

FAQs

Environment, Sustainability and
Climate | Diploma/Certificate

How do I apply for the Course?

The application period will open each year between the months of May and June for the following academic year, which would start in September.

To apply for the course, navigate to <https://ucc.elluciancrmrecruit.com/Apply>. Full instructions in pdf format will be available here. Make sure to select option 4 (Start a new Adult & Continuing Education Application) when you start the application.

Prepare a copy of your passport/birth certificate/driving license to upload as proof of identity, as well as a passport-size photograph (for your student card). If English is not your first language, you will need to upload an official English certificate. You can consult the admitted exams and punctuation in the following link: [UG English Language Entry Requirements | UCC | University College Cork | Ireland](#). If you don't have a certificate but you have been in an English speaking country for long, please, contact the course coordinator.

Please note, 50% of the fees are required to complete your application.

What does it cost?

Each academic year costs €1,750, which can be paid in two instalments. For more information about when to pay go to: [Ace Finance | University College Cork](#)

If your organisation or employer is funding your course, you will need to complete a Sponsorship form, which is available at [Ace Finance | University College Cork](#). Please, read the information provided in that section carefully.

Can I apply for this course through Springboard+?

Yes, you can. Information about eligibility and how to apply can be found here: [Springboard + | University College Cork](#). Please note, the Springboard application and the UCC application are two different processes and you must complete both following the steps and deadlines in the Springboard website and the UCC application portal (<https://ucc.elluciancrmrecruit.com/Apply>).

Can I do the Certificate (one year only) in Environment, Sustainability and Climate?

Unfortunately, only Springboard students have the option to opt out after the first year with a Certificate. The rest of the students must complete both years towards the completion of the Diploma.

Also note, Springboard funded students cannot defer. They only have the withdrawal option. If a Springboard student wants to defer, they can resume their studies but on a fee-paying basis and they would have to complete the two full years (Diploma).

Successful Springboard students can progress to the second year if successful to obtain the Diploma but on a fee-paying basis for that second year.

What job opportunities arise from completing the course?

Graduates of this course have found employment in Local Authorities, Environmental, Health and Safety positions, the pharma-chem sector, “green teams” and sustainability teams in many sectors.

Each May a session is held where a member of the team will present the most up-to-date information on further education and jobs in the industry.

What can I study after the Diploma?

Many students have continued their studies in specialised areas such as Planning and Development, Environmental Science/Studies, Environmental Management and Protection, and Government Policy.

What topics will I be studying?

Today's world is one which is rapidly changing: global warming and the related environmental and social issues raise serious concerns for the welfare of our current and future generations. Such changing developments requires business to be responsive, agile and capable of developing new approaches and solutions to address these key issues in order for their businesses to remain sustainable. The Diploma in Environment, Sustainability and Climate will introduce students to key theories and skills related to the environmental and related sustainable and societal issues within their own organisations. Environmental issues such as climate change, sustainable development and planning, use and misuse of natural resources, environmental conditions and the protection of human health are now high on the agenda of all government departments, resulting in more stringent regulations and standards. This in turn has created a greater need for an environmentally aware, knowledgeable and appropriately trained workforce.

When will I have to attend lectures?

Lectures will be delivered using a blended online approach with pre-recorded material released on a weekly basis prior to a live interactive discussion class with the subject lecturer on Thursday evenings from 7pm to 8pm. Lectures can be viewed at any time, from anywhere, and as often as desired. Detailed lecture notes will accompany each lecture as well as recommended reading. First year students will attend an in-person fieldtrip in semester one. We aim to have an on-campus workshop in semester 2 in both year 1 and year 2.

It is expected that you manage and allocate time to course content each week. Students are expected to participate in the weekly live class and to engage with the discussion forum to interact with course lecturers, tutors, and other students, where they can discuss content and engage in module material.

What is the course timetable?

The academic year was usually between September and May (approximately).

Students will complete 30 credits as follows in Year 1:

- AD1084 Introduction to Earth Science (10 credits)
- AD1085 Perspectives on Climate Change and Sustainable Development (10 credits)
- AD1086 Environmental Monitoring, Assessment and Social Impact (10 Credits)
- Students will complete 30 credits as follows in Year 2:
- AD2031 Ecology and Applied Geographical Information Systems (GIS) (10 credits)
- AD2032 Environmental Protection and Eco-Social Policy (10 credits)
- AD2033 Practical Environmental Management (10 credits)

Will I have to complete exams?

The programme is wholly assessed via continuous assessment. To pass each module you need a minimum of 40% of the total marks of the module.

The course is evaluated through a combination of essays, journal reviews, case studies, oral presentation, poster presentation, field reports and practicals.

Who teaches the course?

Lecturers on this course are drawn from a broad spectrum of disciplines and include academics, regulators, environmental scientists, economists, social scientists, energy sector professional, planners and policy makers.