Programme Specification

Environmental Health [Frenchay]

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Section 1: Key Programme Details

Part A: Programme Information

Programme title: Environmental Health [Frenchay]

Highest award: MSc Environmental Health

Interim award: PGCert Environmental Health Studies

Interim award: PGDip Environmental Health Studies

Awarding institution: UWE Bristol

Teaching institutions: UWE Bristol

Study abroad: No

Year abroad: No

Sandwich year: No

Credit recognition: No

School responsible for the programme: CHSS School of Health and Social Wellbeing, College of Health, Science & Society

Professional, statutory or regulatory bodies:

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH)

Institution of Occupational Safety and Heath (IOSH)

Modes of delivery: Full-time, Part-time

Entry requirements: For the current entry requirements see the UWE public website.

For implementation from: 01 September 2024

Programme code: B90032

Section 2: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Part A: Programme Overview, Aims and Learning Outcomes

Overview: The campus based MSc Environmental Health programme teaches the underpinning knowledge, skills and behaviours to enable undergraduates to transition into a career in Environmental Health. The programme is aligned to the required standards of The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) Professional Standards Framework, and will enable graduates to progress to the CIEH Chartered Environmental Health Practitioner Programme.
The programme prepares graduates for employment in Environmental Health in either the public, private or third sectors. Critical and supplementary to core knowledge are the framework skills that will enable key graduates' attributes to prepare them for the world of Environmental Health work and beyond.

Features of the programme: The programme is professionally accredited by the CIEH. The programme thus has the professional recognition often required by Environmental Health employers, particularly those in the public sector.

Students may elect to become members of the CIEH at any time at an appropriate grade. The cost of membership is available online at: https://www.cieh.org/membership/. Upon completion of the accredited programme students will be entitled to embark upon the Chartered Environmental Health Practitioner Programme with CIEH, and so work towards Chartered status. They can also progress onto the CIEH Advanced Professional Certificate in Food Hygiene Standards and Control, as required by the Food Standards Agency to demonstrate competency as a Food Inspector.

The delivery of the programme will involve several local private and public sector employers. The programme has excellent relationships with local employers who often experience opportunities or visit UWE to run workshops or take guest lectures.

The programme evidences excellent employability in an environmental health profession, with some students securing employment during their studies.

Educational Aims: Environmental Health Practitioners are primary preventers of ill health who work across a range of the social determinants of health through partnerships or regulatory frameworks. They ensure physiological and psychological needs are met through interventions that seek to reduce harm and change behaviour at the individual and population health level. To enable students to develop these Environmental Health Practitioner skills the overall educational aims are:

To enable students to fulfil the academic and professional requirements of the CIEH whilst recognising the value of the holistic practitioner working in a variety of disciplines and settings.
To equip students to investigate, assess and intervene appropriately based on risks presented both to the public's health and the environment, locally, nationally and internationally.
To equip students to evaluate the relationship between human activities, environmental systems and the consequent health outcomes.
To contextualise the role of environmental health in addressing the wider determinants of health and be able to intervene to reduce health inequalities.
To prepare students to assume a role within a multidisciplinary workforce whilst upholding the values of Environmental Health Practice.
To teach students the underlying principles required in the practice of Environmental Health to enable graduates to be confident in their abilities and have the capacity to adapt.

Programme Learning Outcomes:
On successful completion of this programme graduates will achieve the following learning outcomes.

Programme Learning Outcomes

PO1. Critically apply the guiding principles and competencies of professionalism in practice in accordance with relevant professional standards.

PO2. Apply complex problem solving skills and communicate sensitively and effectively with a variety of stakeholders

PO3. Design and critique interventions that seek sustainable environmental and health outcomes through preventative partnerships or regulation.

PO4. Effectively manage risk through collaboration and use of multiple regulatory frameworks to prevent ill health and reduce health inequalities.

PO5. Critically evaluate theories, concepts and perspectives to assess and appraise wider Public and Environmental Health interventions

Assessment strategy: The range of assessments has been developed to capture generic academic and specific knowledge and skills relevant to Environmental Health employment, professional development and progression, and alignment with nationally accredited professional body recognition and to ensure relevance to professional practice. A variety of formats is used to test learning outcomes and provide students with different learning preferences and abilities the opportunity to succeed, hence a varied and imaginative assessment strategy reflecting practice-based competencies.

The team have consulted with students, module leaders and contributors both in UWE and in practice, and reviewed student feedback from modules, Postgraduate Taught Experience Surveys and Student Rep Staff Forums to ensure alignment with current practice expectations from employers. Care has been exercised in relation to assessment load, timing and weighting across the programme.
Effective formative assessment supports students in learning and preparation for summative assessment. Some modules include formative assessment points, while others provide self-assessment exercises via the VLE. Feedback is provided by tutors and through pre-set VLE activities and technologies.

Summative assessments are marked and moderated against relevant criteria, with personalised feedback available online throughout the programme. Recorded feedback (e.g. video, podcasts, written templates) is accessible and can support personal tutor sessions or additional study skills and the development of reflective practice.
Underpinning concepts such as risk assessment and reflection are developed through assessments and feed into professional practice modules to support their

application in practice contexts. These skills are applied through practice-based assessments, reflective portfolios/critiques, and the Investigative professional practice module. Presentation skills develop from individual or paired activities into group-based assessments.

Professional Examination
A Professional Food Practical Exam in food Inspection at the point of retail sale is included in the programme. All students must attend onsite for this examination, including a practical pre-course of a minimum of two days. Dates will be made available for the course and Exam when applying for the programme. This examination is an essential element in achieving the Chartered Environmental Health accredited degree which forms part of the process of progressing on to the CIEH Chartered Programme or the CIEH Advanced Professional certificate in Food Hygiene Standards and Control, as required by the Food Standards Agency to demonstrate competency as a food Inspector. This is a graded assesment and a numerical mark will be awarded.

Student support: Students are supported through field trips that enhance learning by providing real-world context to their studies. These include visits to a range of relevant sites such as ports (including Avonmouth Port), port health and border inspection facilities, local incineration plants, outdoor recreational heritage/conservation spaces, and eco-build housing developments.
Transport is provided via a minibus to ensure accessibility for all students, particularly those without access to a car. These visits are designed to contextualise the role of the environmental health practitioner, offering hands-on, experiential learning opportunities. Students are able to engage directly with professionals, residents, and stakeholders, helping to build understanding, confidence, and insight—particularly for those without prior exposure to the profession or relevant practice connections.

In addition, a range of targeted student support and special opportunities are provided to address inequalities in access to professional experience. Students without existing employer links are offered short-term work experience or job-

shadowing placements (typically two to three days) with local authority environmental health teams in accessible locations such as Bath and Bristol. A matching service is also available to connect students with local authorities and EH bodies for research opportunities, including service evaluations and stakeholder or customer journey analysis, enabling students to develop professional networks and applied research skills. Further support is provided through access to continuing professional development (CPD) events delivered in partnership with local authorities, covering areas such as housing law, regulation, and workforce development. All opportunities—including field trips, placements, research activities, and CPD events—are offered at no cost to students. Academic support is also embedded through coordinated supervision, personal tutors, and module leaders, ensuring students receive consistent guidance throughout their studies.

Part B: Programme Structure

Year 1

Full time students must take 180 credits from the modules in Year 1.
Part time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Year 1.

Interim award:

60 Credits: PG Cert Environmental Health Studies
PGCert Environmental Health Studies is awarded on satisfactory completion of a total of 60 credits from any of the modules listed. This interim award is not accredited by the CIEH.

120 Credits: PG Dip Environmental Health Studies
PGDip Environmental Health Studies is awarded on satisfactory completion of 120 credits from any of the modules listed. This interim award is not accredited by the CIEH. Individual application may be made to CIEH to accept this interim award for a student's professional registration, where evidence is submitted by the student of completing a suitable environmental health research project in an alternative degree programme. This is subject to CIEH decision.

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Full Time)

Full time students must take 180 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Full Time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZVYXH-30-M	Environmental Health Concepts and Practice 2026-27	30
UZVYXJ-30-M	Professional and Investigative Practice 2026-27	30
UZVRTP-15-M	Environmental Protection and Sustainability 2026-27	15
UZVSKQ-15-M	Food Safety in Environmental Health Practice 2026-27	15
UZVRTK-15-M	Health and Safety Management 2026-27	15
UZVRTJ-15-M	Housing and Healthy Neighbourhoods 2026-27	15
UZVYNC-15-M	Research Methods 2026-27	15
UZVRTM-45-M	Research Project 2026-27	45

Year 1 Compulsory Modules (Part Time)
Part time students must take 60 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part Time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZVYXH-30-M	Environmental Health Concepts and Practice 2026-27	30
UZVSKQ-15-M	Food Safety in Environmental Health Practice 2026-27	15
UZVRTK-15-M	Health and Safety Management 2026-27	15

Year 2
Part time students must take 120 credits from the compulsory modules in Year 2.

Interim award:

120 Credits: PG Dip Environmental Health Studies
PGDip Environmental Health Studies is awarded on satisfactory completion of 120 credits from any of the modules listed. This interim award is not accredited by the CIEH. Individual application may be made to CIEH to accept this interim award for a student's professional registration, where evidence is submitted by the student of completing a suitable environmental health research project in an alternative degree programme. This is subject to CIEH decision.

Year 2 Compulsory Modules (Part Time)
Part time students must take 120 credits from the modules in Compulsory Modules (Part Time).

Module Code	Module Title	Credit
UZVYXJ-30-M	Professional and Investigative Practice 2027-28	30
UZVYNC-15-M	Research Methods 2027-28	15
UZVRTP-15-M	Environmental Protection and Sustainability 2027-28	15
UZVRTJ-15-M	Housing and Healthy Neighbourhoods 2027-28	15
UZVRTM-45-M	Research Project 2027-28	45

Part C: Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR) Synopsis

This programme is accredited and aligned to the required standards of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) Professional Standards Framework, and will enable graduates to progress to the CIEH Chartered Environmental Health Practitioner Programme.

Skills developed will enable successful graduates to work in the public, private and third sector as an Environmental Health Practitioner (EHP). Graduates develop both professional practice skills and a wider framework of transferable skills.

The programme recruits undergraduates from a range of professional backgrounds and has an excellent track record for employability and student experience.

Part D: External Reference Points and Benchmarks

The programme complies with the CIEH Professional Standards Framework. This requires that specified professional competencies and knowledge areas are included in the programme and all of these have been accommodated (see the attached mapping document).

The programme complies with the REHIS Core Curriculum for BSc (Hons) Environmental Health and MSc Environmental Health degree courses.

This programme reflects the benchmark standards of the Quality Assurance Agency for UK Higher Education (QAA) Subject Benchmark Statements for Health Studies (2019), Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Sciences (2019), Earth Sciences, Environmental Sciences and Environmental Studies (2019), Land, Construction, Real Estate and Surveying (2019).

Furthermore, the programme is designed to meet the academic standards and quality for UK higher education (QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education)

Part E: Regulations

In line with the requirements of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, the maximum study period for the part-time programme is seven years to safeguard continuing currency of knowledge and its application in a professional context. Any progression beyond seven years must be approved through a UWE examination board.