

Programme Specification 2025-26

1.	Programme title	MSc Environmental Health
2.	Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3a	Teaching institution	Middlesex University London
3b	Language of study	English

4a	Valid intake dates and mode of study	
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Mode of Study	Cohort	Delivery Location	Duration
Full-time (FT)	Semester 1	Hendon	1 Years
Part-time (PT)	Semester 1	Hendon	2 Years

4c	Delivery method	On Campus/Blended Learning
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5. Professional/Statutory/Regulatory body (if applicable)
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health

6.	Apprenticeship Standard (if applicable)	N/A
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7. Final qualification(s) available
Target Award Title(s)
MSc Environmental Health

8. Academic year effective from	2025-26
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9. Criteria for admission to the programme
Evidence that have capacity to work at level 7, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good honours degree, 2.2 or above or equivalent qualification in a relevant branch of science e.g. food science and technology, environmental science, nursing, public health, agricultural science, safety engineering or chemistry, physics or biology. Students who have previously taken a BSc Environmental Health in the UK do not need to take this award

as they are eligible for professional body membership.

- Professional Diploma e.g. NEBOSH diploma together with professional experience.
- Applications from experienced candidates without formal qualifications are welcomed provided they can demonstrate appropriate levels of relevant ability and experience. This equivalent work-based experience may be considered at the discretion of the programme team and may require submission of a piece of work.

Applicants must also be competent in English to study this course. The most commonly accepted evidence of English language ability is IELTS 6.5 (with minimum 6.0 in all four components).

The University aims to ensure that its admissions processes are fair, open and transparent and aims to admit students who, regardless of their background, demonstrate potential to successfully complete their chosen programme of study where a suitable place exists and where entry criteria are met. The University values diversity and is committed to equality in education and students are selected on the basis of their individual merits, abilities and aptitudes. The University ensures that the operation of admissions processes and application of entry criteria are undertaken in compliance with the Equality Act.

We take a personalised and fair approach to how we make offers. We feel it's important that our applicants continue to aspire to achieving great results and make offers which take into account pieces of information provided to us on the application form.

This includes recognition of prior learning and experience. If you have been working, or you have other learning experience that is relevant to your programme, then we can count this towards your entry requirements and even certain modules once you start studying.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme aims to:

The programme is designed to produce high quality practitioners, whose skill profile ensures that they can be efficiently and effectively employed in a variety of settings including local authorities, Public Health agencies, commercial and industrial businesses, and consultancies. Graduates will have received a coherent body of theoretical and applied professional knowledge, transferable skill development, and a fundamental competency in the fields of environmental health that incorporate the ethical and moral dimensions of practice to ensure good, safe, inclusive and supportive Environmental Health Practitioners. The programme aims, on successful completion, to:

- Provide a multi-disciplinary appreciation of the complexities of environmental health
- Enable students to identify, analyse, synthesise and evaluate environmental health stressors, developing an understanding of how they can impact on health.
- Enable appreciation of professional competence through development of skills based on scientific, legislative, technical and managerial knowledge.
- Provide ability to critically appraise risk in a variety of settings, designing appropriate solutions to reduce risk and harm to health
- Communicate technical information in a clear, concise and persuasive style to appeal to particular audiences.
- Develop reflection on practice leading to changes in personal and professional understanding.
- Be aware of ethical considerations applicable to a range of health issues and to effect

inclusive environmental health interventions

- Provide students with the ability to justify appropriate research methodology and facilitate planning, implementation and critical evaluation of research for the profession
- Have skills to critically evaluate conflicting theories and assimilate best professional practice

11. Programme learning outcomes

Programme - Knowledge and Understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have a knowledge and understanding of:

1. A wide range of Environmental Health Stressors, assessment, causation and impact on health
2. Scientific, technological, legislative and managerial processes used to develop appropriate environmental health interventions.
3. How social, cultural, emotional and psychological factors influence health
4. The use of hazard analysis and risk assessment tools and techniques in environmental health management.
5. Risk management, communication, and application within practice.
6. Professional scope of environmental health practice to recognise political and corporate environment in which environmental health practitioners practice
7. Application of relevant acts, regulations, guidance and codes of practice which influence leadership, management and interventions in complex situation
8. Detailed knowledge of environmental health intervention areas of:
8a.Environmental Protection
8. Detailed knowledge of environmental health intervention areas of:
8b Food Safety
8. Detailed knowledge of environmental health intervention areas of:
8c Occupational Safety
8. Detailed knowledge of environmental health intervention areas of:
8d Housing and Health
8. Detailed knowledge of environmental health intervention areas of:
8e Public Health

Programme - Skills

On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to:

9. Appraise good practice in environmental health;
10. Critically analyse issues influencing environmental health and public health and safety;
11. Inspect, audit and investigate in a range of contexts that support the development of action plans;
12. Evaluate most appropriate course of action selecting from a range of options to achieve the desired outcome;

13. Select appropriate approaches to investigations in complex situations;
14. Critically appraise residual risk after planned intervention has been delivered;
15. Communicate solutions in a professional manner to a range of different audiences
16. Undertake formal academic research
17. Critically evaluate the results of an academic investigation and be able to extract data using a range of techniques appropriate to their chosen fields

12. Teaching/learning methods
Students gain knowledge and understanding through engagement with learning activities such as key concept sessions, seminars, workshops, laboratory and other practical sessions. These taught sessions are further augmented through a variety of directed and self-directed learning activities, e.g. projects, case study analysis, key concept videos, and portfolio development. These methods are designed to ensure that students learn the ability to use the knowledge gained in a way that achieves positive outcomes.
Approx. number of timetabled hours per week (at each level of study, as appropriate), including on-campus and online hours. FT 14-18 depending on semester, PT 6-12 depending on semester.
Approx. number of hours of independent study per week (at each level of study, as appropriate). FT 22-26, PT 11-13.
Approx. number of hours on placement (including placement, work-based learning or year abroad, as appropriate). FT N/A, PT N/A

13. Employability
13a Development of graduate competencies
13b Employability development
<p>Development of graduate competencies</p> <p>To develop key competencies for the programme, the curriculum will emphasise practice-led learning, with the course using applied case studies and problem-solving exercises that connect theoretical knowledge to real-world scenarios. We have practice-led teaching from our EHP academic staff team and we additionally employ external practitioners to deliver specialist areas. Digital literacy will be integrated into coursework, equipping students with essential skills for academic and professional success. We introduce a range of software to students (excel, NVivo, SPSS) through our research methods modules. Students are supported with the ethical and appropriate use of AI in their assessments.</p> <p>Sustainability – the programme embraces and embeds a number of the SDG as part of its curriculum. This includes SDGs numbers 2, 3, 6, 10 and 11, THE 17 GOALS Sustainable Development</p> <p>The title of MSc EH is a protected title and all students must achieve the competency standards of our professional body, the Chartered Institute for Environmental Health (CIEH), and the curriculum is designed to meet these standards. We work with students to design learning activities tailored to their background and types of preferential learning modes to be able to deliver the curriculum. Students have a choice in their dissertation project titles and therefore</p>

research in an area of their interest. We encourage students to set up learning communities and the student voice informs our teaching and learning practices through the twice-yearly Programme Voice Groups.

Employability development

The programme is directly related to employment and, with a shortage of EHPs, vacancies are readily available for those who have successfully completed the course. [CIEH-press-release-urgent-action-needed-to-support-local-authorities-in-training-the-next-generation-of-ehps.pdf](#)

The professional body is invited to come to talk to the students once a year about professional registration and employment opportunities in the field. Students cannot gain full registration until they have passed through the professional registration process which requires a portfolio of practice collected over 6-9 months in their first employment followed by a viva.

13c Placement and work experience opportunities (if applicable)

We work with a range of different employers to offer “shadowing” work experiences in semester 3 – this includes local authorities and private providers. This is aimed at students who have no experience of working in the profession. These are optional and entirely dependent on the employers offering these opportunities. We cannot guarantee these opportunities will be available.

13d Future careers / progression

The Masters in Environmental Health produces postgraduates with a wide range of professional, graduate and transferable skills. Within the programme students are able to direct their learning to all aspects of professional practice so that on completion of the award they are able to offer employers broad underpinning knowledge and skills and specialist knowledge in the key areas of environmental health.

The award has been matched to the needs of a variety of stakeholders and in particular in relation to the strategic management and operational practice of future environmental and public health agencies. Successful students will be able to complete professional qualifications pathways that qualify them as Environmental Health Practitioners and specifically meet the Food Standards Agency’s competence requirement for food law intervention activity.

Students also have the opportunity to return to study on one of the expanding range of doctoral opportunities both work-based and PhDs.

14. Assessment methods

Formative activities throughout seminar to understand nature of occupational safety, regulatory practice, inspections, role of EHP with immediate feedback in class.
Formative seminar – groups case study analysis submitted for peer review.

Range of group work, presentations, problem solving during workshops to understand relationship between health stressors, law with immediate feedback in workshops.

Submitting samples of summative assignments throughout semester.

Case study.

Case study workshop.

Problem-solving.

Range of activities to assess and audit housing, understand law and role of EHP conducted in seminar, immediate feedback to students.

Ongoing work on qual/quant methods in workshops, case studies, reviewing good research practices.
 Research proposal.
 Submission of dissertation.
 Viva Voce.
 Workplace inspection report.
 Role of EHO and risk – report with formative activities contributing to main report.
 Portfolio of risk management practice.
 Module delivered through practical classes to understand food standards, food identification and food integrity with immediate feedback.
 Written case study on labelling
 Mock interviews and ID assessment throughout the module.
 Examinations in food standards and ID.

15. Programme Structure (level of study, modules, credits and progression requirements)

Structure is indicative for Part-time routes.

Students must take all of the compulsory modules and choose following programme requirements from the optional modules.

Non-compensatable modules are noted below.

Available Pathways

Not Applicable

Year 1

Year 1 Level 7 FT and PT

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
BIO4225	Compulsory	Environmental Stressors and Legislative Interventions 2025-26	30 at Level 7
PRS4436	Compulsory	Risk and Public Protection 2025-26	30 at Level 7
BIO4603	Compulsory	Food Safety and Control 2025-26	15 at Level 7
PRS4333	Compulsory	Interventions in occupational health and safety 2025-26	15 at Level 7
PRS4214	Compulsory	Housing Standards and Intervention 2025-26	15 at Level 7

BIO4805	Compulsory	Practical Food Inspection, Food Standards and Fraud 2025-26	0 at Level 7
PRS4499	Compulsory	Research Methods and MSc Project 2025-26	60 at Level 7
BIO4235	Compulsory	Environmental Protection 2025-26	15 at Level 7

Year 2

Year 2 Level 7 PT

Code	Type	Module Title	Credits at FHEQ Level
BIO4603	Compulsory	Food Safety and Control 2026-27	15 at Level 7
BIO4805	Compulsory	Practical Food Inspection, Food Standards and Fraud 2026-27	0 at Level 7
PRS4499	Compulsory	Research Methods and MSc Project 2026-27	60 at Level 7
PRS4214	Compulsory	Housing Standards and Intervention 2026-27	15 at Level 7
PRS4436	Compulsory	Risk and Public Protection 2026-27	30 at Level 7

*Please refer to your programme page on the website re availability of option modules

16. Programme-specific support for learning

Facilities at Hendon, London include Microbiology Laboratory, Science Laboratories, and Pestology materials.

Use of specialist external lecturers/practitioners .

Range of case studies based upon real practice scenarios, professionally accredited staff, e-learning medium, simulations.

Support for academic and critical writing, use of AI, qualitative and quantitative research methodology.

All programme team members and the programme leader have open weekly drop-ins, online, to support students on their modules or with other issues.

Students have a dedicated dissertation supervisor who they meet with at least five times for dissertation support.

17. HECos code(s)

101317: Environmental and Public Health

18. Relevant QAA subject benchmark(s)	Earth Sciences, Environmental Sciences and Environmental Studies 2022, Health Studies 2019
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19. University Regulations

<p>This programme will run in line with general University Regulations: Policies Middlesex University</p> <p>This programme will run in line with general University Regulations: Policies Middlesex University Policies Middlesex University with the exception of the minimum pass mark which must be 50% for each module (aligning with the CIEH accreditation requirements for master's degrees).</p>

20. Reference points

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, Competency Framework Standards, 2023 •Relevant multi-disciplinary subject benchmarks: Earth Sciences, Environmental Sciences and Studies (2023) and Health Studies (2019) •Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook (LQEH) •New Learning Framework 2024 •United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and its 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Sustainable Goals 2, 3, 6, 10 and 11 •QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (2024) •QAA Master’s Degrees Characteristics Statement (2020) |
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21. Other information (if applicable)
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Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

Curriculum map for MSc Environmental Health

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

A1	A wide range of Environmental Health Stressors, assessment, causation and impact on health
A2	Scientific, technological, legislative and managerial processes used to develop appropriate environmental health interventions.
A3	How social, cultural, emotional and psychological factors influence health
A4	The use of hazard analysis and risk assessment tools and techniques in environmental health management.
A5	Risk management, communication, and application within practice.
A6	Professional scope of environmental health practice to recognise political and corporate environment in which environmental health practitioners practice
A7	Application of relevant acts, regulations, guidance and codes of practice which influence leadership, management and interventions in complex situation
A8	Detailed knowledge of environmental health intervention areas of
A8a	Environmental Protection
A8b	Food Safety
A8c	Occupational Safety
A8d	Housing and Health
A8e	Public Health

Skills

B1	Appraise good practice in environmental health;
B2	Critically analyse issues influencing environmental health and public health and safety
B3	Inspect, audit and investigate in a range of contexts that support the development of action plans;
B4	Evaluate most appropriate course of action selecting from a range of options to achieve the desired outcome;
B5	Select appropriate approaches to investigations in complex situations;
B6	Critically appraise residual risk after planned intervention has been delivered;
B7	Communicate solutions in a professional manner to a range of different audiences
B8	Undertake formal academic research
B9	Critically evaluate the results of an academic investigation and be able to extract data using a range of techniques appropriate to their chosen fields

Programme learning outcomes - Highest level achieved by graduates

A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	B9
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

22b. Mapping by level of study and module

Module Title	Module Code by Level of study	A 1	A 2	A 3	A 4	A 5	A 6	A 7	A 8 a	A 8 b	A 8 c	A 8 d	A 8 e	B 1	B 2	B 3	B 4	B 5	B 6	B 7	B 8	B 9
Level 7																						
Environmental Stressors and Legislative Interventions	BIO4255	*	*	*				*	*						*						*	
Food Safety and Control	BIO4603	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*				*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Interventions in Occupational Health and Safety	PRS4333	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*				*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Risk and Public Protection	PRS4436				*	*	*						*	*	*						*	
Housing Standards and Intervention	PRS4214	*	*	*	*	*		*	*			*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Environmental Protection	BIO4235	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*					*	*		*	*	*	*	*	
Practical Food Inspection, Food Standards and Fraud	BIO4805	*	*		*		*			*				*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Research Methods and MSc Project	PRS4499	*	*				*	*							*	*	*				*	*