

Course Catalogue

College Name
Agricultural Engineering Sciences
Department Name (in English)
Environment and Ecotourism
Department Name (in Kurdish)
زینکه وکه شتیاریا زینکه هناسی
Department Name (in Arabic)
البيئة والسياحة البيئية
1. Qualification awarded
Bachelor of Science in Environment and Ecotourism
2. Length of program
4 Years
3. Number of credits
240 ECTS credits
4. Level of qualification according to the National Qualification Framework and the European Qualifications Framework
First cycle, Bachelor's degree
5. Field(s) of study (e.g. ISCED-F)
071
6. Specific admission requirements (if applicable)
Agriculture departments, Environment departments, tourism department ,companies (public and private) and EGOs.
7. Specific arrangements for recognition of prior learning (formal, non-formal and informal) (if applicable)
formal
8. Qualification requirements and regulations, including graduation requirements
Students should successfully complete all the core courses and collect 240 ECTS credits
9. Profile of the program
Include a brief description of the main focus of the program. The Environmental and Ecotourism Management Department is a pioneering academic program established to meet the growing demand for sustainable natural resource management, responsible tourism development, and the protection of the Kurdistan Region's rich biodiversity and cultural heritage. The department is committed to equipping students with the scientific knowledge, technical skills, and ethical values necessary to address the region's environmental challenges while promoting eco-friendly, economically viable tourism opportunities that empower local communities and safeguard the natural environment. At the heart of the program is the integration of environmental management, ecotourism, and agritourism development. Students will engage in comprehensive studies of natural ecosystems, wildlife, and protected areas, learning how to conduct ecological surveys, biodiversity assessments, and environmental impact evaluations using modern field techniques and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) tools. The program places a strong emphasis on ecological restoration practices such as reforestation, wetland rehabilitation, and wildlife habitat conservation — essential for maintaining the region's ecological balance and supporting sustainable tourism initiatives.

In addition to its environmental management focus, the department prioritizes the documentation, preservation, and interpretation of cultural heritage and indigenous knowledge, especially related to ethnobotany and traditional medicinal plant use. Students will study how to integrate this knowledge into community-based ecotourism programs, creating meaningful visitor experiences that highlight the region's ancestral traditions, natural landscapes, and rural lifestyles. By doing so, graduates will play a crucial role in bridging the gap between ancient wisdom and contemporary scientific approaches to conservation and health.

The department also actively promotes agrotourism as an important component of sustainable rural development. Students will learn about organic farming systems, traditional food production, and farm-based tourism enterprises, gaining practical skills in managing agricultural landscapes in ways that support both environmental sustainability and rural livelihoods. This aspect of the program encourages students to design tourism experiences that connect visitors with local farmers, natural food products, and authentic village life — creating opportunities for income generation, cultural exchange, and environmental education. Further, students will explore critical environmental topics such as water resource management, aquatic ecosystem conservation, waste management in tourism areas, and pollution control. They will also study the growing fields of eco-therapy, nature-based wellness tourism, and outdoor recreation planning, learning how to develop health-focused tourism programs that benefit both local communities and visitors.

Through hands-on fieldwork, applied research projects, internships, and community outreach initiatives, students will develop leadership, teamwork, communication, and project management skills essential for professional success. Graduates of this program will be fully prepared to work with government institutions, environmental NGOs, private tourism companies, and local communities, contributing to the sustainable development of the Kurdistan Region.

10. Program Educational Objectives

1. **Environmental Knowledge & Research**

- Build a strong foundation in ecosystems, biodiversity, protected areas, and environmental issues of Kurdistan and Iraq.
- Strengthen research skills in biodiversity monitoring, ecosystem services, and protected area management.

2. **Ecotourism Planning & Sustainable Development**

- Equip graduates to design and manage ecotourism projects that conserve biodiversity, promote local culture, and support rural livelihoods.
- Apply Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) tools to mitigate tourism and infrastructure impacts.

3. **Community Engagement & Traditional Knowledge**

- Promote awareness campaigns, conservation initiatives, and environmental education programs with schools, communities, and tourists.
- Integrate traditional ecological knowledge (TEK), including medicinal plants and cultural landscapes, into modern strategies.

4. **Leadership, Ethics & Policy Development**

- Train graduates in leadership, teamwork, and intercultural communication for collaboration with diverse stakeholders.
- Foster ethical responsibility in conservation and develop sustainable tourism policies with government, NGOs, and the private sector.

5.

11. Program learning outcomes (10-12 outcomes)

After successfully completing this program students should have:

1. **Design and Implement Ecological Restoration and Protected Area Projects:**
Plan and manage habitat recovery, reforestation, native species reintroduction, and conservation zoning using field techniques and GIS tools.
2. **Develop Sustainable Eco-Landscapes and Tourism Infrastructure:**
Integrate ecological principles into the design of environmentally friendly tourism sites, trails, and landscape management that respect natural and cultural values.
3. **Promote Biodiversity-Based Enterprises and Sustainable Agriculture:**
Engage in apiculture, organic farming, and medicinal plant cultivation while exploring eco-education, branding, and green marketing strategies.
4. **Document and Preserve Cultural and Ethnobotanical Heritage:**
Record traditional knowledge related to medicinal plants, cuisine, and rural customs, integrating them into authentic community-based tourism experiences.
5. **Prepare Environmentally Responsible Tourism Development Plans:**
Draft ecotourism strategies with environmental impact assessments that balance ecological integrity with tourism growth.
6. **Enhance Water, Waste, and Health Management in Tourism Areas:**
Design sustainable systems for water use, sanitation, pollution awareness, and health promotion through natural practices.
7. **Encourage Community Participation and Stewardship:**
Involve local communities in ecotourism planning, training, and benefit-sharing to ensure ownership and long-term sustainability.
8. **Conduct Biodiversity and Environmental Assessments:**
Perform ecological surveys, habitat mapping, and species monitoring using field methods and spatial analysis tools to support conservation-based tourism.

12. Programme structure diagram with credits

College of Agricultural Engineering Sciences					AES	Version No.: 2		
Department of Environment and Ecotourism					ENEC	Version Date: 5/6/2025		
Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3	Semester 4	Semester 5	Semester 6	Semester 7	Semester 8	
Introduction to Recreation 6 ECTS ENEC B110C	Leadership and Communication 6 ECTS ENEC B120C	Meteorology 6 ECTS ENEC B230H	Urban Forestry 6 ECTS ENEC B240C	Environmental pollution and human health 6 ECTS ENEC B350H	Outdoor Recreation Management 6 ECTS ENEC B360H	Environmental restoration 6 ECTS ENEC B470C	Ethnobotany 6 ECTS ENEC B480H	
English Language I 4 ECTS BASC B111C	Cultural Resources and Heritage 4 ECTS ENEC B121C	Organic Farming 6 ECTS HORT B232H	Agri-Ecotourism Event Management 6 ECTS ENEC B241H	Ecotourism planning and development 6 ECTS ENEC B351C	Ecotourism Marketing 6 ECTS ENEC B361C	Protected Area Management 6 ECTS ENEC B472C	Project 12 ECTS ENEC B482P	
Computer Skills 4 ECTS BASC B110H	Natural resources and Ecology 4 ECTS FORS B120C	Statistics 6 ECTS BASC B124H	Agri-Tourism 6 ECTS ENEC B242C	Landscape Design and Management 6 ECTS HORT B358H	Remote Sensing and GIS 6 ECTS FORS B242H	Economic Evaluation of Ecosystem 6 ECTS ENEC B473C	Internship 6 ECTS ENEC B483F	
General Botany 6 ECTS BASC B119H	Kurdology 6 ECTS BASC B114C	Biodiversity and Conservation 6 ECTS FORS B233H	Environmental Legislations and Law 6 ECTS ENEC B243C	Wildlife Management 6 ECTS	Ecological Surveying 6 ECTS ENEC B362H	Environmental Impact Assessment 6 ECTS ENEC B474H	Elective 6 ECTS	
Academic Debates 4 ECTS BASC B112C	General Zoology 6 ECTS BASC B122H	Non-timber Forest Products 6 ECTS FORS B110C	Plant taxonomy 6 ECTS FORS B240H		Elective 6 ECTS	Elective 6 ECTS	0 ECTS	
Agri-products processing 6 ECTS FSST B111H	English Language II 4 ECTS BASC B113C			Elective 0 ECTS			0 ECTS	
Fall Electives	Apiculture 6 ECTS PLPR B480H	Tree Planting 6 ECTS Tree Planting	Agricultural Project Feasibility analysis 6 ECTS ENEC B471C	Agri-Environment waste management 6 ECTS ENEC B475H			0 ECTS	
Spring Electives	Water Resource Management 6 ECTS FORS B368H	Water-based tourism 6 ECTS ENEC B363H	Recreational Therapy 6 ECTS ENEC B481C	Medicinal and Aromatic Plants 6 ECTS HORT B363H			0 ECTS	

13. Mode of Study

Full time

14. Examination regulations and grading scale

The following grading scale is used:

% Points	Grade
90 - 100	Excellent
80 - < 90	Very Good
70 - < 80	Good
60 - < 70	Medium
50 - < 60	Pass
0 - < 50	Fail

15. Obligatory or optional mobility windows (if applicable)

16. Work placement(s) (if applicable)

17. Work-based learning (if applicable)

18. Program director or equivalent

Dr. Hadar Saeed Faizy

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19. Occupational profiles of graduates/قاعات

Give a brief description of the types of jobs for which the program prepares students and/or that graduates generally fulfill.
Graduates of the Environmental and Ecotourism Management program are prepared for diverse careers across environmental conservation, sustainable agriculture, ecotourism, and community development. They can serve as ecological surveyors, biodiversity specialists,

environmental consultants, and park rangers, working to protect ecosystems, wildlife habitats, and natural resources. In agriculture, they may become organic farming advisors, agritourism managers, or specialists in medicinal plant cultivation, supporting rural livelihoods and eco-friendly food production. The ecotourism sector offers opportunities as planners, visitor managers, and cultural heritage interpreters, enabling graduates to design responsible tourism experiences that connect visitors with nature and local traditions. Beyond these fields, graduates are well-suited for roles in NGOs, private tourism enterprises, and consultancy, where they contribute to awareness campaigns, rural development, and sustainable tourism strategies. Many are also equipped to establish their own ventures, such as eco-lodges, herbal product industries, or farm tourism businesses, fostering environmental stewardship while promoting regional identity and economic sustainability.

20. Access to further studies

Graduates can apply for admission to 2nd cycle (Master) studies

21. Academic Staff

Full Name	Qualification	Academic title	Email
Hadar Saeed Faizy	PhD	Assist. Prof.	hadar.faizy@uod.ac
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