Programme Specification

University of Cumbria

Programme Title and Name of Award	BSc (Hons) Forest Management with Integrated Foundation Year		
Academic Level	6	Total Credits	480
Professional Body Accreditation / Qualification	This programme is accredited by the Institute of Chartered Foresters. On successful completion of this award, you will gain 8 qualifying points towards Professional Membership Entry (PME) of the Institute.		
Date of Professional Body Accreditation	22.01.2021	Accreditation Period	On going
UCAS Code	D500		
HECoS Code	Forestry and Arboriculture 100520		
Criteria for Admission to the Programme	The University's standard criteria for admissions apply. Please refer to the Applicant Information pages of the University website for more information. For APL, please refer to the University website. Detailed criteria for admission to this programme can be found on the programme webpage: https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/forest-management/		
Teaching Institution	N/A		
Owning Department	Science, Natural Resources and Outdoor Studies (SNROS)		
Programme delivered in conjunction with	N/A		
Principal Mode of Delivery	Face to Face		
Pattern of Delivery	Full Time This programme may also be made available on an infill part-time basis at the discretion of the Institute Head of Student Recruitment and Portfolio.		
Delivery Site(s)	Ambleside		
Programme Length	4 years Standard Registration period		

	8 years Maximum Registration period
Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR)	Upon successful completion of this programme, you may receive a Diploma Supplement/Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR).
Exit Awards	You may be awarded one of the following Exit Awards if you fail to achieve the requirements of the full programme. 120 credits = FdCert Science 240 credits = CertHE Forest Management 360 credits = DipHE Forest Management 420 credits = BSc Forest Management
Period of Approval	1 August 2020 to 31 July 2026

Cumbria Graduate Attributes

Throughout your studies, you will be provided with the skills and knowledge relevant to the global workplace. All successful graduates of the University of Cumbria will be:

- Enquiring and open to change

- Self-reliant, adaptable and flexible

- Confident in your discipline as it develops and changes over time

- Capable of working across disciplines and working well with others

- Confident in your digital capabilities

- Able to manage your own professional and personal development

- A global citizen, socially responsible and aware of the potential contribution of your work to the cultural and economic wellbeing of the community and its impact on the environment

- A leader of people and of places

- Ambitious and proud

Programme Features

The integrated foundation year (Year 0) of your Forest Management programme provides the opportunity for you to settle into University life and gain the confidence and skills to succeed in your chosen degree through participating in a supportive academic, personal and professional development programme.

The National School of Forestry (NSF) has been providing forestry education since the 1960s. It has developed a strong reputation for delivering work-ready forestry graduates. While the content has evolved in response to changes in the sector, the NSF has been delivering a forest management degree since the mid 1990s. In 2014 the NSF moved from Newton Rigg outside Penrith to a newly refurbished campus at Ambleside. This has improved access to some impressive examples of forests

and woodlands managed for a variety of objectives and this programme involves many practical sessions in the forest.

In the more than 50 years that we have been educating foresters we have developed strong links to the sector and many of our graduates are now senior managers in many forestry organisations. The quality of your course is reflected by strong graduate employment prospects and it being accredited through the Institute of Chartered Foresters.

Your Forest Management degree allows you to develop the intellectual, practical, analytical, digital, team-working and self management skills (QAA 2016 - 5.6.1-5.6.7) required to be a competent forest manager. Sustainable forest management is based on three pillars; environmental sustainability, social acceptability and economic viability (QAA 2016 - 6.6.12a) and your degree provides a strong background in these three themes and the interaction between them. There are also modules designed to develop your professional skills and also those that cut across the three main themes. The three themes of environmental, social and economic forest sustainability are addressed as follows:

Environmental: Your programme provides you with a strong background in ecology and the environmental aspects of forestry. The environmental theme starts in first year with an introduction to ecological principles, which is developed further in the later years through your studies of forest pests and diseases, the manipulation of trees and their environment through silviculture and the application of ecology in managing woodlands for conservation.

Social: The social aspects of forestry have become increasingly important, with greater consultation and participation in forest management decisions. Furthermore, the value of forestry to society has been recognised, such as through recreation and health and well-being. You will investigate these benefits, develop skills for participative management and understand the importance of policy in encouraging the management of forests for societal gain.

Economic: 'A wood that pays is a wood that stays'. The economic viability of forestry and forestry as a profession is as important to sustainability as the ecological and social aspects. Your first year introduces you to the skills required to estimate the volume and value of commercial forest stands and the knowledge of wood as a material and how it is processed into a range of products. In second you are introduced to the skills needed for organising and supervising forest operations, including harvesting. In final year you can apply research and apply recognised business planning tools to prepare a business plan.

In addition to the three underpinning themes, you will study cross-cutting and professional modules. These develop specific skills crucial to being a competent forest manager. Such skills are developed in a progressive way, with first year teaching concentrating on providing you with a basic understanding, which is then developed in later years of study. For example, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is introduced in first year, but to the extent that you will be able to create basic data maps. This is developed in second year where you will learn to use data collected in the forest in a GIS and to work with and manipulate raster and vector data. In third year you have the opportunity to use remote sensing to collect forest data and to use GIS in a more analytical way. Examples of areas of study that cut across the three main pillars of sustainable forest are the practical and technical forestry skills you learn in first year and your investigations of forest policy in the second year.

The culmination of your learning are two integrative assignments, the forest plan and the dissertation. Both of these bring together the analysis and critical thinking skills you have developed during your degree through a long term plan for an area of forest (Forest Plan) and an independent piece of research (Dissertation).

Your degree is normally three years of study. The degree has a vocational focus and it is expected that as part of your course, you will acquire practical experience in forestry through employment and through shorter periods of work experience. There are opportunities to undertake voluntary work,

through links we have developed with local organisations and through activities organised by the Forestry Society. This work experience reinforces the professional skills that you will learn during the course and it is important you gain such experience to improve your chances of employment.

Employability is also embedded in other aspects of the programme. There are opportunities to obtain the Bronze, Gold and Silver awards of Career Ahead, a structured programme designed to improve your employment skills. As your studies progress the focus of personal tutorials changes from developing study skills to acquiring skills and experience that will improve your opportunities for employment.

We actively work on providing opportunities to obtain employment post-graduation. We regularly receive details of employment opportunities and circulate these to final year students and recent graduates. In the last few years, large forestry companies such as Tilhill Forestry and Scottish Woodlands have visited to promote their graduate programmes and describe the type of work that graduates undertake in their organisation.

Your programme has been designed so that many of the learning and assessment activities mirror the tasks that you will need to undertake as a forest manager. As part of the professional focus, the content of your degree has been shaped by formal and informal consultation with the sector. We are certain that your BSc degree meets the needs of the sector and our graduates are attractive potential employees. The success of this approach is demonstrated by high employability of graduates.

Your studies begin with an induction week where you meet the students on your programme and also those on other forestry and conservation programmes. This is followed by an intensive week of study to provide you rapidly with a background to forestry. Your programme incorporates a substantial field work element with related lectures, seminars and workshops. Typically you will also attend a residential study tour in L4 and L5 of your studies, and additional costs may be incurred.

Aims of the Programme

The overall aims of the Programme are:

The aims of this programme are, with a view to future employability, to:

- Prepare graduates for work as professionals in the forestry sector
- Allow you to develop a critical awareness of forest management from a multidisciplinary perspective
- Enable you to critically evaluate and apply key concepts underpinning professional practice within the forestry sector
- Provide opportunity for development of relevant and appropriate skills that are requirement of graduates and prerequisite for continuing personal and professional development

The subject specific aims of the programme are that you will be able to:

- Understand the scientific and socio-economic principles underlying forestry – physical and biological processes, silvicultural, economic and business concepts and social factors
- Critically appraise the structure and behaviour of forest ecosystems - characteristics of the world's forests and components of physical environments
- Evaluate the functions and impacts of forests - multiple-benefits, forest product utilisation, effects on society and environment and the main features of policy.

The science and research specific aims of the programme are focused on enabling you to:

- Understand the requirements for presenting information in a scientific manner
- Apply scientific and statistically appropriate methods to a research investigation

Level Descriptors

Level Descriptors describe in general terms the expected outcomes you will achieve at each level of study as you progress through your programmes. They describe the relative demand, complexity, depth of learning and learner autonomy associated with a particular level of learning and achievement. The University's Level Descriptors are aligned to the national [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) (FHEQ) and are a key mechanism for ensuring the academic standards of the University's provision.

At Level 3: (Usually Year 0 undergraduate), you will be able to:

- Recognise the breadth of the field of study and apply the skills of manipulation of knowledge to make informed judgements within routine contexts and with guidance.
- Begin to work beyond defined contexts.
- Apply established approaches to solving well defined problems, showing emerging recognition of the complexity of associated issues and communicate outcomes effectively in an appropriate format.
- Within a defined context and under guidance, evaluate personal and workplace experience and manage information and data from a range of sources appropriate to the field of study.

At Level 4: (Usually Year 1 undergraduate), you will be able to demonstrate that you have the ability:

- To apply a systematic approach to the acquisition of knowledge, underpinning concepts and principles and deploy a range of subject specific, cognitive and transferable skills.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving well defined problems and communicate outcomes in a structured and clear manner.

- Identify and discuss the relationship between personal and work place experience and findings from books and journals and other data drawn from the field of study.

At Level 5: (Usually Year 2 undergraduate), you will be able to demonstrate that you have the ability:

- To apply and evaluate key concepts and theories within and outside the context in which they were first studied.

- Select appropriately from and deploy a range of subject-specific, cognitive and transferable skills and problem solving strategies to problems in the field of study and in the generation of ideas effectively communicate information and arguments in a variety of forms.

- Accept responsibility for determining and achieving personal outcomes.

- Reflect on personal and work place experience in the light of recent scholarship and current statutory regulations.

At Level 6: (Usually Year 3 undergraduate), you will be able to demonstrate that you have the ability:

- To critically review, consolidate and extend a systematic and coherent body of knowledge.

- Critically evaluate concepts and evidence from a range of resources.

- Transfer and apply subject-specific, cognitive and transferable skills and problem solving strategies to a range of situations and to solve complex problems.

- Communicate solutions, arguments and ideas clearly and in a variety of forms.

- Exercise considerable judgement in a range of situations.

- Accept accountability for determining and achieving personal and group outcomes.

- Reflect critically and analytically on personal and work place experience in the light of recent scholarship and current statutory regulations.

Programme Outcomes – Knowledge and Understanding

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the following:

After 120 credits of study (FdCert) you will be able to:

K01. Gain the knowledge and understanding of a range of data collection and handling techniques applied within the context of Forest Management.

K02. Apply and explain theories, models, concepts and principles that underpin the study of Forest Management.

After 240 credits of study (CertHE) you will be able to:

K1. Explain in general the nature of forestry in the UK and globally

K2. Describe the important management aspects of a woodland

K3. Understand the properties of wood as a material and its potential uses

K4. Measure and estimate the volume of trees and stands

K5. Select the correct tool for forestry practical skills and prepare a risk assessment

K6. Explain the ecological principles behind natural resource management.

After 360 credits of study (DipHE) you will be able to:

K7. Describe critically the development of forest policy in the UK and the domestic and international influences.

K8. Manage and plan routine forest operations, including budgets.

K9. Understand the threats to forests and describe how they can be mitigated.

K10. Use GIS to map, describe and analyse forest information.

K 11. Understand the value of the forest environment to people.

K12. Design an experiment and statistically analyse data

After 480 credits of study (BSc Hons) you will be able to demonstrate:

K13. Collect and critically analyse information on a forest, devising prescriptions for a long-term plan.

K14. Critically analyse external and internal aspects of a business and produce a business plan.

K15. Explore aspects of trees and forests in detail, such as impacts of climate change, remote sensing and woodland ecology.

K16. Complete an independent research project on a forestry topic with support from your supervisor.

K17. Explain recent developments in silviculture.

Programme Outcomes – Skills and other Attributes (including Employability Skills)

The programme provides opportunities for you to develop and demonstrate the following:

Programme skills outcomes at your different levels of study are described below:

After 120 credits of study (FdCert) you will be able to:

S01. Gain academic, personal and professional skills needed to succeed in higher education.

S02. Competently and progressively develop basic and core experimental skills.

S03. Undertake fieldwork and data skills, techniques and competencies needed to study and work in forestry.

After 240 credits of study (CertHE) you will be able to:

S1. Collect, summarise, analyse and present basic forestry information derived from the forest and online

S2. Use specialised forestry equipment to assess the volume and value of forest stands.

S3. Write a scientific report, adopting an appropriate structure and using an accepted system of referencing.

S4. Use a range of forestry tools safely

S5. Undertake ecological field data collection

S6. Keep a notebook of field activities

S7. Produce documents required for a job application, such as a CV and cover letter

S8. Create and deliver a professional presentation

After 360 credits of study (DipHE) you will be able to:

S9. Describe a forest and its potential management through GIS

S10. Plan and collect, analyse and present results from your own research study

S11. Organise, supervise and prepare appropriate records/ documentation for forest operations.

S12. Use participative and collaborative methods to inform forest planning

S13. Conduct a forest health survey of a forest area.

After 480 credits of study (BSc Hons) you will be able to demonstrate:

S14. Complete a scientific research study on a topic of your choice

S15. Devise a long-term management plan for a forest area

S16. Write a business plan

S17. Write a scientific journal review article

S18. Prepare a scientific poster.

External and Internal Reference Points

The following Subject Benchmark Statements and other external and internal reference points have been used to inform the Programme Outcomes:

- This programme has been designed in consultation with students, academics external to the University, practitioners in the forestry sector and forestry organisations. There are two main benchmark statements which relate to this programme. The first is the <u>QAA 2016 Subject Benchmark Statement: Agriculture, Horticulture, Forestry, Food, Nutrition and Consumer Sciences.</u> The second is the ICF accreditation criteria as these provide a measure of quality of the course within the forestry profession. These have been used as guidance when designing this programme of study. In addition the proposals in the recent DEFRA (2018) A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment' have been taken into account when devising the content of your programme.
- The programme has also been developed in reference to the following internal documents:
- University Academic Strategy 2014-20;
- Departmental Business Plan for Science, Natural Resources and Outdoor Studies;
- Departmental response to Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy 2014-17
- UoC <u>Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy</u>
- UoC <u>Strategic Plan</u>
- UoC <u>Academic Design Principles</u>.
- UoC <u>Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes</u>

Graduate Prospects

Your course is designed to provide you with the skills and knowledge that will enable you to be an effective forest manager. Our graduates are highly successful in finding forestry employment as managers or supervisors.

Many of the members of the Institute of Chartered Foresters will retire in the next twenty years. Succession planning is an issue recognised by forestry organisations and the current prospects for graduate employment in the forestry sector are good. Several large forestry employers offer graduate schemes and these have included Tillhill Forestry, Scottish Woodlands and Forestry Commission England. These opportunities have led to full-time employment for our students.

Your degree also provides opportunities for further studies through Masters degrees or Doctoral study. Recent students have gone on to study MSc degrees in subjects such as conservation and forest protection and environment and forest management. Former graduates are also studying PhD degrees in topics as diverse as montane scrub in England and applying an ecosystem approach to forest management.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies employed to enable the Programme Outcomes to be Achieved and Demonstrated

As a student at the University of Cumbria, you are part of an inclusive learning community that recognises diversity. You will have opportunities to learn by interacting with others in a collegiate, facilitative and dynamic learning environment. Teaching, assessment and student support will allow equal and equitable opportunities for you to optimise your potential and develop autonomy.

We seek to create a stimulating and innovative community of learning, whether encountered on campus or at a distance, on placement or in the workplace. Facilitated by our expert practitioner staff, you will experience a learning environment that is well equipped, flexible, and stimulating.

Learning and Teaching

The University's Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy has four themes; (1) Excellence in Learning, Teaching and Assessment, (2) Responsive Learner Support and (3) Employability & Graduateness and (4) Developing Digital Capabilities of Students & Staff. The approaches adopted in your programme reflect these. Above all, learning, teaching and assessment are designed to engage you in experiences that are enriching, enjoyable and intellectually stimulating.

A range of learning and teaching approaches are used in your course to match the way that you learn. Delivery of your course is through practical sessions in the forest and in the classroom, through lectures and seminars and through field visits. The location of the campus at Ambleside allows us to access a large area of woodland, managed for many different objectives. The teaching facilities at the Ambleside campus are of a good standard and you have access to specialised teaching rooms such as a computer suite and laboratories.

While most assessment is individual, there are opportunities for group-working, particularly in outdoor practical sessions where data is collected. This will help you develop collaborative and organisational skills ready for the workplace. You are encouraged to reflect on your skills development and relate it to those required in the workplace. Most foresters work in small teams and so developing social, collaborative and organisational skills is important.

In addition to face-to-face learning you will also have access to Blackboard, our virtual learning environment. The material on this platform will support and enrich your learning experience, through provision of material used in classes but also additional material such as additional reading, videos and tasks.

You will be supported in the progressive acquisition of subject knowledge and skills, gradually advancing towards more independent learning in the final year, whilst developing a reflective approach to personal progress. This means many of the skills you learn are transferable across modules and build up through the levels. For example, in first year we explore collection of basic forest information and its presentation, skills which are then developed in modules in second year, such as Managing Forest Operations and GIS and which in turn are used in your final year modules such as the Forest Plan. At each level your analytical and planning skills are developed further.

This programme is focused on providing you with the skills and knowledge to become a competent forest manager. Employability is therefore an important aim of the programme. Many of the assignments are designed to reflect the skills that would be required in the workplace, and which involve collection of information, analysis and presentation of results. Another important element is using forest information to develop practical plans for managing woodlands.

An important option in the programme is the work placement between second and third year. This normally involves working for a full year with a forestry organisation. Students are selected on a competitive basis and so it is important that you develop academic and practical skills and gain some experience of the sector.

During your studies you will develop your digital skill and competency. In first year, Forestry Fundamentals will introduce you to using Excel to summarise and process forestry information and will provide you with basic map making skills using GIS. A full module in GIS in your second year provides you with the basic skills needed for forest planning. As an option you can develop your knowledge of GIS further in the final years where you will use it as an analytical tool. Through your assignments you will learn to use MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint in an effective manner.

Assessment

Our assessment strategy has also been developed to be in line with the University's Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy 2017-20.

The main drivers of this strategy are to:

- provide innovative, challenging and stimulating assessment which will enable you to develop the knowledge and professional skills required for employment.

- be student-centred, flexible and modern in both content and approach.

- be fully supported by, and integrated with technological approaches such as the Blackboard virtual learning environment (VLE).

- impart academic rigour to the teaching and learning processes.

- support the development of independence, autonomy and self-reflection.

- support learners' needs at different stages of development.

As a consequence, we employ a wide range of different assessment methods appropriate to the needs of the module and its content. The range of assessment we employ includes:

- fieldwork reports

- computer-based assessments

- problem solving exercises (both of a practical and written format)

- devising plans, based on the collection and analysis of information

- oral, audio-visual and poster presentations

- dissertations

- group work

- unseen examinations

- open book examinations

We use two broad types of assessment. The first is summative assessment, which is an assignment that is marked and contributes to the marks for a module. The second is formative assessment and this does not contribute to your marks but is used to assess your understanding and sometimes to prepare you for the task required in a formative assessment. For example, most lectures will have questions and answers embedded in the session or will involve some sort of discussion, which will test your understanding. Some sessions include formative activities that replicate the tasks required for a summative assessment for example summarising forest information that is then used in summative reports and plans.

While organising your workload is a skill that you will develop during your studies, we try to spread the deadlines for assessments across the academic year. Despite this there is a tendency for assessment to bunch towards the end of each semester. To help your work planning we prepare an assessment schedule which shows the deadline for each of your assignments. We try to avoid scheduling two assignments deadlines in the same week.

Student Support

We provide responsive learner support that promotes student success. Our approach to learner support is designed to support achievement and progression, champion inclusivity and accessibility, prepare you for opportunities beyond study, and promote independence and resilience, enabling you to achieve your potential.

As a student of the University of Cumbria, you will be taught by academics and expert practitioners who facilitate learning through structured inquiry. You will be provided with access to high quality academic resources through physical and digital libraries and will be supported to develop skills that enable you to become a critical, reflective, discerning and independent learner and researcher.

Induction

Induction takes place during Welcome Week prior to the start of the programme. All level 3 students will share a common induction programme to provide the opportunity for you to meet with other students in your subject area and those from other level 3 foundation programs who share common university-wide modules. You will undertake a series of activities designed to form cohesion amongst the student group, to familiarise you with the University and introduce you to a range of support services and staff who are there to help you settle into university life and help you progress through your studies. You will be shown how to use our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) which is called 'Blackboard' and how to submit assessments using 'Turn it In'. All students will attend centrally organised sessions, Student Life and Help is at Hand.

You will have an exciting and stimulating induction week. This is designed to introduce you to your classmates, to the facilities and services offered by the University and to your programme of study. Normally there are two full-day outings. The first combines all forestry and conservation programmes and allows you to meet your classmates and other students you will study with. The second is normally for forestry students only and has a more woodland or forestry focus. There are also a number of generic sessions, such as library and information services, financial and mental health services, a laboratory induction and an introduction to the equipment stores.

Student Transition Advisor Support (level 3)

During the first year of your programme (year 0) you will have access to support from dedicated Student Transition Advisors. These advisors will provide you with individual academic and pastoral support alongside the academic team to ensure you reach your full potential whilst you are on this programme. In particular they will help you to adjust adjustment to university study, assist you in the navigation of the academic environment, policies, expectations and signposting to a wide range of services. They also work with you and your personal tutor to help you to develop your own strategies for effective study and provide additional one-to-one and group support in academic writing and numeracy skills.

A key feature of the foundation year programme is the additional student support that has been built into the modules in particular the Essential University Skills 1 and Essential University Skills 2 modules, that have an additional 12 contact hours included to enable staff to provide additional individual and group tutorials facilitated by the Student Transition Advisors.

Personal Tutoring

You will also be allocated a Personal Tutor. Your Personal Tutor will be proactively involved in the delivery of your programme and will have contact with you throughout your time at the University. They will support your learning and development, including through tutorials, Progress Reviews and other support as outlined in the Personal Tutoring Policy. In the Institute we have a structured approach to personal tutorials focused on raising your academic achievement and employability.

Personal Development Planning

This degree will provide you with a structured programme for developing your technical skills and also the personal and employment skills you will need as a professional forest manager. In your first year, the personal tutorial support is largely directed at ensuring that you develop essential study skills. However, there are opportunities to develop employment skills through the University's Career Ahead programme. In your second and third year of study, employability becomes a more important element of personal tutorials and the focus is directed at encouraging you to build your employability and networking skills.

The most effective opportunity for developing your employment skills is building up work experience and opportunities exist, and you should capitalise on them. There is a student-led Forestry Society that organises opportunities for volunteering and also other opportunities are circulated to students via email. You will also be encouraged to joining organisations such as the Institute of Chartered

Foresters, ConFor and the Royal Forestry Society who hold regional events that you should consider attending. These improve your knowledge of forestry but also provide opportunities for networking.

The range of personal and employment skills that are developed through the modules in your programme are described in the following three tables. These are skills identified as being appropriate for 'foresters' and 'head foresters' in the UK Commission for Employment and Skills (2012) report on Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing. You will note that there are some modules, such as Managing Forest operations, Placement and Dissertation where there are many opportunities to develop your personal skills and there are other that are more focused.

For several modules, team working skills are employed for aspects such as data collection. This is important as most forestry jobs involve working in small teams. You will be required to organise yourself and others and plan your activities. Examples of modules using group data collection are the Measuring Trees and Forests, the Silviculture module, the Woodland Ecology module and the Forest Plan. The skills you will develop on each module are shown below, with optional modules highlighted in grey.

	Practical skills	Technical skills	Knowledge transfer skills	IT Skills	Numeracy skills	Communication skills	Leadership skills	Risk management	Project management	Negotiation skills
Introduction to Managing Trees, Woods and Forests		X	X							
Measuring Trees and Forests	X	X		X	X			X		
Silviculture	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Woodland Ecology	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		
Wood utilisation and processing		X	X		X	X			X	
Forestry fundamentals	X		X	X		X				
Practical Forest Skills	X					X	X	X		X

	Practical skills	Technical skills	Knowledge transfer skills	IT Skills	Numeracy skills	Communication skills	Leadership skills	Risk management	Project management	Negotiation skills
GIS	X	X		X	X	X				

	Practical skills	Technical skills	Knowledge transfer skills	IT Skills	Numeracy skills	Communication skills	Leadership skills	Risk management	Project management	Negotiation skills
Research Methods & Data Analysis			X	X	X			X	X	
Managing forest operations	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Forest Policy and Governance		X				X				
Forest Health and Protection	X	X	X			X		X		
People & Forests	X		X		X	X		X	X	X

	Practical skills	Technical skills	Knowledge transfer skills	IT Skills	Numeracy skills	Communication skills	Leadership skills	Risk management	Project management	Negotiation skills
Forest Plan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Dissertation	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
Advanced Silviculture		X	X			X				
Business Skills	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Woodland Ecology & Conservation	X	X	X			X		X		
Advanced GIS and Remote Sensing	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Climate Smart Forestry	X	X	X	X	X	X				

These skills, identified by the sector also relate to the Cumbria Graduate Attributes:

	Practical skills	Technical skills	Knowledge transfer skills	IT Skills	Numeracy skills	Communication skills	Leadership skills	Risk management	Project management	Negotiation skills
Enquiring and open to change							X			X

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Self-reliant, adaptable and flexible							X	X		X
Confident in your discipline as it develops and changes over time	X	X	X							
Capable of working across disciplines and working well with others			X			X		X		X
Confident in your digital capabilities		X								
Able to manage your own professional and personal development	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
A global citizen, socially responsible aware of your potential contribution to wellbeing of the community and impact on the environment					X	X	X			
A leader of people and of places							X			
Ambitious and proud							X			

Library and Academic Support (based in Information Services)

Module leaders will collaborate with Library and Academic Advisors to ensure that your reading and resource lists are current and items are available via the library discovery tool OneSearch. In order to maximise access, availability and usefulness, ebooks and electronic journal titles will, in most cases, be prioritised. You can access a wide range of electronic and print content using OneSearch and you can find out more about key texts, databases and journals for your subject by accessing the library's subject resources webpages. Where appropriate, module reading and resource lists will be made available to you electronically using the University's online reading and resource list system.

The Skills@Cumbria service can help support your academic skills and success throughout your programme. The service is delivered by a team of professional Library and Academic Advisors. It includes a suite of online self-help resources accessible 24/7 via the University's website and Blackboard site. It also provides group and individual advice and guidance accessible through and

alongside your course and by different means such as face to face, email or virtual. Visit skills@cumbria for more details.

IT and Technical Support

Technology is an invaluable asset when it comes to studying, so it's important you know how to make the most out of the excellent facilities we have available. Our aim is to ensure you can access university electronic resources from anywhere or any device, whether on or off campus. The Student Hub is your one-stop gateway to all university systems, Outlook email, and OneDrive.

Whether you consider yourself a computer expert or you're not confident about your IT skills, we're always around to ensure you get the level of support you need. We have a wealth of information and support available on the website and have a dedicated IT Service Desk where you can talk to someone by phone or log your question online from anywhere, at any time.

Student Support Services

Student Support Services offer a wide range of support, including: careers and employability, financial help, counselling, health and wellbeing and support for disabled students and those with specific learning requirements. We also offer mentoring by trained students which you can request at any point during your studies. We know that you want to get the most out of your programme, make the best use of your time and find or continue in the career you always dreamed of. Access university support and facilities easily and quickly via the website and/or via the Student Services guidance tile on the Student Hub.

In addition to the range of guidance above, you have the opportunity to further develop your personal, academic and professional skills by taking part in a number of initiatives coordinated and delivered by professional services advisers:

Head Start

Head Start is a self-learning pre-entry module that is completed online and at your own pace. The module gives new undergraduate students an opportunity to prepare for their transition into university and to start to develop the academic skills that will help them become successful students.

All UG students are given the opportunity to register and complete Head Start prior to entry on their main programme of study. If you haven't been able to complete Head Start before starting your course, you can access the module via Blackboard by selecting the Skills@Cumbria tab and then the Head Start tile. Learning at university, academic writing and referencing are the key topics introduced in the module and previous students have told us how useful they have found the online resources and activities.

Head Start Plus

Head Start Plus is also an online skills development course, designed to support students who are about or who have just started study at level 5 or 6 (2nd and 3rd year undergraduate). This course is particularly recommended to students who may not have studied at HE level for some time or who are transitioning into the higher HE levels. The course provides a useful refresh on academic skills and practice and an insight into the expectations of tutors at those levels.

This course is free and available via the Open Education Platform powered by Blackboard. To access the course, follow the link to https://openeducation.blackboard.com/cumbria and set-up a free account with Open Education. Once logged on, select the course free of charge and work through it at your own pace.

Peer Mentoring @ Cumbria

You will be allocated a student Mentor who will be in touch to offer a non-judgemental and friendly hand and to help with various aspects of your student experience, from making friends to settling in, to helping you understand the expectations of academic study and dealing with assessment worries.

Mature Students' Events

Whether it is a coffee morning, lunchtime gathering or a social event, there are events happening throughout the year to link you up with other mature students who will also be juggling a number of commitments alongside their studies.

Help is at Hand Events

Keep a look out for these interactive events on campus around October and January. You are encouraged to attend these as they showcase the range of support available here and give you the opportunity to talk to people from Finance, Accommodation, the Students' Union, the Wellbeing and Disability Team etc.

Career Ahead+

Career Ahead+ is the University of Cumbria's Employability Award. Completing Career Ahead+ will help you recognise and develop your skills, providing a greater opportunity for you to get the job you want when you graduate. The award is based on what employers look for in an ideal candidate, in relation to skills, knowledge and experience. You will be supported with career direction, gaining experience, and providing all the skills needed to complete the perfect application and be successful in that all important job interview. Contact careerahead@cumbria.ac.uk or visit www.cumbria.ac.uk/careerahead for more information.

Programme Curriculum Map					
Academic Level	**Module Code**	**Module Title**	**Credits**	**Module Status***	**Programme Outcomes achieved**
3	UNIF3003	Essential University Skills 1	20	Compulsory	K01, S01
3	UNIF3005	Essential Biology	20	Compulsory	K02, S01
3	UNIF3015	Scientific Investigation	20	Compulsory	K01, K02, S03
3	UNIF3004	Essential University Skills 2	20	Compulsory	K02, S01
3	UNIF3017	Environmental Sciences	20	Compulsory	K01, K01, S01, S02
3	UNIF3018	Dynamic Earth	20	Compulsory	K01, K02, S02, S03
4	HSOF4101	Introduction to Managing Trees, Woods and Forests	10	Compulsory	K1, K2, S3
4	HSOF4102	Measuring Trees and Forests	20	Compulsory	K4, S2, S3
4	HSOF4103	Silviculture	20	Compulsory	K2, K6, S3, S6
4	HSOF4110	Woodland Ecology	20	Compulsory	K6, S6
4	HSOF4109	Wood Utilisation and Processing	20	Compulsory	K3, S3
4	HSOF4100	Forestry Fundamentals	10	Compulsory	K2, S1, S3, S7, S8
4	HSOF4107	Practical Forest Skills	20	Compulsory	K5, S4, S6
5	HSOF5102	Geographic Information Systems	20	Compulsory	K10, S9
5	HSOC5100	Research Methods and Data Analysis	20	Compulsory	K12, S10

5	HSOF5107	Managing Forest Operations	20	Compulsory	K8, S9, S2, S3, S9, S11
5	HSOF5104	Forest Policy and Governance	20	Compulsory	K7, S3
5	HSOF5105	Forest Health and Protection	20	Compulsory	K9, S3, S6, S13
5	HSOF5108	People & Forests	20	Compulsory	K11, S3, S12
6	HSOF6101	Forest Plan	20	Compulsory	K13, S1, S2, S9, S15
6	HSOC6100	Dissertation	40	Compulsory	K16 S10, S14, S18
6	HSOF6114	Advanced Silviculture	20	Compulsory	K17, S17, S18
6	HSOF6100	Business Skills	20	Compulsory	K14, S16
6	HSOF6102	Woodland Conservation	20	Optional	K15, S1, S3, S6,
6	HSOF6112	Advanced GIS and Remote Sensing	20	Optional	K15, S3, S9
6	HSOF6113	Climate Smart Forestry	20	Optional	K15, S3, S5

Notes

This programme operates in accordance with the University's Academic Regulations and Academic Procedures and Processes.

The forestry programmes use two 10 credit modules in the first year, Forest Fundamentals and Introduction to Trees & Forests. The one module comprises an introduction with technical information on forestry whereas the second provides professional skills such as Excel spreadsheets, report writing skills and mapping skills. The module on technical information is delivered as a block over just over one week, getting students intensively engaged in the subject at the start of their degrees.

Options

Optional modules may be subject to availability and viability. Options are chosen in the period March to May of the preceding year from when you wish to take them. Information is sent electronically to students via ICON for registration on modules for the forthcoming year. Around the same time, the programme leader will organise a seminar where module tutors will explain a little bit about the essential features and assessment of their module. Copies of the MDFs related to the modules will be available on the programme blackboard site for you to peruse.

In first year (level 4) all modules are compulsory

In second year (level 5) all modules are compulsory

In your final year (level 6) you will select one optional module (20 credits) from those that are available. If we have insufficient numbers of students interested in an optional module in any given academic year, this may not be offered. If an optional module will not be running, we will advise you as soon as possible and help you choose an alternative module

Pre requisites

Given the nature of the discipline area, there are number of pre-requisites for certain modules at Level 6. These are as follows:

HSOC6100 Dissertation requires you have taken and successfully passed HSOC5100 Research Methods and Data Analysis or equivalent.

HSOF6101 Forest Plan and HSOF6112 Advanced GIS and Remote Sensing requires you to have taken and passed HSOF5102 Geographic Information Systems or equivalent.

A failed student will not be permitted to re-register on the same programme

If you are progressing from the previous version of the programme, due to taking a placement year or intercalation you will not study Advanced Silviculture (HSOF6114) as the content is similar to the previous second year module, Silviculture 2 (HSOF5001). You must therefore select an additional optional module.

* **Key to Module Status**	
Compulsory Modules	Must be taken although it may possible to condone/compensate as a marginal fail (within the limits set out in the Academic Regulations and provided that all core or pass/fail elements of module assessment have been passed)
Optional Modules	Are a set of modules from which you will be required to choose a set number to study. Once chosen, it may possible to condone/compensate as a marginal fail (within the limits set out in the Academic Regulations and provided that all core or pass/fail elements of module assessment have been passed)

Programme Delivery Structure: Full Time				
Module Code	**Module Title**	**Delivery Pattern**	**Method(s) of Assessment**	**Approximate Assessment Deadline**
		Autumn Semester (1) / Spring Semester (2) / Extended Spring Semester / Year-Long		
UNIF3003	Essential University Skills 1	Autumn	Written assignment (50%) Presentation (50%)	Mid Semester 1 End Semester 1
UNIF3004	Essential University Skills 2	Spring	Written assignment (50%) Presentation (50%)	Mid Semester 2 End Semester 2
UNIF3005	Essential Biology	Autumn	Portfolio (50%) Set Exercise (50%)	Mid Semester 1 End Semester 1
UNIF3015	Scientific Investigation	Autumn	Set Exercise (50%) Report (50%)	Mid Semester 1 End Semester 1
UNIF3018	Dynamic Earth	Spring	Set Exercise (50%) Written Exam (50%)	Mid Semester 2 End Semester 2
UNIF3017	Environmental Sciences	Spring	Portfolio (100%)	End Semester 2
Students exiting at this point with 120 credits would receive a FdCert Science				
HSOF4101	Introduction to Managing Trees, Woods and Forests	Autumn	Report (50%) Practical tests (50%)	Mid Semester End Semester
HSOF4102	Measuring Trees and Forests	Autumn	Report (50%)	End Semester

			Set Exercise (50%)	End Semester
HSOF4103	Silviculture 1	Spring	Report (70%) Report (30%)	Mid Semester End Semester
HSOF4110	Woodland Ecology	Spring	Written assignment (60%) Exam (40%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF4109	Wood Utilisation & Processing	Spring	Set exercise (60%) Report (40%)	End Semester Mid Semester
HSOF4100	Forestry Fundamentals	Autumn	Report (100%)	End Semester
HSOF4107	Practical Forest Skills	Autumn	Portfolio (100%)	End Semester
Students exiting at this point with 240 credits would receive a CertHE Forest Management				
HSOC5100	Research Methods and Data Analysis	Year Long	Practical skills assessment (30%) Written assignment (70%)	Mid/end semester
HSOF5102	Geographic Information Systems	Autumn	Competence portfolio (70%) Written assignment (30%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF5107	Managing Forest Operations	Autumn	Set exercise (70%) Report (30%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF5104	Forest Policy and Governance	Year-long	Written assignment (75%) Written assignment (25%)	End Semester End Semester
HSOF5105	Forest Health and Protection	Spring	Report (70%) Oral Presentation (30%)	End Semester Mid Semester

| HSOF5108 | People & Forests | Spring | Written assignment (80%) | End Semester |
| | | | Oral presentation (20%) | End Semester |

HSOF6101	Forest Plan	Autumn	Written Report (80%)	End Semester
			Oral presentation (20%)	End Semester
HSOF6100	Business Skills	Spring	Written assignment (80%)	End Semester
			Oral presentation (20%)	Mid Semester
HSOF6114	Advanced Silviculture	Autumn	Written Assignment (70%)	Mid Semester
			Set Exercise (30%)	End Semester
HSOC6100	Dissertation	Year	Dissertation (80%)	End Semester 2
			Oral presentation (20%)	End Semester 1
HSOF6102	Woodland Conservation	Autumn	Report (80%)	End Semester
			Oral presentation (20%)	Mid Semester
HSOF6112	Advanced GIS and Remote Sensing	Autumn	Project work (70%)	Mid Semester
			Written assignment (30%)	End Semester
HSOF6113	Climate Smart Forestry	Spring	Report (60%)	Mid Semester
			Journal article (40%)	End Semester

Students exiting at this point with 420 credits would receive an Ordinary BSc Forest Management

Students exiting at this point with 480 credits would receive a BSc (Hons) Forest Management (with Integrated Foundation Year)

Methods for Evaluating and Improving the Quality and Standards of Learning	
Mechanisms used for the Review and Evaluation of the Curriculum and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Methods	• Module Evaluation • Programme Validation and Periodic Review • Annual Monitoring • Peer Review of Teaching • External Examiner Reports
Mechanisms used for gaining and responding to feedback on the quality of teaching and the learning experience – gained from: Students, graduates, employers, placement and work-based learning providers, other stakeholders, etc.	• Staff Student Forum • Module Evaluation Forms • Programme Evaluation: National Student Survey, UK Engagement Survey • Module/Programme/Personal tutorials • Meetings with External Examiners • Discussions with employers about student preparedness and performance during placements • Information gained through staff engagement with the sector and through conversations with recent graduates.

Date of Programme Specification Production:	January 2019
Date Programme Specification was last updated:	July 2024
For further information about this programme, refer to the programme page on the University website	

The following information has implications for potential international applicants who require a Tier 4 visa to study in the UK	
Is the placement requirement more than 50% of the programme?	No
If yes, what % of the programme is the placement requirement?	n/a
If yes, is the amount of placement a statutory requirement to meet Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) or Department of Education requirements?	n/a