

A STACEES-led

St Andrews Network for Climate, Energy, Environment and Sustainability

scoping study for

StEPS

St Andrews Executive Programme for Sustainability



Interdisciplinary sustainability-focussed training at the
University of St Andrews

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Executive Summary

Having attended an 'Interdisciplinary Digital/Sustainable Sandpit' in February 2023, a group of colleagues across the University collaboratively identified a gap for a 'St Andrews Executive Programme for Sustainability' (StEPS), a research-led training programme aimed at upskilling professionals in sustainability-related topics in which St Andrews has established expertise.

StEPS would target an audience of professionals in industry, government, public health, NGOs, as well as others seeking to upskill and broaden their understanding of sustainability challenges and solutions. The longer-term aim is to develop exciting and ambitious hybrid offerings with a cross-disciplinary scope, with predominantly online delivery (aligning with the digital ambitions of the University) and selected in-person networking events.

This report summarises the findings of the scoping project for the St Andrews Executive Programme for Sustainability (StEPS). The project aimed to understand what the University of St Andrews currently offers in terms of sustainability-focussed training across disciplines and to gauge interest in the development of a research-led digital professional training programme specifically relating to sustainability topics in which St Andrews has established expertise.

In order to deliver this, we focussed on executive education or short courses related to (or that could contribute to) sustainability in a very broad sense. This report also

- presents examples of established training offerings that are not necessarily sustainability-focussed but could serve as templates and
- examples of Sustainability in the Curriculum offerings that are not necessarily executive short courses but could be adapted and included under the umbrella of a St Andrews Executive Programme for Sustainability (StEPS).

Our results are based on a combination of web searches using the University of St Andrews website, face-to-face interviews with 15 individuals, and email responses by 11 schools and 7 professional services units.

This project, and the discussions generated by it, constitute the first step of the process towards establishing a St Andrews Executive Programme for Sustainability. The next steps include further defining the vision, market research and research on national government skills/training priorities at the Scotland and UK levels.

Given that 'Digital', 'Sustainable' and 'Entrepreneurial' are pillars in the University Strategy 2022-2027, it will also be important to consider the ways in which the StEPS Programme can support and contribute to the University's strategic vision and ambitions.

The report is structured in the following way: 1) sustainability-focussed short courses of any type of delivery; 2) sustainability-focussed postgraduate courses that could be adapted and included under a StEPS

Programme; 3) digital short courses and 4) digital postgraduate courses that could serve as templates but are not sustainability focussed.

Summary table of training offerings described in this report

School/Unit	Sustainability-focussed short courses offered	Sustainability-focussed postgraduate courses offered	Digital short courses offered (not sustainability-focussed)	Digital postgraduate courses offered (not sustainability-focussed)	Total number of courses
Centre for Educational Enhancement and Development (CEED)	5				5
Centre for Energy Ethics		1			1
Centre for Minorities Research			1		1
Centre for Research into Ecological and Environmental Modelling (CREEM)	13				13
Global Office	1		2		3
International Education Institute			7	2	9
Organisational and Staff Development Services (OSDS)	4				4
School of Art History			1		1
School of Biology		3			3
School of Computer Science			1	1	2
School of Geography and Sustainable Development		1			1
School of Management	1				1
School of Mathematics and Statistics		1			1
School of Medicine			2	1	3

Observations

- One example was found of a digital sustainability-focussed short course – the Sustainability Summer Short Course, offered by the Global Office in 2021;
- Academic colleagues were interested and enthusiastic about the possibility to contribute to a research-led digital professional training programme specifically relating to sustainability topics in which St Andrews has established expertise;
- ‘Short course’ is a catch all term for heterogenous offerings. The taxonomy being developed by Learning & Teaching Committee will be helpful to create a shared language and clear expectations for students and staff engaging with online teaching and learning;
- In this short piece of research we found that there is a wealth of knowledge with regards to short course offerings in Directors of Teaching, Directors of Postgraduate Studies (Taught), Directors of Short Courses, and Directors of Sustainability;
- It is important to emphasise that this report confirms that the development of teaching programmes is a complex task that involves a number of individuals, including Heads of School, Directors of Teaching, Directors of Postgraduate Studies (Taught);
- Short courses and other educational offerings develop via a number of pathways in line with School strategies and income;
- University structure that requires staff to reside within Schools could present challenges to interdisciplinary teaching. Whilst this is alleviated somewhat by having Centres and Institutes, staff are still tied to one School and have to ensure any interdisciplinary teaching can be accommodated by Schools. A Centre or Institute for Sustainability that could have its own staff (tied to the Centre, not a School) might help facilitate the interdisciplinary teaching aspect;
- There is no standardised internal approach to revenue models in this domain; the diverse revenue models in place take account of the various respective contexts.

Recommendations

1. Not all of the University’s schools engaged with this initial scoping project, resulting in some potential gaps. It would therefore be worthwhile exploring internal funding opportunities to support further communication with schools that we have yet to learn about;
2. A second phase of internal scoping as recommended above could help facilitate a comprehensive central mapping of all School provision;

3. We propose that the next project phase should include a review of wider recommendations for addressing skills gaps and policy developments in the sector around Executive Education. This externally-focussed phase should investigate current offerings in this area available at other institutions, identifying training gaps and costing trends. This phase would also explore the demand for particular teaching formats, e.g. a mix of digital/in-person or fully digital as well as the demand for 'sustainability' related professional training;
4. A centralised, regularly updated mapping of short courses would showcase the rich array of offerings across Schools and Units, facilitating the identification of gaps and opportunities;
5. The design of the StEPS programme should be informed by systematic review of UK, EU and international documents of policy, skills gap and professional development;
6. Care should be taken around the design of revenue distribution so as to facilitate broad engagement in the programme, minimising barriers to teaching participation.

Sustainability-focussed

In total we found 24 short courses and 6 postgraduate courses. The full results are described in the list below, which starts with true short courses but then includes MSc/PGDip/PGCert offerings that are relevant and have potential to be offerings for short courses in the future.

Short Courses

Sustainability Summer Short Course

Offered by Global Office.

The University's first online sustainability summer short course engaged participants in interdisciplinary lectures and group discussions over five weeks in July and August 2021 and explored the concept of 'sustainability' across 5 interactive lectures, allowing participants to explore the topic from different perspectives. These included biology, earth sciences, people policy, economics and ethics. Participants developed a deep and critical understanding of the factors associated with creating a sustainable future.

Key information:

Free to those domiciled in Scotland (subject to eligibility criteria and availability).

Scottish Funding Council (SFC) upskilling funding.

Duration: 5 weeks – 5 lectures and Q&A sessions (10 hours of content)

Delivery: live over Teams. Recorded and available to view up to 2 weeks after the event.

Certificate of attendance if all 5 sessions attended.

Price: £50

Lectures:

- Introduction to the Lecture Series and Sustainability - Prof Sir Ian Boyd (School of Biology)
- Educating for Climate Justice: the Third Generation Project - Prof Ali Watson (School of International Relations)
- Climate Change and the Doomsday Glacier - Prof Doug Benn (School of Geography and Sustainable Development)
- Climate Emergencies, Energy Transitions, and the Pursuit of a 'Green' Future - Dr Mette High (Department of Social Anthropology, Director of the Centre for Energy Ethics)
- Liter of Light, Brazil - Vitor Belota (co-founder and former president of Litro de Luz, Brasil)

Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development in the Management of Organisations

Offered by School of Management.

Executive Education Programme for Paris Institute of Political Studies (Institut d'études politiques de Paris) (Sciences Po) as part of the Sciences Po MBA.

The aim of the Executive Education Programme Study Week is to examine the concepts of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Sustainable Development (SD) with particular focus on the implications the concepts have for the operation of organisations and the practice of management. In particular, the programme will encourage participants to explore the relationship between organisational activities and the CSR and SD agendas within their own organisations and how they could operate within a CSR/SD framework.

Key information:

Week-long programme that is normally held in August.

In person.

Approximately 20 students.

6 hours teaching per day, plus extras (tour of Eden Campus, gala dinner)

Group assignment.

Certificate of attendance from St Andrews. Credited by Sciences Po.

Price: under review

Sessions:

- The sustainability imperative – Dr Lucy Wishart
- Scaling sustainability to the organisational core – Professor Brad MacKay
- Organising for the group presentations – Dr Ralitza Nikolaeva
- Organising for sustainability: Accounting/ materiality/ reporting – Professor John Ferguson
- CSR in action – human rights – Professor John Ferguson

Centre for Research into Ecological and Environmental Modelling (CREEM)

Almost all of the CREEM (School of Mathematics and Statistics) Short Courses relate to surveying animals and estimating density and population size. They have a monitoring wildlife species for conservation/management angle. The purpose of wanting to know how animal abundance relates to our understanding of human impact on animals, e.g., pre, during, post windfarm construction.

Key information:

Post-covid all online and will remain so.

Delivery: Teams Live.

Because of international uptake, the courses tend to be a few hours per day (usually evening UK time) over a few days.

Courses:

- Introduction to distance sampling
- Advanced distance sampling
- Practical design and simulation to optimise distance sampling surveys
- Analysis of camera trap data with distance sampling
- Distance sampling when animals are missed at zero distance
- Spatially explicit models for distance sampling data: density surface modelling in practice
- Introduction to statistical modelling
- Modelling spatially explicit change in environmental impact assessment using the R package MRSea
- Detecting Change – MRSeaPower

Centre for Educational Enhancement and Development (CEED) courses run by CREEM for existing PGR students:

- Introduction to statistics (for data handling)
- Scientific and Statistical Thinking
- Statistical modelling with GLMs
- Bayesian modelling and machine learning

Organisational and Staff Development Services (OSDS)

OSDS is the University's central provider of professional development for all University staff, and also responsible for a wide range of organisational development projects.

- Environment Culture workshop

This session has been developed for professional staff. We will discuss what the University is doing with regard to Environmental issues. Specific projects and plans will be outlined. We will also discuss what

actions individuals can do in their workplaces to help.

Aims and objectives:

- Be aware of Environmental issues
- Understand the University's Environment aims
- Identify steps that can be taken in the workplace

- Sustainability for Managers course

The University has an approved strategy committing the University to be 'net zero by 2035' which is ten years ahead of the Scottish Government's target. There are five areas of [strategy](#): Research; Education; Student and community engagement; Estate, energy, and environment; and Operational adaptation.

Managers have a key role in engaging their teams in sustainable practices, and this course has been designed to help them support the Operational adaptation strategy which involves the work of procurement, travel, digitalisation and recruitment.

Aims and objectives:

- Understand the goals and have an appreciation of the key groups working towards the Net Zero 2035 strategy
- Raise awareness of relevant policies (procurement, travel, digitalisation and recruitment)
- Know what the expectations are of managers and what support is available for sustainable initiatives
- Discuss how to communicate best practice and engage others
- Learn some practical tips and key messages to take back to the team

- Carbon Literacy Training

Carbon Literacy Training will familiarise participants with the basic science of climate change, solutions with highest impact and mitigation tools. It is designed for a general audience with no pre-existing knowledge of climate change, carbon accounting, or decarbonisation strategies. Through interactive exercises and useful links to open access materials, participants will be given initial introduction into carbon calculations and climate mitigation strategies. After the training participants will be encouraged to implement the knowledge into their life and work.

Was offered in 2022.

Taught by Dr Ralitza Nikolaeva and Dr Aliya Tskhay (both School of Management) who volunteered to run it as a follow up to attending the external full Carbon Literacy course.

12 people attended.

Ali McLeod and Sam Woollins have been in contact with someone at Fife Council who might be able to run it in future as part of their outreach role.

- LinkedIn Education

Soon to be made available to all staff.

Sustainability content (and more).

University of St Andrews staff can create content for internal purposes.

To become a [LinkedIn Learning Instructor](#) there is an application form and lengthy vetting process.

Centre for Educational Enhancement and Development (CEED)

CEED provides joined-up learning and teaching support to staff and students, combining educational development, pedagogical workshops, technology enhanced learning and IT skills, and academic skills support. CEED delivers the Professional Skills Curriculum (PSC) through the Careers Centre, and GRADSkills and MSkills programmes for PGR and PGT students through St Leonard's Postgraduate College.

Professional Skills Curriculum Plus: Sustainability Skillsets

- Corporate sustainability, business ethics, and social innovation in the world today
- Sustainability in contemporary organizations: analysing/approaching sustainability reports
- Sustainability outside the classroom (societies and personal changes)
- Sustainable career workshop
- Understanding why we need sustainability: the current crisis and what we can do about it

PGCert/PGDip/MSc

Data Literacy for Social and Environmental Justice

Offered by School of Geography and Sustainable Development.

Flexible online postgraduate course.

1 of the 2 new digital degrees that have received central support through the Digital Education Innovation Scheme (DEIS), which is designed to help Schools ambitiously grow their PGT numbers through programmes delivered either wholly online or blended, with an optional summer residential element. 4 lecturers have been recruited especially for this degree.

Designed to develop core skills in data literacy (including spatial data science), science communication, and public engagement, the programme is ideal for professionals currently working on questions of social and environmental justice, those looking to shift career trajectory, or recent graduates seeking additional training before (re)entering the workforce.

Key information:

PGCert, PGDip, and MSc options available.

Start date: January 2024.

Choose from two pathways: social sciences or physical/environmental sciences (or access both). Build from scratch or increase your existing data literacy skills, including spatial data science. Discover strategies for public engagement, building on your theoretical and practical knowledge to become an adept science communicator. Boost your influence by enhancing and diversifying your data visualisation and impact toolboxes.

Modules:

- Theoretical Foundations of Social and Environmental Justice
- Science Communication and Public Engagement
- Welcome to Data: Rubbish in; Rubbish out
- Statistical Foundations
- Quantitative Methods
- Advanced Data Visualisation
- Introduction to Spatial Data Science
- Advanced Spatial Data Science
- The Politics of Numbers
- The Use and Abuse of Data
- Advanced Science Communication and Public Engagement
- Visuals for Policies and Publics

MSc in Energy Ethics

Offered by Centre for Energy Ethics / Graduate School for Interdisciplinary Studies.

The MSc in Energy Ethics provides students with the knowledge, skills, and ways of thinking necessary to help solve the world's most significant and urgent energy challenges. The course will be of particular value if you are looking to follow a career in the energy industries, energy policy, and energy finance, or if you are planning to go into further energy-related research.

Key information:

Start date: September 2023

Duration: 1 year full time; two years part time.

Delivery: in-person

Modules:

- Energy Inequalities and Climate Responsibilities
- Energy Sciences
- Energy Finance and Policy
- Energy Humanities

MSc in Sustainable Development

Offered by School of Geography and Sustainable Development / Graduate School for Interdisciplinary Studies.

The MSc in Sustainable Development explores the socio-economic, political, and environmental aspects of the inter-relationships between human development and sustainability.

Key information:

Start date: September 2023

Duration: 1 year full time

Delivery: in-person

Modules:

- Interrogating Sustainable Development
- Sustainable development: from principles to practice
- Contemporary environmental issues
- Population Change and Sustainable Development
- Capitalism, development and environment

Sustainable Aquaculture

Offered by School of Biology.

[Flexible online postgraduate course](#) - [Distance learning](#) (modular course).

The Sustainable Aquaculture modular courses allow students to study individual modules from a range of part-time, e-learning, postgraduate-level modules which aim to develop students' critical understanding of the development and principles of aquaculture.

Sustainable Aquaculture is also offered as a degree programme. See the [Sustainable Aquaculture PGDip/MSc](#) or the [Sustainable Aquaculture Postgraduate Certificate](#) course pages for more information.

Key information:

Modular course, also offered as PGDip/MSc.

Duration: Minimum 18 months part-time, maximum four years part-time (PGDip); minimum two years part-time, maximum five years part-time (MSc).

Start date: September 2023.

Modules:

- Aquaculture and Fisheries
- Biology for Aquaculture
- Health and Disease
- Local and Global Impacts of Aquaculture
- Management, Husbandry and Sustainability
- Markets, Products, Processing and Food Safety
- Nutrition for Aquaculture

Marine Mammal Science

Offered by School of Biology.

The MSc in Marine Mammal Science prepares students for professional careers in the research and conservation of marine mammals. It is the only research-focused MSc degree in this popular subject worldwide, and is taught by leading experts at the Sea Mammal Research Unit and the Scottish Oceans Institute.

Key information:

Start date: September 2023

Duration: 1 year full time

Marine Ecosystem Management

Offered by School of Biology.

This MSc provides students with a superior understanding of marine systems, exploring the interconnections between the physical environment, biodiversity and the impacts of human activities. Taught by leading experts from the Scottish Oceans Institute, it is designed to prepare students for professional careers in research and management.

Key information:

Start date: September 2023

Duration: 1 year full time

Statistical Ecology

Offered by School of Mathematics and Statistics.

Learn the modern statistical methods currently used by professionals in ecology, including how to formulate problems, conduct appropriate analyses and effectively communicate results to a variety of audiences. To balance theory and application, placement opportunities will be available with partner organisations within the UK and abroad.

Key information:

Start date: September

Duration: 10 months full-time (PGDip) or 1 year full-time (MSc)

Not sustainability-focussed – Digital

In total we found 14 short courses and 4 postgraduate courses. The full results are described in the list below, which starts with digital short courses followed by MSc/PGDip/PGCert offerings that are not sustainability-focussed but could serve as templates for a StEPS Programme.

Short Courses

The University of St Andrews' [upskilling short courses](#) provide opportunities for skills development for both individuals and businesses in light of the current jobs market and skills gaps in Scotland. These courses build key skills, develop confidence and support people to enhance their career prospects, retrain and develop new skills. The Upskilling scheme is aimed at businesses and employees as well as individuals who are self-employed, at risk of redundancy or who have been made unemployed, whose primary place of residence is Scotland.

The University of St Andrews' Scottish Founding Council (SFC) upskilling fund is currently managed by the Upskilling Coordination Group, led by Dr Gerald Prescott (Associate Dean Education (Science)).

Upskilling short courses (undergraduate level)

Undergraduate upskilling courses at the University of St Andrews allow you to study on a short-term basis in the evening without committing to a degree. Upskilling courses run in a hybrid format, which means that students have the option to either join online or in-person.

Displacement and Humanitarian Intervention Short Course

The [Centre for Minorities Research \(CMR\)](#) (School of Philosophical, Anthropological and Film Studies) has announced the first Centre-led online course. A 2-week intensive and bespoke professional development course on humanitarian intervention and displacement, delivered by an interdisciplinary network of leading University of St Andrews experts. The course is strongly praxis based and consists of workshops, lectures, group work, interactive roleplay and simulations based on real cases.

Key information:

From 27th February to 10th March 2023 (20 attendees).

Will be running again next year.

Delivery: Online, live/synchronous.

3 hours course each day, from 2pm to 5pm (GMT) for international uptake.

Certificate of attendance.

Fully funded places for Scottish Residents (subject to availability & eligibility).

Course fee: £1,500

2022: Leadership in Times of Global Health Challenges Lectures

Offered by Global Office / International Education Institute.

Part of Global Challenges Lecture Series (Summer Short Course rebranding).

The University of St Andrews' annual lecture series showcases leading research in areas of global significance. Along with our partners, we bring together experts to deliver insights from across disciplines on key challenges facing the world today.

Each lecture is followed by facilitated discussion in which you can engage with our experts.

Further details:

Current University of St Andrews students and staff members qualify for free access.

To qualify for free access through the Scottish Funding Council's Upskilling scheme, you must:

- Be a resident in Scotland and: either a UK citizen, or if you are an EU citizen, have settled or pre-settled status, or if you are from another country, have a residency permit.
- Not currently be studying full-time at the University of St Andrews.

Key information:

Duration: 5 weeks – 5 lectures and Q&A sessions (10 hours of content).

Delivery: live over Teams.

Lecture recordings will be available shortly after the event. If you watch all lectures, you will receive a certificate of attendance. To receive the certificate, you must watch the lectures live or via the formal recording link released by the University within two weeks of the recording being released.

Price: £50

Upgrade to Masters level short course:

Access to all lectures and Q&A sessions, as well as five 1-hour reflective sessions.

In addition to the lectures and facilitated discussion, you will take part in follow-up small group sessions, where you can exchange reflections on your practice.

5 SCQF Credits (equal 5000 level) are available upon successful completion of these activities and an associated reflective assessment on leadership in global health.

Price: £500

2023: Global Collaboration in Interconnected Communities

Offered by Global Office / International Education Institute.

As technology breaks down barriers of contact and local communities are increasingly faced with the impacts of global events, cross-cultural exchange provides an increasingly significant context for learning, work, and social movements. People can see farther than ever before, giving them the opportunity to learn how the world faces the complex issues of our era, and the rise of online working has made collaboration between workers and organisations across borders an everyday occurrence. In this increasingly connected world, leaders face increasing demands to think, act, and communicate on a global scale.

Same access and upgrade options as the other [Global Challenges Lecture Series](#) short courses.

Knowledge Discovery and Datamining

Offered by School of Computer Science.

Understand and build key skills in using large-scale data sets with this short course.

Took place in Summer 2022.

Art History Short Course

Offered by School of Art History.

Upskilling course for people who work in museums.

In the planning. Aimed to be running late Semester 1 or 2, 2023/24.

Facilitating Interprofessional Education (IPE) in a health or care setting

Offered by School of Medicine.

A 3-hour short course.

Certificate of Completion (non-credit bearing).

Delivery: online, synchronous.

Cognitive rehabilitation in stroke

Offered by School of Medicine.

1 full day or 2 half days.

Certificate of Completion (non-credit bearing).

Delivery: online, synchronous.

International Education Institute (IEI) – non-degree Short Courses:

IEI offers summer schools and programmes to school-aged students who have yet to apply to university, current university students, and professionals.

The International Education Institute is trying to grow the tailored short courses offering.

Online Short Courses Developer soon to be in post.

Non-credit-bearing academic and experiential summer courses are co-ordinated by the International Education Institute (ie@st-andrews.ac.uk).

- Summer Courses:

Summer Academic Experience Courses

These courses give high-school students aged 16 to 18 the chance to experience student life at the University.

Geology and Earth Science credit courses

The School of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of St Andrews offers two residential geology programmes in Scotland during the summer semester.

Music short courses

The Music Centre offers a range of short courses for those interested in performing, writing or conducting music.

Academic English Qualification Courses

These short summer courses are for users of English as an additional language who are considering Master's level study at an English-medium university in the future.

[St Andrews Summer Study](#)

Discover more about our global summer schools for international undergraduate students. Take credit-bearing courses whilst getting a taste of Scottish culture and the St Andrews student experience.

[Medieval Monasticism Summer School](#)

Experience the history of medieval Scotland first-hand on this four-week credit bearing course.

- [Evening language courses](#)

If you're looking to learn a new language, or improve your proficiency in an existing one, evening language classes are available to everyone. Whether you are a complete novice, or you're interested in improving pronunciation, there is a class for you.

- [Tailored courses](#)

In addition to the advertised short courses, the University can design and deliver tailor-made courses for groups of any age. The content and structure of these courses are designed to match the specific requirements of partner organisations. The University has extensive experience in creating courses for educational institutions, as well as other types of organisations.

PGCert/PGDip/MSc

[Combined Studies MA \(General\)](#)

The MA Combined Studies degree is designed specifically for those returning to education after a significant break. Delivered on a part-time basis in the evening, this course is ideal for those who may have other commitments which prevent them from undertaking full-time study.

Delivery: hybrid.

[Health Professions Education](#)

Offered by School of Medicine.

[Flexible online postgraduate course.](#)

Designed for those interested in developing themselves in a healthcare education role, the programme offers flexible learning to suit students who are working while they study. Cultivate your teaching practice to instil principles and values of interprofessional education and support the development of the future and current healthcare work force.

Key information:

Start date: September 2023.

PGCert (1 year), PGDip (2 years), and MSc (3 years) options available.

Learn collaboratively with other professions and disciplines.

Learn online, and benefit from award-winning technology infrastructure.

Data Science

Offered by School of Computer Science.

[Flexible online postgraduate course.](#)

1 of the 2 new digital degrees that have received central support through the Digital Education Innovation Scheme (DEIS), which is designed to help Schools ambitiously grow their PGT numbers through programmes delivered either wholly online or blended, with an optional summer residential element. 4 lecturers have been recruited especially for this degree.

Designed to develop core skills in data science, the programme covers a mix of practical and theoretical issues integral to careers in many data driven sectors. Students will learn how to approach real-world data problems, applying their newfound skills in critical thinking, problem solving and analysis.

Key information:

PGCert, PGDip, and MSc options available for self-paced study.

Start date: September 2023 or January 2024.

International Education

Offered by International Education Institute.

[Flexible online postgraduate course.](#)

The University of St Andrews offers MSc International Education both in St Andrews and by distance learning, and all courses begin in either September or January. Distance learning courses are generally studied part-time, over a couple of years. Students study a combination of compulsory and optional modules so they can focus on areas of particular interest to them and their future careers.

Key information:

PGCert, PGDip, and MSc options available.

Start date: September or January.

Teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL)

Offered by International Education Institute.

[Flexible online postgraduate course.](#)

The University of St Andrews offers a flexible range of postgraduate TESOL qualifications: MSc degrees, Postgraduate Diplomas and Postgraduate Certificates. You can study TESOL or a qualification with a specialism in one particular area of TESOL, depending on your interests and career ambitions. Our courses are offered both in St Andrews and by distance learning, and all courses begin in either September or January. Distance learning courses are generally studied part-time, over a couple of years.

Learning in Sustainability at the University of St Andrews

Environmental sustainability is included in many taught modules and is addressed across disciplines at the University. The following lists some resources and structures that may be useful when considering StEPS.

[Sustainability in the curriculum](#)

[School sustainability maps](#), mapping the narrative of environmental sustainability across the University of St Andrews school curriculum.

[2022-2023 Golden Dandelion modules](#) (PDF). Golden Dandelion stamp, yearly awarding modules nominated to the Sustainability in the Curriculum Prize that fulfil the [QAA guidance on Education for Sustainable Development](#) skills and competencies criteria.

Sustainability in the Curriculum Prize, yearly awarding the best new and 'established' modules addressing environmental sustainability at the University.

[Vertically Integrated Projects](#) (VIP) gives students from any discipline and level of study the opportunity to join a research team as part of their degree studies. There are currently five VIPs focusing on environmental sustainability:

[Biodiversity Literacy](#)

[Biodiversity Change in the Anthropocene](#)

[Looking after Eden](#)

Environmental Ethics at Work

Launch of the new [St Andrews Forest VIP](#) – semester 2 of 2022-23.

Training in Environmental Sustainability Action (TESA)

How do we take action for a sustainable St Andrews? Training in Environmental Sustainability Action (TESA) is an online course for all students at the University. By making TESA accessible for the whole student population as a part of matriculation, we create a springboard for local action with global reach and a sustainable legacy.

Carbon Management and Sustainability Curriculum Design

As a part of the St Andrews Forest proposal, students from the [Environmental Sustainability Board](#) worked with [CEED](#) to launch a certificate course in Carbon Management and Sustainable Curriculum Design in spring 2021.

170 students and staff across all Schools participated in the course. It encouraged students to work together with other disciplines and generations to design 25 new module proposals addressing environmental sustainability. Many of these proposals link to the plans for a new Vertically Integrated Project on the St Andrews Forest.

Short Courses Committee

[Support is available to Schools and units interested in developing summer short courses.](#) The University aims to develop short course provision which offers diverse, high-quality courses which includes credit-bearing and non-credit-bearing courses for students, and professional and executive education courses for staff, delivered in person, online or through a blended approach. The co-ordinating units below are available to support Schools and units through the development, proposal and implementation of new short courses.

Short course proposals will be reviewed by the [Short Courses Committee](#) and evaluated within the context of University strategy and existing commitments.

Short course categories and co-ordinating Units:

Credit-bearing summer courses, or [Summer Schools](#), are co-ordinated by the Global Office (shortcourses@st-andrews.ac.uk).

Non-credit-bearing academic and experiential summer courses are co-ordinated by the International Education Institute (ie@st-andrews.ac.uk).

Professional and executive education summer courses are currently co-ordinated by the Global Office (shortcourses@st-andrews.ac.uk).

[Short course proposal and approval flowchart](#) (PDF, 97 KB) for details of the process.

Infrastructure for Digital Education

The University has invested in pre-recording staffing, technology and facilities in Walter Bower House, Eden Campus. The team will work with researchers to create digital course content.

The University has acquired Canvas software, a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

Staffing:

Stuart Reid, Digital Media Developer, ITS, Enterprise Applications & Development

Colin Reid, Digital Media Developer, ITS, Enterprise Applications & Development

Heather Jeffrey, Digital Education Developer, CEED

Aisling Crean, Digital Education Developer, CEED

Digital Marketing Manager, Admissions – recently appointed (not Digital Education specific role)

Digital Education Administrator recruitment

And possibly 1 or 2 apprentices

Working on environment of short courses:

Lindsay Donnelly, Senior Learning Technologist, CEED

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