Sustainable Development

Programme Handbook

2017 - 2018

School of Geography & Sustainable Development, University of St Andrews
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Welcome to the Sustainable Development Undergraduate Programme at the University of St. Andrews, a programme highly regarded in the UK and beyond!

This handbook contains information about the structure and delivery of the Sustainable Development (SD) degree. The School of Geography & Sustainable Development (SGSD) delivers undergraduate programmes in Geography and SD, both administered within a common framework. Full details are set out in the SGSD Undergraduate Handbook; checking out these rules & regulations would be a smart move.

This Programme Handbook is relevant to students registered for a degree in Sustainable Development, for those taking one or more modules from the Programme, and for staff connected with the Programme. You should also familiarize yourself with the University Course Catalogue http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/coursecatalogue/ug/ and the University Student Handbook http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/studenthandbook/.

Communication: email is the primary means of communication, and you are expected to check your University email account regularly (at least every 48 hours). Staff should only reply to emails originating from University accounts, so please DO NOT use external email accounts to contact staff.

Each module is coordinated by a lecturer. If you have a query relating to the teaching, learning and assessment of a particular module, contact the module coordinator in the first instance. More general queries about the SD Programme (e.g. leave of absence, appeals) should be addressed to the SGSD Director of Teaching (email: ggdot). For issues related to advising, contact your Advisor of Studies. However, many of your enquiries will be answered in the information that we provide for you (handbooks and websites), so before emailing, always check these carefully first.

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Sustainable Development interrogates contemporary norms, and challenges us to find creative alternatives and solutions. The programme is part of a deep commitment to sustainability within the University (http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/environment/), and is designed to be flexible and responsive to global trends, to staff experience and to student feedback.

But what is Sustainable Development? The concepts of ‘sustainability’ and of ‘development’ are widely debated and are understood differently within different disciplinary and philosophical perspectives. Sustainable Development has thus been defined in many ways. What all the different definitions have in common is a concern with the longevity and well-being of the planet and of humankind, and a desire to find ways of moving beyond unsustainable practices. SD really is about changing the world.

Over the past thirty years, debates on “sustainability” have shifted from an exclusive concern with the environment, defined narrowly as “the natural world”, to a wider awareness that the natural and human worlds are irrevocably interconnected. The severity of current environmental degradation, widening social inequalities, geopolitical instability and economic volatility face us with the challenge of thinking about life and its sustainability in radically different terms. An essential part of sustainability thinking is the explicit acknowledgement of the need for a deep change of the kind Albert Einstein was referring to when he said that the
same manner of thinking that created problems cannot solve them. This new thinking implies a fundamental shift in the way we look at the world, nature and humankind, as well as rigorous thinking about the interconnections and interdependencies between the physical, social and intellectual worlds.

Sustainable Development is thus an enormously broad field of study, requiring expertise from many spheres. This is why the degree is structured in an interdisciplinary way, with teaching contributions not only from within SGSD but also from Schools across the Arts and Science Faculties. It is a unique programme with a strong track record, and we hope that you find it stimulating, challenging and rewarding.

Dr Charles Warren, Sustainable Development Programme Director
Dr Matt Sothern, Director of Teaching, SGSD

September 2017
Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes

The overall goal of the SD Programme is to enable students to critically interrogate the principles, practices and plurality of sustainable development understandings, and to contribute to the evolution of innovative, interdisciplinary thinking and action.

Aims:

1. To offer a research-orientated degree in Sustainable Development that prepares graduates for both higher level academic study and employment in the dynamic information economy.
2. To prepare students who can evaluate both qualitative and quantitative information; formulate critical questions; undertake independent projects; and present information clearly and convincingly in a variety of formats.
3. To produce graduates who:
   - can understand and critically evaluate different perspectives on - and approaches to - SD;
   - appreciate and value different ways of knowing;
   - approach problems and their solutions from an holistic, systems-thinking perspective,
   - have specialist knowledge and expertise.
4. To foster and develop critical understanding of the root causes of problems facing today’s society and environment, and of options for change.

The SD Programme provides an intellectually stimulating and productive academic experience, offering research-based teaching and learning designed to enable you to fulfil your potential as critical thinkers and enhance your employability by gaining the following skills:

Learning outcomes:

- A capacity for holistic and interdisciplinary thinking within and across ecological, social and economic realms
- A broad and well developed set of transferable skills and independent competences providing you with the ability to critically engage, understand, interrogate and report on research on current world problems and opportunities
- Module specific skills, including the abilities to think critically, manage complex data sets, work independently and as part of a team, and utilize a range of research approaches and methods
- Expertise in integrating, analysing and synthesising information from a range of sources, gained by working with complex environments and issues
- Ability to be flexible and adapt quickly to changing and different environments
- Confidence and initiative to be able to deal with the “unexpected”.

The SD Programme is interdisciplinary in its nature, spanning the Social and Natural Sciences and the Arts and Humanities. It is a research-orientated programme that encourages problem-based learning and cultivates intellectual rigour in the identification, investigation and resolution of questions and problems.
**Structure of the SD Programme**

The SD Programme is unique within the University in being highly interdisciplinary. Amongst other things, this means that:

(a) staff from other Schools contribute to the 1st and 2nd year modules.
(b) at Honours level, SD students can access a range of modules offered by other Schools.

This enables you to explore SD issues in an interdisciplinary environment whilst also developing the academic skills and expertise in a specialist disciplinary area.

**Pathways in the Sustainable Development Programme**

Unusually, students taking a Single Honours Sustainable Development degree can, if they wish, choose to take elements of other programmes. To keep your options open, you should identify a partner discipline in first year and take all necessary first year and second year modules so that you are qualified for Honours entry in that discipline once you reach third year (just as joint honours students need to do). If you do not do this, you will have a more limited range of modules to choose from.

Schools ordinarily require passes at 1000 and 2000 level in their subject for a student to gain access to their 3000 and 4000 level Honours classes. However, ‘partner schools’ also offer some SD-related 3-4000 level modules for which 1-2000 level modules (and entry to SD Honours) are a sufficient prerequisite. Discuss this issue with your Advisor from first year onwards and see the Programme Requirements in the Course Catalogue: [https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/coursecatalogue/ug/](https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/coursecatalogue/ug/)

The Single Honours SD Programme offers a range of opportunities for interdisciplinary study. SD can also be taken as a joint degree with Geography, and further combinations are planned for future years.

**Financial management during your degree**

We appreciate that you may face financial difficulties at University. The School does its best to ease that burden by providing many materials free of charge, and by paying the full cost of all required field courses. However, as stressed in the *SGSD Undergraduate Handbook*, there are unavoidable costs associated with the SD Programme, and you should budget for these.
SECTION B: INFORMATION FOR 1st AND 2nd YEAR STUDENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Sub-Honours SD Programme is interdisciplinary in nature rather than being rooted in any specific discipline, providing a range of perspectives on SD from various disciplinary backgrounds. There are four inter-linked modules, SD1000 and SD1004 at 1st Year, and SD2001 and SD2002 at 2nd Year.

Each module has a dedicated coordinator & email address, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module code</th>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Module coordinator</th>
<th>email</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SD1000</td>
<td>What is Sustainable Development?</td>
<td>Dr Antje Brown</td>
<td>sd1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD1004</td>
<td>Sustainable Development Goals: challenges and opportunities</td>
<td>Dr Antje Brown</td>
<td>sd1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD2001</td>
<td>Sustainable Development: frameworks for implementation</td>
<td>Dr Tim Stojanovic</td>
<td>sd2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD2002</td>
<td>Sustainable Development: tools for action</td>
<td>Dr Tim Stojanovic</td>
<td>sd2002</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If you have any questions or problems about your studies, please address them to the relevant module coordinator. Dr Matt Sothern is the SGSD Director of Teaching and has overall responsibility for the Geography and Sustainable Development Programmes. His email is: ggdot@st-andrews.ac.uk. You can raise issues about the Sub-Honours Programme with the module coordinator, or via your elected student representatives on the Staff Student Consultative Committee. Key contacts are listed at the beginning of the SGSD Undergraduate Handbook and also on the School website. Staff are available during their designated ‘office hours’.

You will be given online access to the handbook for each Sub-Honours SD module that you take. These include all the information that you need - the module’s aims & intended learning outcomes, the timetable, the material to be covered, guidance on reading, and detailed information on assessment and deadlines. Modules involve lectures, project groups, practical classes, field work, seminars, personal study and examinations. Before attending your first tutorial, it would be well worth reading the section on Reading and Study Skills at the end of the SGSD Undergraduate Handbook.

If you have a problem with your studies, please contact your module coordinator (see above). If you would prefer to speak with someone outwith the School, you should contact the Advice & Support Centre <theasc> who will provide confidential assistance.

First and Second Year structure and modules

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Year</td>
<td>SD1000 (20 credits) plus</td>
<td>SD1004 (20 credits) plus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>at least 1 partner subject</td>
<td>at least 1 partner subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Year</td>
<td>SD2001 (30 credits) plus</td>
<td>SD2002 (30 credits) plus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>partner subject</td>
<td>partner subject</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The SD 1\textsuperscript{st} & 2\textsuperscript{nd} year programme addresses three overarching questions:

- What is SD?
- Why do we need the concept of sustainable development (SD)?
- How might we encourage/facilitate SD?

SD1000 ‘\textit{What is sustainable development?}’ introduces SD students to the key ideas underpinning SD, outlines some of the central societal and environmental challenges of the 21\textsuperscript{st} century and critically interrogates different approaches, meanings and definitions of SD. It examines different disciplinary perspectives on what issues SD should be trying to address, and explores the value and challenges of an interdisciplinary approach to studying and facilitating sustainable development. Ultimately, it aims to foster the innovative thinking necessary for moving towards more sustainable futures for people and the planet.

SD1004 ‘\textit{Sustainable Development Goals: challenges and opportunities}’ builds on SD1000 by investigating a selection of core issues in SD and how these are addressed by key players. Using the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals as a framework, the module explores five themes: (i) poverty, inequalities and migration; (ii) health, education and wellbeing; (iii) peace, justice and governance; (iv) climate change and energy; and (v) biodiversity and ecosystems.

SD2001 ‘\textit{Sustainable Development: Frameworks for Implementation}’ explores conceptual frameworks that can be utilised (individually or together) to encourage and facilitate Sustainable Development; including conservation science, governmental-regulation and self-regulation, market-based and technological solutions, and individual, educational and community based approaches.

SD2002 ‘\textit{Sustainable Development: Tools for Action}’ examines various agents that can enact change and the methodologies that they use to collect evidence, as well as exploring workable interventions and solutions to the problems of sustainability.

Full details are provided in the module handbooks each semester.

\textbf{Please note:} the progressive nature of this curriculum means that each module is a prerequisite for the next. Entry to Second Year SD requires a pass in both SD1000 and SD1004.

\textbf{READING MATERIAL AND THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY}

Books and other readings that students need in order to complete the 1\textsuperscript{st} & 2\textsuperscript{nd} year SD modules can be found in the University Library in either electronic and/or hard-copy format. Each module has its own online reading list accessible via its Moodle site. The ‘short-loan’ collection in the Library contains popular books and other readings which can be borrowed, usually, for up to three hours at a time or over a weekend; there is an online reservation system.

\textbf{Please note:} it is important that you do not leave reading for essays or examinations until the last minute. To ensure access to reading material, spread your reading across the semester (i.e. do some each day or week), and be sure to take effective notes so that:

(i) you don’t have to keep returning to things you’ve read, and

(ii) you can refer to your sources accurately and so abide by Good Academic Practice (especially by avoiding plagiarism).
You are automatically registered with the Library when you matriculate each academic year. Your University ID card has an individual Library borrower number on the reverse. Instructions on how to make the most effective use of Library resources are provided by the Library, and the Librarians will help with enquiries. For more information, see: http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/library/

The Library is stocked with a wide range of textbooks relevant to SD. In particular, we recommend the following introductory readings and learning resources:

**Introductory Texts**


**Classic texts**


**Selected Suggestions**


**Selected Online Sources**

Better Life Index (or similar wellbeing index)
http://www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/#/11111111111


Convention on Biological Diversity - www.cbd.int


ASSESSMENT AND THE SUBMISSION OF WORK

Modes of assessment
The modules contain a range of assessment tasks, and different forms of assessment emphasise different marking features. For example:

Practicals and class tests: comprehension of material and analytical ability.

Essays and project reports: selection, structuring and organisation of material from several sources; critical judgement; lucid, accurate and grammatically correct presentation; use of pertinent examples.

Exams: understanding of topic based on lecture material and reading; ability to structure a coherent, focused and well-informed answer; judgement in selection of relevant material and use of reading; critical thinking and insight.

Submission of Coursework
There is a standard procedure for submitting coursework across all modules and programmes in SGSD. Please refer to the SGSD Undergraduate Handbook and comply with the instructions given there. For information on deadlines and word length, refer to the relevant module handbook.

Problems meeting submission deadlines
Students facing genuine difficulties through circumstances beyond their control will be accommodated by the SGSD. Please refer to the SGSD Undergraduate Handbook for further information. Two entries are of relevance to students facing difficulties with submission of work: (1) “Extensions to submission deadlines”, (2) “Deferred Assessment”. Note also the section on “Penalties”.

Grade-Related Criteria (GRC)
The SGSD employs a series of common GRC for all pieces of assessed work. The main GRC used for most written work are published in the SGSD Undergraduate Handbook, as are those used for work based on statistical tests. Where criteria differ (in order to better reflect the learning objectives of a given module), bespoke GRC are published in the relevant module handbook.

SGSD policy is that students should be given both a grade and a written explanation of that grade. Work is returned to students using a grade on the University 20-point scale. Please refer to the explanation of this scale under ‘Grade-Related Criteria’ (GRC) in the SGSD Undergraduate Handbook, and also see the University’s statements about marks, grades, degree classification, and the 20-point scale at:
http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/staff/teaching/examinationsSCALE/ and
Penalties
For information about penalties for lateness, presentation and over length work, see the SGSD Undergraduate Handbook.

Feedback on coursework and exam performance
You are entitled to receive feedback on any work that you have submitted. This will give you advice to help you improve your learning and future performance. Reflecting on feedback and acting on recommendations is a vital ingredient of your degree, enabling you to fulfil your potential, so be sure to give feedback on coursework and exams the attention that it deserves. For full details on the feedback policy see the SGSD Undergraduate Handbook.

ENTRY INTO SGSD HONOURS PROGRAMMES
For all information on Progression, please see the Programme Requirements in the University’s Course Catalogue: https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/progspecs/

The SGSD’s policy on entry to Honours system follows the University’s general policy: http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/media/teaching-and-learning/policies/HonsEntry.pdf

For details of the SGSD policy, see the SGSD Undergraduate Handbook. The policy on requests for review of entry to Honours can be found at: https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/media/teaching-and-learning/policies/HonsReview.pdf
SECTION C: INFORMATION FOR HONOURS STUDENTS

The Honours Programme in SD is designed around a core of skills training in research and analysis. A majority of this training is presented in SD3100 *Methodologies for Sustainable Development*, but research methods are also integrated within the research-led SD option modules which introduce techniques in an applied and relevant context. The research skills that you acquire are applied and culminate in the final-year research project. They are also transferable, being directly relevant for many career pathways. In addition to this research training, you will choose a range of option modules. These may be SD modules taught by SGSD staff, SD-related ‘open’ modules in partner disciplines or other modules in your chosen partner subject for which you fulfil the prerequisites. The Programme is outlined diagrammatically below.

**A summary outline of the SD Single Honours Programme**

NB: those currently in their SH year may choose SD4297 OR SD4299, those in their JH year will be offered SD4297

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Junior Honours, Level 3** | One or two 30-credit SD modules from table below  
Balance of credits (if needed) from partner disciplines | SD3100 *Methodologies for Sustainable Development*  
30 credits  
*EITHER* SD4110 (30 credits)  
*OR* 30 credits from partner disciplines |
| **Senior Honours, Level 4** | One or two 30-credit SD modules from table below  
Balance of credits (if needed) from partner disciplines | SD4297 *Dissertation in Sustainable Development*  
30 credits  
*EITHER* SD4110 (30 credits)  
*OR* 30 credits from partner discipline |

**SD modules (all 30 credits) available during the next two academic years:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2017-18</th>
<th>2018-19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Semester 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Semester 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD3110 Environmental Economics</td>
<td>SD4110 Transitioning to Sustainability: community, nature and governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD4112 Global Energy Politics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2018-19</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD3111 Home and Energy Geographies</td>
<td>SD4113 Environment and Development Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SD4111 Governance for Sustainability</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
By the end of your Senior Honours year you must have a **minimum of 120 credits in SD-coded modules** at 3000 and 4000 level, including SD3100 *Methodologies for Sustainable Development* (30 credits) and SD4297 *Dissertation in Sustainable Development* (30 credits). 90 credits must be at 4000 level. You may take up to 240 credits of SD at Honours, and up to 120 credits from a “partner subject”. Option modules at 3000 and 4000 level are taught every two years and are open to all students on SD Honours programmes.

Full details of module choices accessible to SD students are set out in the Course Catalogue: [https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/coursecatalogue/ug/](https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/coursecatalogue/ug/)

The programme requirements list the ‘partner Schools’ and specify the modules offered by other Schools which are accessible to SD Honours students, together with prerequisites and School-specific regulations. Be sure to seek advice from your Adviser of Studies about how best to combine modules between Schools over your four Honours semesters.

The list of option modules in partner subjects is extensive and is drawn from many school across the sciences, social sciences and humanities. This list is constantly evolving to reflect the St. Andrews model of research led teaching. Students should consult the course catalogue or their advisor of studies: [https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/coursecatalogue/undergraduate/](https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/coursecatalogue/undergraduate/)

### JH skills training

SGSD offers a pan-programme ‘JH Training Track’ during Semester 1 comprising a number of varied sessions designed to equip you with the transferable skills that you will need if you are to fulfil your potential. Although attendance to these sessions is not strictly compulsory, we strongly recommend that you DO come along because they will help you to make the ‘step up’ to Honours-level work smoothly and successfully. This group of sessions is scheduled as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Staff</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14th Sept.</td>
<td>All day</td>
<td>JH Induction Day</td>
<td>Various staff</td>
<td>Forbes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Nov.</td>
<td>1.00-2.30</td>
<td>Essay &amp; Exam Techniques</td>
<td>Dr Charles Warren</td>
<td>School 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th Nov.</td>
<td>1.00-2.00</td>
<td>Oral Presentation Skills</td>
<td>Dr Mike Kesby</td>
<td>School 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SD4297 (and SD4299) Dissertation in SD

The training in research skills provided in SD3100 (or SG3201 for those in SH) and in the research-led option modules builds towards the research project which you carry out in your final year. This is the epitome of a research-orientated degree, and is the single most challenging - and often most rewarding - element of your degree. When you reach Semester Two of SH, you will have completed all courses related to research design, methods and analysis, and most courses related to substantive content. You will have had opportunity (and credit) to design your project, and will then have half of the final semester to complete it. You will thus be well placed and prepared to complete this module to a high standard. It provides you with the opportunity to undertake an independent piece of research on a topic of your choice, developed in consultation with staff, and challenges you to put into practice all the skills and competences you have developed during your degree studies. Fieldwork and/or data collection & analysis may be completed either during the summer vacation between the JH and SH years, and/or during the SH year itself. You are
strongly advised to start giving thought to your research project topic during the first semester of your JH year. While it is a piece of independent research, all students have a supervisor with whom they should maintain regular contact until the work is completed. The role of the supervisor is threefold:

- to advise on the selection of the project
- to discuss the timetable and logistics of both data collection and analysis
- to comment on the outline and structure of the final written piece of work, but not to give detailed comments on the content of drafts or to provide textual correction.

Printing and Binding: the University's Print & Design Unit is set up to print and/or bind your thesis. You can send your material in PDF format (with a note of pages to be printed in colour) to:

printanddesign@st-andrews.ac.uk

They will then be in touch when your job is ready. Price lists and further information:

www.st-andrews.ac.uk/printanddesign/

4th year Teaching Placement modules (ID4001, ID4002 – each 15 credits)

Two teaching placement modules are available in Semester 1 of 4th year: ID4001 for students in the Science Faculty and ID4002 for students in the Arts Faculty. You don’t have to be considering teaching as a career for these unique modules to be valuable and worthwhile. They are university-wide modules which involve weekly visits to a secondary school in Fife and an assessed, classroom-based project developed in conjunction with a ‘teacher mentor’ in your placement school. For SGSD students, the subject rep. for ID4001 is Dr Catherine Rose in the School of Earth & Environmental Sciences <cvr>, and for ID4002 the subject rep. is Dr Charles Warren <crw2>. Further details can be obtained from them. Importantly, note that places on this module are offered on the basis of an application and interview, and that the application deadline is usually in early March.

Ethics and Ethical Approval

Ethical behaviour is an important transferable skill. We expect, encourage and train students to act ethically in all their learning activities. Institutional ethical clearance for research is one element of this broader commitment to ethical behaviour, and it is a significant one. All research in the School requires ethical clearance before it can begin. ALL students undertaking data collection for their dissertation must engage with the School Ethics Committee protocols (even if only to declare formally that their research has no ethical implications). For further details, please see the SGSD Undergraduate Handbook and the ‘virtual office’ Moodle site called: “GGADMIN Virtual Office - students”.

Health & Safety Risk Assessment

During your degree programme you are likely to take part in some kind of fieldwork in urban or in rural locations and, potentially, participate in lab work. Field and lab work both involve hazards that are different from those you will encounter every day during the routine course of your studies. Therefore, for these activities, either the staff member in charge or you will be expected to complete a risk assessment. For class activities, you will be required to read and sign the risk assessment form. For activities that you do independently, as part of your research project for example, you will be required to complete the risk assessment form yourself (it can be found on the ‘virtual office’ Moodle site called: “GGADMIN Virtual Office – Students” and includes instructions on how to carry out a field work risk assessment, which can be adapted to encompass lab work as well. This must be completed well in advance as it needs to be (1) checked by your supervisor, (2) approved by the School Health and Safety Coordinator (geohealth@st-andrews.ac.uk) and (3) signed by your supervisor before you will be allowed to do the work.
ASSESSMENT AND THE SUBMISSION OF WORK

The Grade-Related Criteria (GRC) explain the standards expected of students. The main GRC used for most written work are published in the *SGSD Undergraduate Handbook*, as are those used for work based on statistical tests. Where criteria differ (in order to better reflect the learning objectives of a given module), bespoke GRC are published in the relevant module handbook. SGSD policy is that students should be given both a grade and a written explanation of that grade.

Submission of Coursework

There is a standard procedure for submitting work across all modules and programmes in SGSD. Please refer to the *SGSD Undergraduate Handbook* – and comply with instructions there. For information on deadlines and word length, refer to the relevant module handbook.

Problems meeting submission deadlines

Students facing genuine difficulties and circumstances beyond their control will be accommodated sympathetically by the SGSD. Please refer to the *SGSD Undergraduate Handbook* for further information. Three entries are relevant: (1) “Extensions to submission deadlines”, (2) “Deferred Assessment” and (3) “S-Coding”.

Feedback on coursework and exam performance

You are entitled to receive feedback on any work that you have submitted. This will give you advice to help you improve your learning and future performance. Reflecting on feedback and acting on recommendations is a vital ingredient of your degree, especially during the Honours years, enabling you to fulfil your potential. It is therefore important to give feedback on coursework and exams the thoughtful attention that it deserves. For full details on the feedback policy see the *SGSD Undergraduate Handbook*.

Penalties

For information about penalties for lateness, presentation and over length work, please see the *SGSD Undergraduate Handbook*.

**Final degree classification criteria:** for information about how your final degree classification will be calculated, please see the *SGSD Undergraduate Handbook*.

JOINT HONOURS DEGREES IN SD

In response to student demand, we are in the process of introducing a suite of Joint Honours degrees alongside the established (but restructured) Single Honours SD degree. The first of these, *Geography and Sustainable Development*, is available this year for both Arts and Science students we hope others will follow in due course. Please note, however, many joint-honours degrees may not be possible because of demand, timetable clashes or expectations for degree accreditation.

Joint Honours programmes in Sustainable Development operate within the same overall structure as the Single Honours structure summarised graphically above. However, a key difference is that whereas Single Honours students obtain the balance of credits from partner disciplines and graduate with a ‘SD’ degree, Joint Honours students obtain all their other credits from their Joint discipline and graduate with a ‘SD and X’ degree. Also, the SD research project is not obligatory for SD Joint Honours students. So, in the case of the *Geography and Sustainable Development* programme, the 30-credit Joint Honours
Geography Dissertation (GG4297) is a required element. You may also choose to undertake a research project in SD (SD4297) if you wish.

PRIZES FOR SD STUDENTS

SGSD Prizes
The School has a range of prizes which recognize the achievements of outstanding SD students. It also nominates some students for external recognition. The value of these prizes lies not in the financial reward (which is limited) but in the public recognition of the exceptional quality of such students’ work. Prizes are listed on your student record, and, of course, such achievements can also be cited in CVs and at job interviews.

The Stephen Sterling Student Prize
This prize will be awarded to the top SD graduating student, judged largely on the basis of grades but also on contribution to SD, progress made within the degree and other relevant criteria.

Sustainable Development Student Prize
Awarded to the runner up student, with particular attention to impact of work and extra-curricular activities.

Sustainable Development Citizenship Prize
Awarded to the student contributing most to their class, Programme, University and the wider community.

Sustainable Development Dissertation Prize
This prize will be awarded for the top SD research project. In addition, Highly Commended certificates may be provided to other dissertations demonstrating excellence.

University Prizes

Deans’ List
This is an annual award for academic excellence, promoted by the four Deans of the University. For details, see: https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/students/academic/awards/universityprizes/deanslist/
Any student who meets all the criteria and who obtains a credit-weighted mean grade of 16.5 or above for the year will be recorded on the Deans’ List.

The Miller Prize
The School will also submit the name of any student obtaining an outstanding First Class Honours degree to the Faculty of Arts or Science, as appropriate, as a candidate for this prestigious award. A student from this School won the Miller Prize in 2017.

External Awards
The Programme will also submit really outstanding dissertations for consideration for national or international prizes, with the agreement of the student concerned.
### Key Dates in the SD Honours Programme, 2017-18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orientation Week</td>
<td>Week beginning Monday 11(^{th}) September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martimas Semester/Semester 1</td>
<td>Monday 18(^{th}) September, 2017 – Friday 22(^{nd}) December, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Honours Induction Day</td>
<td>Thursday 14(^{th}) September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raisin Monday, and start of Independent Learning Week (ILW)</td>
<td>Monday 23(^{rd}) October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Andrews Day Graduation</td>
<td>Thursday 7(^{th}) and Friday 8(^{th}) December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Deadline for Semester 1 coursework</td>
<td>Friday 1(^{st}) December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Honours essay &amp; exam training</td>
<td>Thursday 2(^{nd}) November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Honours oral presentation training</td>
<td>Thursday 9(^{th}) November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revision period begins</td>
<td>Monday 4(^{th}) December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 1 Examination Diet</td>
<td>Monday 11(^{th}) – Friday 22(^{nd}) December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candlemas Semester/Semester 2</td>
<td>Monday 29(^{th}) January – Friday 1(^{st}) June, 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option Module exam debrief sessions</td>
<td>Weeks 2 - 3 (by module coordinators)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Vacation</td>
<td>Monday 19(^{th}) – Friday 30(^{th}) March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geography &amp; SD Dissertation Conference</td>
<td>Thursday 12(^{th}) April</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revision period begins</td>
<td>Monday 30(^{th}) April</td>
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<tr>
<td>May Day Holiday (no classes)</td>
<td>Monday 7(^{th}) May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Deadline for ALL Semester 2 coursework</td>
<td>Friday 4(^{th}) May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Semester 2 Examination Diet</td>
<td>Monday 14(^{th}) – Friday 25(^{th}) May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Degree classification results available</td>
<td>Friday 15(^{th}) June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduations</td>
<td>Week beginning Monday 25(^{th}) June</td>
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<tr>
<td>Re-assessment Diet</td>
<td>Week beginning Monday 13(^{th}) August</td>
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Remember that you are required to be available *throughout* both examination periods.