

Cand.techn.soc.



MSc in Environmental and Resource Management

SDU 

Business and
Social Sciences
sdu.dk/samka



Cand.techn.soc. / Master of Science in Environmental and Resource Management

Profile

Exploiting natural and environmental resources, such as fossil fuels, minerals, fish, forest, land or the atmosphere, is inherently problematic. Most resources do not belong to anyone, yet their use affects many people – also adversely. Man's pursuit of technology, wealth and a high quality of life means that precious resources are repeatedly mismanaged. And while policy makers attempt to limit the immediate damages, the long-term solution for i.e. climate and biodiversity is more complex.

Thanks to developments in natural science and technology, there are numerous ways of exploiting resources to enable people to enjoy a comfortable lifestyle with ample choice of products and services. The choices people make daily directly affect the availability and quality of the environment in which they live. Exploiting resources almost always pollutes air, water or land – with lasting consequences for plants and animals. That is why today there is increasing focus in science and technology to find new ways of preventing damage for the benefit of future generations.

By examining human behaviour and social science, we can understand why people, business and societies make certain choices about their use of resources. This is important because these choices have far-reaching implications for everyone, not just the decision-makers. Politicians often attempt to limit further damage in response to poor management. But these attempts are often so specific that they have little enduring effect.

The only way to tackle environmental mismanagement in the long-term is through continuous research and cooperation across disciplines. For example, while engineers may invent new technology to prevent damage different specialists are required to find the best way to implement the technical solution.

Social scientists' experts in human behaviour, establish how to make the technology work for man and the environment. Hence, knowledge of both technology and social science is crucial in developing lasting and efficient solutions to today's complex resource and environmental management problems.

Programme Objectives

The programme is designed to join two broad traditions, on the one hand science and technology, which identifies problems and opportunities and generates solutions and on the other hand social science, which identifies actors, their behaviour and ways of modifying them.

Prospective Students

The MSc study programme is designed to appeal to graduates from a wide range of backgrounds, including environmental science and management, planning, social science, geography, natural science, biology, earth science, technology and engineering. Students are expected to be able to explore social science, natural science and/or technology. Depending on their level of expertise in these areas, some students may be required to complete an introduction course.

Career Prospects

Graduates are well equipped for a career in business, consultancy, national and international organisations, and in local, national and international government. The study programme emphasises both policy formation and management of existing policies and frameworks.

Institutional Foundation

While the study programme is managed by the University of Southern Denmark (SDU), half of the classes are delivered by the Aalborg University Esbjerg (AAUE). SDU is responsible for classes relating to social science, economy and management, while AAUE deals with project work and skill development relating to engineering, technology and natural science. Both universities supply supervisors for projects. Students have a supervisor from both universities for their dissertation project.

The study programme builds on skills students have learned in their under-graduate degree. It consists of eight quarters and normally lasts two years. Each quarter, students take courses and/or projects before the exam. The fifth and sixth quarter consists of elective courses, enabling students to study at another university or gain work experience as an Internship.

Exsamples of Electives

- Environmental spatial modelling with GIS
- Corporate Social Responsibility: Stakeholders, Strategy and Practice
- Topics in Environmental and Resource Management
- Risk Management
- Renewable Energy: Options and barriers
- Project-oriented study in an organization

Entry requirements

BSc. within Social Science (e.g. Business Economics and Administration, Political Science and Economics) or within Applied Science (Environmental and Agricultural Science, Engineering etc.).

Restiction on number of places

Please note that there is a restricted number of places.

Language requirements

A good standard of English is required, because teaching at the University typically involves student participation, class discussion and student presentations.

A minimum IELTS score of 6.5, a TOEFL score of 88 or a minimum CAE score of C is required. If you as an EU/EEA citizen can document this level of English by way of secondary school diploma, you may be exempted from the English language test (minimum 210 full hours of English language classes at high school level is required). PLEASE NOTE: The University of Southern Denmark has access to the IELTS Verification Service; therefore, we accept the IELTS test results/score in copy. TOEFL is only accepted in original sent directly from the test centre or the educational testing service (ETS) before registration deadline.

Programme overview

Study start 1st September – no intake in February.

7. & 8. quarter	Master's Thesis 30 ECTS		
5. & 6. quarter	Alternative 1: 30 ECTS from a combination of courses and projects Alternative 2: 30 ECTS from courses taken at another university Alternative 3: 10 ECTS from a combination of courses and projects, 20 ECTS from reporting on time spent in a project-oriented study in an organization		
4. quarter	Green Business 7,5 ECTS	Advanced Environmental and Resource Economics and Management 7,5 ECTS	
3. quarter	Multivariate Data Analysis 7,5 ECTS	Holistic Design for Sustainability: Systems, processes and products 7,5 ECTS	
2. quarter	Resource Characterization & Conversion Technologies of Resources 7,5 ECTS	Project Management 7,5 ECTS	
1. quarter	Research Forum 3,75 ECTS	Environmental Chemistry 3,75 ECTS	Sustainability 7,5 ECTS

Cand.techn.soc. / Master of Science in Environmental and Resource Management

Further information

This programme is offered at the University of Southern Denmark, Esbjerg

The International Office
Niels Bohrs Vej 9
DK-6700 Esbjerg
Phone: +45 6550 1103
E-mail: studieservice-es@sdu.dk

Tuition Fees

International applicants from countries outside the EU/EEA has to pay tuition fee for a full Master's Degree (2 years) (120 ECTS) EUR 17,000.

For students participating in an exchange programme - tuition fees will not be charged. For students not participating in an exchange programme or in a bilateral agreement - tuition fees will be charged.

Registration deadlines

Study starting 1 September:
EU/EEA citizens 1 March
Non-EU/EEA citizens 1 February

Application Fee

Please be aware that Non-EU/EEA citizens are required to pay an application fee of 100 euros when applying for admission to programmes. The application will not be processed before your payment has been received.

Programme homepage:
www.sdu.dk/erm

Wickie MSc. and R&D Coordinator in Energinet's research and development section

"I chose this subject due to my interest in the conflict between environment, economy, and society; knowing that complex environmental problems needed complex, and multidisciplinary solutions. Hence, I chose this study because of the interdisciplinary approach; combining social science at SDU and natural science at AAU, Esbjerg – being (at that juncture) the only program in Denmark offering that level of necessary alignment."

