



Soil Scientist Apprenticeship with MSc in Soil Science

www.cranfield.ac.uk/SoilScienceApprenticeship



Co-designed by UK industry, the Soil Scientist Apprenticeship will equip and upskill organisations with the knowledge, understanding, tools, practices, and resources to achieve optimal soil management. It will deepen your knowledge of soils across diverse land-use contexts, delve into cutting-edge technologies for effective decision-making, showcase best practice in analysing soils on and off site and help you build the personal competencies you need as a soil scientist.

Our Soil Scientist Apprenticeship meets the requirements of the Level 7 Soil Scientist Apprenticeship Standard, enabling graduates to perform effectively as professional soil scientists in a competitive and fast-changing environment.

On completion of the programme, you will acquire a Soil Scientist Apprenticeship and a Master's Degree in Soil Science. You will also attain Technical Membership of the British Society of Soil Science and you will be eligible to apply for Chartered Scientist status.

Who is it for?

- Soil scientists and consultants, who are keen to upskill their knowledge and understanding of soil monitoring and analysing soil conditions, as well as those who assist farmers in determining soil health and optimising sustainable management strategies.
- Employees of organisations that offer guidance on earthworks, construction and demolition projects, or urban green infrastructure, who are keen to advance their expertise in assessing and mitigating the effects of such works on urban soils.
- Soil mappers and surveyors who use a combination of digital technology and traditional tools like soil pit digging to evaluate soil types for various stakeholders.
- Environmental consultants specialising in providing advice on sustainable materials, waste management, biodiversity, flood control, and ecosystem restoration.
- Government agencies and non-profit organisations that inform soil policy decisions and develop guidance documents.
- The apprenticeship route of this course is suitable for students based in the UK, those outside the UK are welcome to study the course but will need to apply for the Soil Science MSc.

Overview

Start date

14 January 2025

Duration

Two years part-time

Qualification

MSc

Study type

Part-time

Structure

Taught modules: 120 credits, Reflective portfolio project: 60 credits

Campus

Cranfield campus/Online

Entry requirements

Before an application is submitted for our apprenticeship programme, prospective students need to have approval from the employer. Students have to be employed and your employer has to agree to provide you with the support and supervision to carry out your job role and your apprenticeship. It is a requirement of the Apprenticeship Funding Rules that you are working at least 50% of your contracted hours in England.

A three-way agreement needs to be put in place between Cranfield University, the employer and the student.

As part of all Higher-Level Apprenticeships in England (this includes all apprenticeship provision at Cranfield University), it is a requirement by the Education and Skills Funding Agency that an apprentice holds or achieves an approved level 2 qualification in Mathematics and English before they can successfully complete the apprenticeship. Such evidence can include GCSE/O Level grade C/4 or higher.

Please see list for details of acceptable qualifications - List of acceptable qualifications, under tab Level_3_Apprenticeships.

Please note that Degree certificates (unless the words 'Mathematics' or 'English' are in the title) and secure English language tests, like IELTS, are not deemed acceptable by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Please see www.cranfield.ac.uk/fees for detailed information about fee status, full-time and part-time fees as well as deposit requirements and bursary and scholarship information.

Course details

The course comprises 12 taught modules and a reflective portfolio project. It will be primarily delivered online from Cranfield University's new state-of-the-art teaching studio which allows students to engage interactively within a virtual classroom. This will also enable wide and diverse participation across the UK. Modules are evenly spread throughout the two years and will primarily be delivered live on Tuesdays.

Four modules (two in year 1 and two in year 2) will include one-week residential at Cranfield, where field-based and laboratory-based skills can be best demonstrated. This will provide ideal opportunities throughout the course for the cohort to get to know each other, network with academics and industry representatives, and create enduring supportive alumni groups.

Throughout the course, you will also work on an individual reflective portfolio which will draw upon the knowledge, understanding, skills and behaviours that you accrue throughout the taught modules. This will provide an opportunity to demonstrate that you can apply the learning from the course in a practical real-world scenario.

Modules

Keeping our courses up-to-date and current requires constant innovation and change. The modules we offer reflect the needs of business and industry and the research interests of our staff. As a result, they may change or be withdrawn due to research developments, legislation changes or for a variety of other reasons. Changes may also be designed to improve the student learning experience or to respond to feedback from students, external examiners, accreditation bodies and industrial advisory panels.

To give you a taster, we have listed below the compulsory and elective (where applicable) modules which are currently affiliated with this course. All modules are indicative only, and may be subject to change for your year of entry

Compulsory modules

All the modules in the following list need to be taken as part of this course.

Project Management and Portfolio

Introduction to Soils

Soil Policy

Desk-based Soil Assessments and Basic Statistics

Soil Surveying

Field-based Methods for Rural Soils

Fundamental Laboratory Methods in Soil Science

Soils - a Nexus

Soil Mapping, Modelling and GIS

Advanced Data Analysis and Statistics

Field-based Methods for Urban Soils

Advanced Laboratory Methods in Soil Science

Sustainable and Resilient Land Management

"Cranfield's teaching staff are highly experienced in the industries in which they teach. As a result, apprentices gain substantial new knowledge and skills that help them to excel in their job roles and prepare effectively for promoted posts at work."

Ofsted

January 2024

Accreditation

This apprenticeship aligns with British Society of Soil Science for technical membership. The apprenticeship will align with the requirements for membership with British Society of Soil Science. Those enrolling for the apprenticeship will be able to apply for Early Careers membership of the Society which will automatically change to technical membership upon demonstration of successful completion of the apprenticeship.

For more information contact our Admissions Team:
T: +44 (0)1234 758082

Visit campus for yourself and meet current students and our academics at our next Open Day:
www.cranfield.ac.uk/openday

December 2024

Every effort is made to ensure that the information provided here is correct at the time it is published. Please check our website for the latest information.