



Graduate View

Jamie Nolan | Climate Action Department, Louth County Council

I have always had an interest in the environment and how human activities impact it. With my background in agriculture and having this interest, I thought Agri-Environmental Sciences (AES) would be a good programme choice for me and it didn't disappoint. I acquired a vast amount of knowledge about Ireland's diverse landscape and how agricultural activities are affecting it in both positive and negative ways.

AES was a very practical programme thanks to the large amount of field trips to various locations. The programme gives you a lot of freedom and allows you choose your own path in areas that you have a specific interest in through elective modules, PWE and your final year thesis. I spent my professional work experience working in a local Teagasc office alongside an Agricultural Consultant and in an environmental composting factory. My thesis focused on habitat diversity in dairy farms and required me to carry out habitat surveying on farms using GIS software to create maps containing the results.

Since graduating I have completed a MSc in Environmental Resource Management and subsequently worked in the Central Statistics Office in the Sustainable Development Goals department. I am currently working in the Climate Action Department of Louth County Council where I am working on developing future climate action plans.

Programme Pathway

Agri-Environmental Sciences

DN250

Year 1 Subjects

Animal Biology & Evolution
Introductory Chemistry
Mathematics for Agriculture
Physics for Agricultural Science
Intro to Food and Agribusiness Mgmt
Information Skills
Introduction to Biomolecules
Cell & Plant Biology
Land Use and the Environment
Optional Modules

Year 2 Subjects

Diversity in the Rural Landscape
Agricultural Botany
Soil Science Basics
Applied Zoology
Agricultural Microbiology
Applied Biostatistics
Genetics and Biotechnology
Environmental Biology and Ecology
Health, Welfare and Safety
Intro to Animal Science
Principles of Crop Science
Elective Module

Year 3 Subjects

Agri-Env. Issues and Policy
Pests and Parasites
Soil Science Applications
Systems Ecology
Plant Diseases: Biology
Scientific Writing and Review
Professional Work Experience
Agrichemicals & Environment
Climate, Carbon & Soil
Elective Modules

Year 4 Subjects

Nutrient Management
Plant Pathology & Biotechnology
Environmental Data and Modelling
Environmental Management incl. GIS
Grass and Forage Production
Research Project
Elective Modules

BAgrSc Honours

UCD Graduate Study

MSc Wildlife Conservation & Mgt
MAgrSc Environmental Resource Mgt
MSc and PhD Research
MAgrSc Agricultural Extension and Innovation
MAgrSc Sustainable Agriculture & Rural Development
MSc Food Business Strategy
MSc Humanitarian Action

Career Opportunities

Environmental Consultant
Teacher
Farm Manager
Journalist
Agricultural Consultant
Agricultural Inspector
Lecturer

Conversion or Complementary Courses

Professional Master of Education (PME)
MSc Business Studies
Master of Business Administration
HDip Computer Science
Master of Accounting

Student View

Alison Bourke

I always had a strong passion for the environment and Irish agriculture and this led me to choose Agri-environmental science. Agri-environmental science provided me with a valuable insight into the challenges that Irish agriculture currently faces. Climate change has and will continue to force the agricultural sector in Ireland to change, adapt and evolve to meet this new environmental landscape.

This degree combines learning through field work, practicals and lectures to give the best learning experience and provides invaluable practical knowledge. PWE was a great opportunity to use my knowledge in the real working world and I gained a huge amount from this aspect of the degree. I am confident that the knowledge and skills learnt relating to both farming and environmental protection will be invaluable in my future career. UCD provided me with the chance to try new things from a ski trip with UCD Snowsport to kayaking in Clare with UCD Canoe Club.

