • Programme Evaluation: National Student Survey, UK Engagement Survey • Module/Programme/Personal tutorials • Meetings with External Examiners • Discussions with employers about student preparedness and performance during placements • Information gained through staff engagement with the sector and through conversations with recent graduates.

Date of Programme Specification Production:	January 2019
Date Programme Specification was last updated:	December 2021

For further information about this programme, refer to the programme page on the University website

The following information has implications for potential international applicants who require a Tier 4 visa to study in the UK

Is the placement requirement more than 50% of the programme?	No
If yes, what % of the programme is the placement requirement?	
If yes, is the amount of placement a statutory requirement to meet Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) or Department of Education requirements?	