



General information

Our MSc courses run from September to September, with teaching at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and either Queen Mary University of London or Royal Holloway, University of London (depending on the programme).

Part-time opportunities may be available.

For further information on the courses, visit kew.org/msc.

Bursaries

Bursaries and financial support may be available from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and our university partners.

For further information visit kew.org/msc.

Entry requirements

While most students will have a BSc (Hons) degree or equivalent international qualification in biology or other relevant science subject, students with a degree in other subjects or appropriate professional experience are considered on a case-by-case basis.

To check eligibility, email KewMSc@kew.org.

Contact details

For further information, please contact KewMSc@kew.org

Postgraduate study at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

MSc Biodiversity and Conservation

MSc Global Health: Food Security,
Sustainability and Biodiversity

MSc Plant and Fungal Taxonomy,
Diversity and Conservation

An exclusive opportunity to:

- Choose between one of three programmes and develop a range of skills in plant and fungal taxonomy, conservation, restoration and sustainable food security.
- Study at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, with unrivalled access to Kew's scientific collections, laboratory facilities, partnerships and landscapes.
- Work with scientists in London's leading universities, and take advantage of the expertise, resources and student support at Queen Mary University of London or Royal Holloway, University of London.
- Take part in either an international field course to a biodiversity hotspot or a two-week residential visit to Kew's wild botanic garden, Wakehurst.
- Conduct a unique research project and work alongside some of Kew's 300+ scientists in the lab and out in the field.
- Understand the scientific and social basis for halting and reversing biodiversity loss in a rapidly changing world and gain the skills required for careers in areas such as research, conservation, policy and industry.

For these Master's courses, Kew partners with Queen Mary University of London and Royal Holloway, University of London. To apply, visit qmul.ac.uk/sbbs or royalholloway.ac.uk/healthstudies.

Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew





MSc Biodiversity and Conservation

In partnership with Queen Mary University of London

This MSc offers students the opportunity to get hands-on with the challenges of biodiversity loss and develop practical solutions through techniques in conservation and restoration. The programme is split into two 'streams' of study, one mainly based at Kew and the other at Queen Mary University of London.

Programme content

- Explore the challenge of biodiversity loss, from the global to the local, and examine its causes including climate change, land use change, pollution and the impacts of non-native species.
- Learn to generate and use genetic, geographical and biodiversity data using a wide range of techniques to draw conclusions about species distributions, status and potential conservation approaches.
- Experience practical methods for implementing *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation actions essential to prevent further biodiversity loss, recover priority species and restore habitats.
- Complete a two-week international field trip to a biodiversity hotspot. Work with local partners to see conservation projects in action and develop techniques and approaches for conducting restoration projects in the world's most fragile habitats.

Conservation and Restoration stream

This Kew-based MSc stream centres around Conservation and Habitat Restoration, with a focus on the practical science of biodiversity and conservation. This includes conducting biodiversity surveys, red listing of species and methods of habitat restoration.

MSc Global Health: Food Security, Sustainability and Biodiversity

In partnership with Royal Holloway, University of London

This interdisciplinary Master's course covers a range of topics at the intersections of environmental health and human health, addressing the crucial link between biodiversity, sustainable livelihoods and food security.

Programme content

- Examine some of the most pressing issues affecting our planet, from deforestation and climate change to pollution and the threats from extinctions, intensive agriculture and a growing human population.
- Consider inequalities in nutrition and hunger, and learn about the role of scientific advances, technological innovations and socio-economic development to provide solutions to food security challenges.
- Learn about farming history, indigenous knowledge and the links between our environment, culture, economy and the health and livelihoods of people around the world, through our international network of partners in science, conservation, business and policy.
- Develop your ability to blend ecological, biophysical, political and socioeconomic concepts. Acquire a strong skill set through practical training in a range of transferrable skills including communication, team working, science writing, data visualisation, statistical analysis and GIS.

Field work and study visits

You will take part in a residential course at Wakehurst, Kew's wild botanic garden, where you'll spend time learning from researchers in the laboratory and out in the field. You'll also attend study visits to farms, and research and commercial organisations.

MSc Plant and Fungal Taxonomy, Diversity and Conservation

In partnership with Queen Mary University of London

This course will enable you to develop an in-depth understanding of plant and fungal taxonomy and diversity, along with a thorough grounding in molecular systematics, evolutionary biology and conservation policy, theory and practice.

Programme content

- Starting with taxonomic principles and methodology, you will discover plant and fungal systematics, phylogenetics and evolution.
- Learn practical approaches including surveys, field collection, culturing, preserving and techniques in plant and fungal identification. Explore Kew's incredible collections within its Herbarium and Fungarium.
- Develop a range of practical skills and techniques in the lab and in the analysis of data, from spatial analysis and mapping to the production of genomic data and the development of phylogenetic trees.
- Learn how biodiversity data can be applied to real-life conservation approaches such as red listing and the creation of protected areas, and work on applying taxonomic and evolutionary approaches to explore opportunities for use in medicines and food.

Madagascar field course

Join our scientists on a two-week field trip to Madagascar, based in Kew's own Madagascar Conservation Centre. Working with Kew staff and our in-country partners, you'll explore the plant and fungal diversity in some of the world's most unique and biodiverse rainforests.