



UNIVERSITY  
OF LONDON

2021

Postgraduate programmes in

# Petroleum Geoscience

With academic  
direction from:



[london.ac.uk/petroleum-geoscience](https://london.ac.uk/petroleum-geoscience)

World class. Worldwide.



# Join the World Class

## 1 **A mark of excellence**

Gain a University of London degree, deepen your knowledge and develop your career in the hydrocarbon industry and related sectors.

## 2 **Quality of learning**

The programmes in this leaflet are developed by academics at the renowned Department of Earth Sciences, which is consistently ranked among the UK's top 15 (The Complete University Guide 2021).

## 3 **Worldwide relevance**

The programmes are designed to be of worldwide relevance, informed by leading research and links to the international oil industry.

## 4 **Access a wealth of resources**

Comprehensive study materials written by subject experts, as well as access to online discussions and tutorials.

## 5 **Flexible learning**

You can study from anywhere in the world, at your own pace and around your commitments. Our flexible progression routes allow you to choose the type of qualification that fits your needs.



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## Key dates

### October 2021 session

Application deadline:  
1 October 2021

Registration deadline:  
15 October 2021

Programme begins:  
October 2021

### January 2022 session

Application deadline:  
14 December 2021

Registration deadline:  
8 January 2022

Programme begins:  
January 2022

# A global university centred around you

This degree has an international reputation for excellence in the petroleum industry and will enhance your career prospects. Petroleum Geoscience graduates are successful industry professionals who go on to work at senior level in oil companies, geoscience IT, consultancy and academia.



## Professor F. Javier Hernández-Molina

Programme Director,  
Royal Holloway,  
University of London

**‘We have established excellent industry links and have helped hundreds of graduates progress into rewarding careers. You’ll graduate with excellent employment prospects in a well-paid sector with job opportunities across the globe.’**

## A trusted name in global education

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Founded in 1836, the University of London is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in the UK and is internationally regarded as a centre of academic excellence. In 1858, we made our degrees available to study anywhere in the world.

Among former students are six Nobel Prize winners, including Nelson Mandela and Charles Kao, a pioneer in the development of fibre-optics. Graduates have made and continue to make significant contributions worldwide.

## London made global

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Academic leadership is provided by Royal Holloway, one of the six largest colleges of the University of London and is home to the Department of Earth Sciences.

The Department is ranked second in the UK for world-leading, internationally excellent research under the Research Excellence Framework (REF2014) which is the system for assessing higher education institutions in the UK.

# Programme overview

**Hydrocarbons are a precious resource. Finding new reserves is becoming ever more challenging and the enhanced recovery of reserves from existing fields is becoming increasingly important.**

Well-trained Petroleum Geoscientists with the ability to integrate geological and geophysical data, and to apply it on a variety of scales, have a vital role to play.

This programme provides graduates with training in the practical and technical skills required to address a range of questions, from understanding the distribution of hydrocarbons in sedimentary basins to quantifying the complex structural, stratigraphic and sedimentological architecture of individual reservoirs.

## Features of the programmes

- This is the online version of a well-established programme at Royal Holloway with an international reputation for excellence in the petroleum industry.
- Primarily suited to hydrocarbon industry professionals who wish to further develop knowledge and skills while continuing full-time work.

- Comprehensive learning materials delivered via a dedicated web portal: video clips, animations, audio visual presentations, fully illustrated manuals, self-assessment quizzes, exercises and computer-based practicals.
- Field trips and intensive study seminars held at various locations worldwide.
- The option to be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Petroleum Geoscience if you choose not to undertake the independent research project.

## Programme structure

The MSc consists of six core modules plus an independent research project; the Postgraduate Diploma consists of the six core modules only.

### Core modules

|  |
|--|
| Tectonics and lithosphere dynamics                     |
| Geophysical analysis                                   |
| Structural analysis                                    |
| Sedimentology and stratigraphy                         |
| Reservoir geoscience                                   |
| Petroleum systems (incorporates a two-week field trip) |
| Independent research project (MSc only)                |



# How you study

The programme is delivered online with comprehensive learning materials available via a dedicated web portal.

When you register we will also provide:

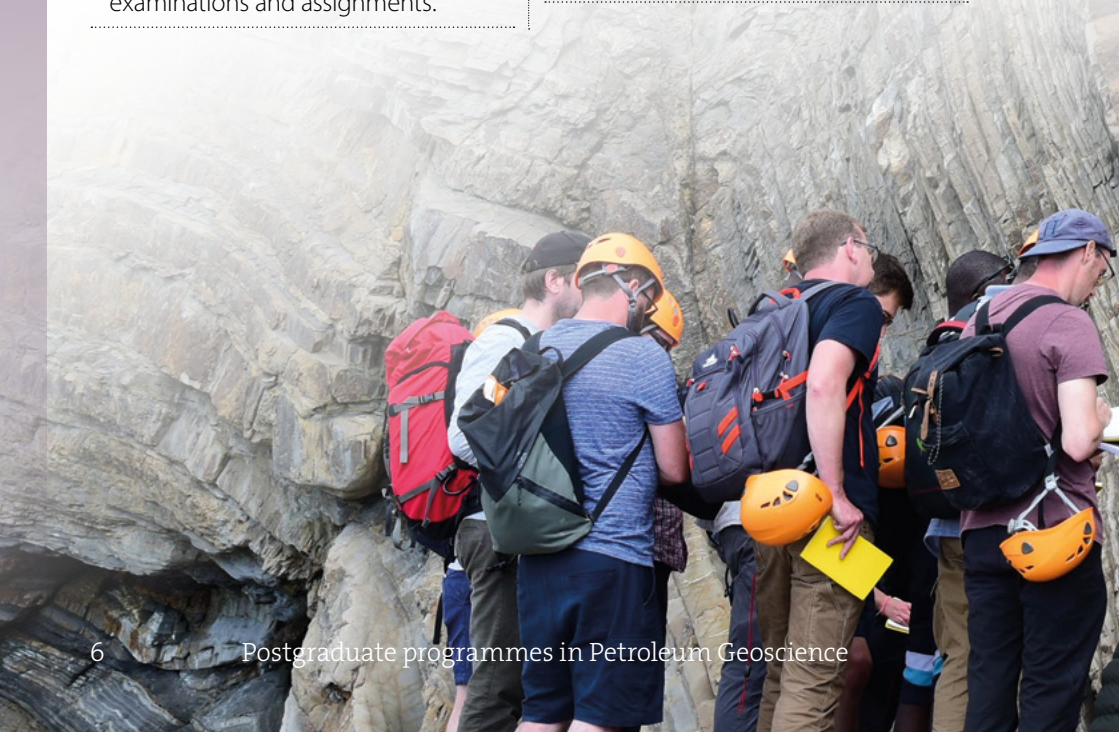
- one subject guide per module
- a core textbook for certain modules
- a student guide: this includes information and instructions relating to registration, entry for assessments, the Student Portal, the University of London Online Library and graduation
- a programme handbook: this includes academic guidance about study methods, support and learning resources, and how to tackle examinations and assignments.

## Virtual Learning Environment

You will be given access to the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) when you register.

The VLE will allow you to:

- access your course materials
- take part in discussions with your tutor and other students
- receive notices, seminar dates, project support and other programme-related information
- ask questions regarding the administration of the programme
- seek help for technical problems that you encounter.



## Time commitment

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It is difficult to be precise about how many hours you will require for your study, as individuals differ as to how quickly they wish to complete the programme and in the expertise that they already have.

A reasonable expectation for study and examination preparation would be approximately 150 hours for each module.

The flexible approach to learning allows students to complete the Postgraduate Diploma in a minimum of one year to a maximum of five years and the MSc can be completed in a minimum of two years to a maximum of five years.

## Assessment

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The format and mode of assessment for this programme may change due to events or circumstances beyond our control. Students will be informed of their assessment arrangements via their VLE, once confirmed. For the latest information on examinations, please visit: [london.ac.uk/exams](https://london.ac.uk/exams)

## Individual modules

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You can register for individual modules on a stand-alone basis. These are ideal if you are keen to update your professional knowledge and enhance your career.



# Entrance requirements

## Academic requirements and work experience

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- An undergraduate degree (e.g. bachelor) in a physical science subject that is comparable to a UK second-class honours degree from an institution acceptable to the University.
- Work experience in the oil and gas industry, e.g. conducting evaluations of petroleum systems. Any technical oil and gas related work will be considered.
- [MSc only] Access to interpretation software, data, and expert supervision for the project. This normally requires employment in the industry, but we can admit you if can arrange alternatives.

If you don't meet the academic requirements but you do have significant work experience, we will consider your application on its merits.

## English language requirements

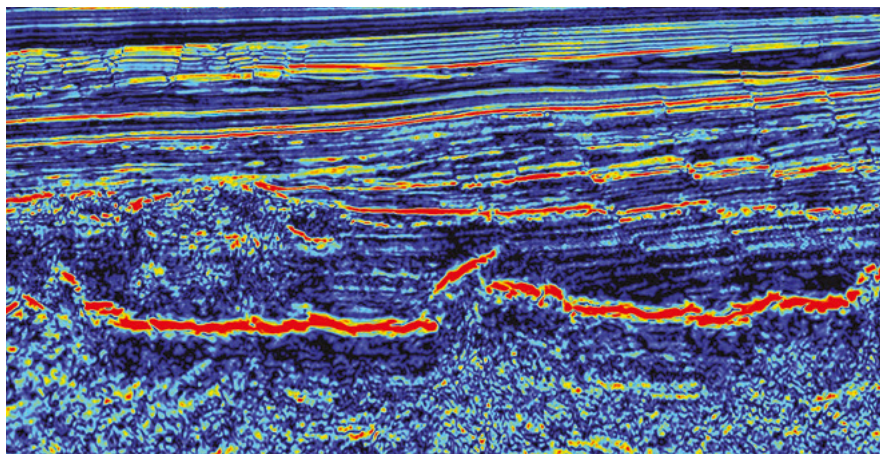
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You must satisfy the English language requirements for the programme. For more information on the requirements please visit: [bit.ly/english-reqs](https://bit.ly/english-reqs)

If you do not meet the English language proficiency requirements but believe that you can demonstrate the requisite proficiency, the University may, at its discretion, consider your application.







## Internet access and computer requirements

To study this programme you will need a computer or device with access to the internet to use the University of London website and the Student Portal. These are where your programme's study resources are located. Through the Student Portal you can register as a student, enter assessments and access your programme's VLE. The VLE provides you with electronic learning materials, access to the University of London Online Library, networking opportunities and other resources.

The device should have at least the following minimum specification:

- a 7" (18 cm) screen, or larger
- an HTML 5 compliant browser (e.g. recent versions of Chrome or Firefox, but not Internet Explorer)
- a PDF reader
- a word processor capable of generating PDF documents.

**Please note:** for the independent research project (MSc students only), different computer specifications may be required. In such cases, the specific requirements will be discussed with the project supervisor at the project design stage.

# How to apply and fees



## How to apply

Please refer to the Petroleum Geoscience web pages for details on how to apply, application and registration deadlines and up-to-date information on course fees:

**[london.ac.uk/petroleum-geoscience](https://london.ac.uk/petroleum-geoscience)**

## Fees

The total fee payable to the University of London for 2021–2022 will be published on our website once confirmed. On average, fees incur a five per cent year-on-year increase. For the latest information on programme fees, please visit: **[london.ac.uk/fees](https://london.ac.uk/fees)**

**Please note:** student fees shown on our website are net of any local VAT, Goods and Services Tax (GST) or any other sales tax payable by the student in their country of residence. Where the University is required to add VAT, GST or any other sales tax at the local statutory rate, this will be added to the fees shown during the payment process. For students resident in the UK, our fees are exempt from VAT.





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For further information on the range of programmes we offer, please visit our website ([london.ac.uk](http://london.ac.uk)) or contact us at:

**The Student Advice Centre**

University of London  
Senate House, Malet Street  
London WC1E 7HU  
United Kingdom

Telephone enquires: **+44 (0)20 7862 8360**

Online enquiries: [sid.london.ac.uk](mailto:sid.london.ac.uk)



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