

Institute of Science and the Environment

Visit Day

Sunday 11 March 2012

10.15am – 3.45pm

St John's Campus, Henwick Grove, Worcester WR2 6AJ

1) This online document contains TWO separate programmes for the ISE Visit Day on 11 March 2012.

2) Please note that Hylton Road is closed on Sunday 11 March 2012. Please see map for alternative route.



University of Worcester

www.worcester.ac.uk/visitdays

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Animal Biology • Archaeology and Heritage Studies •
Archaeology and Landscape Studies • **Biology** • Conservation
Ecology • Ecology • Environmental Management •
Environmental Science • **Forensic and Applied Biology** •
Geography • **Human Biology** • Human Geography • **Human
Nutrition** • Physical Geography • **Plant Science**



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Institute of Science and the Environment Visit Day

Sunday 11 March 2012

Programme

10.15-10.45 **Registration and Refreshments**

» **Room: Cotswold Suite**

Chat to staff, current students and other applicants.

10.50-11.20 **Biology Subject Presentation**

» **Room: EE G087 Urwin Lecture Theatre**

10.50-11.20 **Forensic and Applied Biology Subject Presentation**

» **Room: EE 1057**

10.50-11.20 **Nutrition Subject Presentation**

» **Room: EE G027**

11.30-12.30 **Studying at the University of Worcester: A Guide for Parents, Guardians and Partners**

» **Room: EE G087 Urwin Lecture Theatre**

A talk that avoids the academic details of our courses but covers a range of other important matters relating to student life in Worcester including student accommodation, a general review of student finances, employability matters, the academic staff of the Institute, the history and culture of the university, and the City of Worcester and its region.

11.30 – 12.45 **Subject Activity 1 for Applicants:**

11.30 – 12.45 **Biology**

Sweet Destruction!

» **Room: CD 1003**

This practical session centres on the energy contained within carbohydrates – how can biological systems convert this 'stored' energy into biologically useful energy to power metabolism? We start with an explosive demonstration of the energy contained within a single jelly baby and then discuss how our bodies obtain this same energy in a gradual process using enzymes. We then perform an enzyme-based assay to compare the glucose content within three different sweets and hence gain an estimate of the 'stored' energy they contain.

Forensic and Applied Biology

Crime Scene Investigation

» **Room: Crime Scene House**

Students will get chance to examine and document a scene and try some of the more simple procedures relating to recovery of evidence.

Nutrition

Assessing Nutritional Status: A Case Study

» **Room: EE 1045**

We will assess the diet and other attributes of a local celebrity in terms of their potential health status and risk of developing a chronic disease.

- 12.45 – 1.30 **Lunch**
» **Room: Cotswold Suite**
You will have an opportunity to chat with academic staff and current students over lunch.
- 1.30 – 2.30 **Preparing for independence – a parents’ guide**
» **Room: EE G089 Yelland Lecture Theatre**
An opportunity for parents, partners and relatives of prospective students to find out more about the transition to University. The session explores moving into university accommodation, accessing support services, the highs and lows of the first year and practical tips to help them (and you!) get ready for the exciting changes ahead.
- 1.30 – 2.45 **Subject Activity 2 for Applicants:**
Biology
Microscopic defence of the biological realm
» **Room: CD 1003**
This practical session allows applicants to use research-quality high power light microscopes to examine slides of pre-stained human blood cells. We will discuss their roles within the immune system and the interplay between each of these different cell types in defending our bodies against invasion from potential pathogens.
- Forensics and Applied Biology**
Laboratory Examination of Evidence
» **Room: EE 1045**
Applicants will be able to examine some of the items recovered from their crime scene investigations in the morning session.
- Nutrition**
Are you nutritionally challenged?
» **Room: EE 1025**
A chance to perform some of the simple tests we use to help assess nutritional status for yourself.
- 2.45-3.45 **Campus Tours (optional)**
You will be able to see the Pierson Library, the Sports Centre and other university facilities. It may also be possible to see a typical study bedroom in a Hall of Residence, although we cannot guarantee this as all rooms are currently occupied. Our Student Ambassadors will be happy to answer any questions you may have about life at the University of Worcester.
- 3.15 **END**

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Programme

10.15-10.45 **Registration and Refreshments**

» **Room: Cotswold Suite**

Chat to staff, current students and other applicants.

10.50-11.20 **Archaeology and Heritage Studies Subject Presentation**

» **Room: EE 1026**

10.50-11.20 **Environment Group Subject Presentation**

» **Room: EE 1061**

10.50-11.20 **Geography Subject Presentation**

» **Room: EE G089 Yelland Lecture Theatre**

11.30-12.30 **Preparing for independence – a parents' guide**

» **Room: EE G089 Yelland Lecture Theatre**

An opportunity for parents, partners and relatives of prospective students to find out more about the transition to University. The session explores moving into university accommodation, accessing support services, the highs and lows of the first year and practical tips to help them (and you!) get ready for the exciting changes ahead.

11.30 – 12.45 **Subject Activity 1 for Applicants:**

Archaeology and Heritage

Thinking through "things" and handling the past

» **Room: EE 1025**

This practical session will involve the handling and analysis of a typical range of artefacts that archaeologists excavate and study. You will be encouraged to think about how "things" are made, what they were used for and the significance they had to past societies. In addition, this session will consider issues surrounding the display and interpretation of artefacts and how information about them can best be disseminated and communicated to the public.

Environmental Management, Environmental Science, Conservation Ecology

Estimating the nitrate concentration in a variety of soil samples

» **Room: EE 1027**

Nitrogen is one of the major plant nutrients and it is important to know its concentration in soil when growing crops and when restoring vegetation in degraded sites. In this session you will use a quick and simple method to determine nitrate concentration in a number of soil samples taken from different locations.

Geography, Physical Geography

Mapping and Analysing Land Use Change with an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) and Remote Sensing Software

» **Room: EE G031**

In this session participants will take part in creating three stages of deforestation and urbanisation in an outdoor landscape model. We will describe how we use our remote-controlled helicopter to collect aerial imagery of the model at each stage. Next participants will move to a computer suite where they will use these images, to perform basic image interpretation with remote sensing software and create a landuse change map.

Geography, Human Geography

Geographies of Sport

» **Room: EE G027**

There are a range of connections between sport and geography. We can ask a range of questions about where sports are played, who plays them and the impact that sport can have on places. Amongst the many geographical issues we can consider are the locations of football or rugby clubs, the impacts (economic, social, cultural, political, environmental) of the Olympic games and other sporting events, and the migration of sportspeople such as players from many countries playing in the FA Premier League. The geographies of sport raise important questions about place, the interaction of local and global processes, and issues of culture and identity.

12.45 – 1.30 Lunch

» **Room: Worcester Room**

You will have an opportunity to chat with academic staff and current students over lunch.

1.30 – 2.30 Studying at the University of Worcester: A Guide for Parents, Guardians and Partners

» **Room: EE G087 Urwin Lecture Theatre**

A talk that avoids the academic details of our courses but covers a range of other important matters relating to student life in Worcester including student accommodation, a general review of student finances, employability matters, the academic staff of the Institute, the history and culture of the university, and the City of Worcester and its region.

1.30 – 2.45 Subject Activity 2 for Applicants:

Archaeology and Heritage

Remote Sensing in Archaeology: Non-Invasive Techniques that Unlock the Past

» **Room: EE G027**

This session will look at some of the modern non-invasive techniques that are used in Archaeology to help us understand and manage the historic landscape. Following a short introduction to the topic, you will be provided with geophysical and Lidar (Light detection and ranging) survey results and helped to interpret them. We will then consider the broader context of heritage management, touching on issues such as metal-detectorists versus archaeologists and the control of remote sensing in the planning system.

Environmental Management, Environmental Science, Conservation Ecology

Atmospheric Pollution: a computer based exercise

» **Room: EE G031**

How does air quality differ across the country? Using DEFRA's UK Air : Air Information Resource we can discover how air quality differs according to region and season for a number of different atmospheric pollutants.

Geography, Physical Geography

Extremes of Flow: Causes and Consequences of Floods

» **Room: EE 1057**

This session will consist of a lecture and a quiz on the causes and effects of floods. In hydrology, researchers, practitioners, and managers often focus on the extremes of flow, such as floods because these are the most important flows both ecologically and economically. Floods have a financial cost, produce hardship and loss of life. Knowledge of flood patterns is required to improve forecasting and alleviate these negative impacts. At the end of this session, applicants can take part in an interactive quiz on the lecture material using the Turning Point software and controllers in the style of "Who wants to be geography student?".

Geography, Human Geography

Mapping Change

» **Room: EE G023**

This 'hands on' session explores two dimensions that are important to geographers. First, it considers questions of how places have changed over time: why have certain cities have expanded greatly and others hardly at all?; country landscapes have been radically altered, but how?; in what ways do we live our lives today in ways greatly different from our great grandparents? Second, maps have been a vital tool in getting over important geographical ideas, such as space, to people. Indeed, map interpretation and cartography remain key skills that make a geographer a geographer! The task will be to compare electronically Ordnance Survey maps from different time periods to try to begin to answer some of these questions in relation to Worcestershire and/or your home area.

2.45-3.45

Campus Tours (optional)

You will be able to see the Pierson Library, the Sports Centre and other university facilities. It may also be possible to see a typical study bedroom in a Hall of Residence, although we cannot guarantee this as all rooms are currently occupied. Our Student Ambassadors will be happy to answer any questions you may have about life at the University of Worcester.

3.45

END