School of Geographical and Earth Sciences

Teaching Geography and Geology/Earth Science for over 100 years
GES staff & students

Staff
• 35 Academics
• 25 Postdoctoral researchers

Students
• 60 PhDs
• 120 Masters
• 500 undergraduates
• Long experience of PG teaching
  – PG Diploma in Cartography introduced 1963

MSc in Sustainable Water Systems
MRes Human Geography: Space, Politics, Ecologies
MSc Earth Futures: Environments, Communities, Relationships
MSc Environmental Futures: Sustainable Systems

Geomodatics MSc Programmes
Geospatial & Mapping Sciences
Land & Hydrographic Surveying
Geoinformation Technology & Cartography
Geomodatics & Management
The Academic Year

- GES PGT Induction: W/b 13\textsuperscript{th} September
- College of Science & Engineering PGT Induction: W/b 13\textsuperscript{th} September
- Classes start Monday 20\textsuperscript{th} September
- Semester 1 – September – December
- Semester 2 – January – March (exams April)
- MSc Project – May – August
PGT 2021 delivery

• Format of individual courses may vary
  – what works best for different courses
• Initially all lectures will be delivered on-line
• Attendance at scheduled class times required
  – Many lecture videos released in advance
    • Some may have interactive review sessions
  – Some may use ‘watch’ sessions
• Practicals, seminars and tutorials will take place on campus
  – Some practicals require submission of work at end of session
  – In Semester 1 some programmes may make allowances for those who have difficulty travelling to Glasgow
  – Not possible for all Programmes due to practical work
Q&A : Numbers

• How many students are there?
  – In 2020-21 we have ~120 PGT students
    • Up from ~80 in 2019-20
    • Varies from ~10 on MRes HG, to 40 on GT&C
    • Earth Futures ~20 in its first year
  – Currently there is no cap on the number of places in each programme
    • Applications are up on last year

• How many on the MSc Earth Science programme?
  – Currently we do not have an Earth Science programme
Q & A – pre-arrival

• Are there Pre-course reading lists?
  – We will send out information in the summer

• Are there things I should do in advance of the programme starting
  – We do not expect you to do any major preparation, but some background reading is always useful
Q & A

• When is the latest I can arrive in Glasgow?
  - We expect everyone to be present for induction (w/b 13th September)
  - Final deadline for attendance Mon 27th Sept
  - Some programmes may accommodate those who cannot travel to Glasgow, but others can’t

• Will School study spaces be available?
  – In principle yes, but at reduced capacity to allow social distance & dependent on Government guidelines
Q & A - studying

• Is there flexibility in the courses I study?
  – Most programmes have mostly core courses, but some include compulsory core + options
  – If you have achieved the learning outcomes for a required course you may choose an alternative with permission of the Programme Convener
  – We do not recommend taking additional courses
    • a 12 month MSc is very intensive

• Are past exam papers available?
  – There is an archive available via the Library
Q & A - studying

• How many hours will I study?
  – *It depends on the Programme & Course*
  – 10 credits = nominally 100 hours of study
    • Eg 10hrs lectures + 10hrs lab + 80hrs private study
    • Eg 5 hrs lectures, 5 hrs tutorials, 6 hours seminars
  – *It is a significant commitment for full-time students*
Q & A - fieldwork

• Is there any fieldwork?
  – Geomatics & SWE all include fieldwork, including a residential field course
• Is there any internship possibilities?
  – *Earth Futures & Environmental Futures include a 20 credit work placement*
  – *L&HS with Work Placement, replaces the MSc project with a 6 month work placement.*
  – *In other programmes there may be opportunities to do the project in conjunction with industry or external collaborators*
Q & A - IT

• Will I need any special IT equipment?
  – For on-line classes you will need a standard PC or Mac with a camera & microphone
  – A higher power PC is useful, but we can set up a remote desktop for access to specialist software

• Do you have a GIS & RS lab?
  – We have 2 IT labs, a PGT study room with PCs and a high power computing lab

• What software will I learn?
  – All Geomatics & SWE students all learn Python
  – Most programmes also use ArcGIS or QGIS
  – Specialist software is used where appropriate
Q & A - Projects

• When do we decide on projects?
  – Normally at the start of the second semester we introduce the project and thinking about project topics
  – Decisions typically made towards the end of that semester
  – Supervisors are allocated along with topics

• Can projects be done with external organisations?
  – We encourage projects in collaboration with industry, etc.
  – We will suggest some, or you can find your own

• Can I see previous MSc projects?
  – Generally we do not make previous reports available
Q & A - Afterwards

• What support do you provide with employment?
  – We include sessions from the University Careers advisor
  – The Careers Service run regular workshops
  – Many staff have strong links with industry and we regularly circulate information about vacancies
  – Some employers will interview on campus

• What percentage of students get a job within a year?
  – The vast majority, but it is impossible to predict in the current global situation

• What jobs do Earth Futures students get?
  – We are still in the first year of this programme
Thank you

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