Degree Programme	**BSc and MEarthSci Earth and Planetary Science**
Pathway	**Planetary Science**
Academic year of study	**2026-27**
Contact	If you have any questions about this structure, please contact sons.programmes@manchester.ac.uk

First Year		
All first-year students have a combined 1st year schedule of compulsory units as below. You will automatically be enrolled on these units by the Curriculum and Programmes Team.		
EART11101	Understanding the Earth I	20 credits
EART11201	The Natural Scientist's Toolkit I	20 credits
EART11301	Practical and Professional Skills I	20 credits
EART11102	Understanding the Earth II	20 credits
EART11202	The Natural Scientist's Toolkit II	20 credits
EART11302	Practical and Professional Skills II	20 credits
EART11111	Welcome Week activity	0 credits
EART10020	PASS	0 credits

Second Year		
Programme core units You will automatically be enrolled on these units		
EART29200	Professional development and project preparation tutorials	10 credits
EART28101	Introduction to geological field mapping	10 credits
EART27201	Sedimentary rocks and fossils	10 credits
EART26201	Principles of geochemistry	10 credits
EART29102	Geospatial techniques	10 credits
Pathway core units You will automatically be enrolled on these units		
EART22201	Igneous minerals and processes	10 credits
EART23101	Exploring the Solar System	10 credits
EART24202	Metamorphic minerals and processes	10 credits
EART25202	Meteorites and planetary materials	10 credits
Pathway optional units You must select THREE of the following optional units, one in Semester 1 and two in Semester 2		
EART24001	Geological maps	10 credits
EART22001	Environmental modelling	10 credits
EART23001	Atmospheric physics and weather	10 credits
PHYS10191	Introduction to astrophysics†	10 credits
EART28202	Structural geology	10 credits
EART23202	Interpreting the stratigraphic record	10 credits
EART21202	Global climate change	10 credits
PHYS10692	Exoplanets†	10 credits
OR one 10-credit EART* unit (subject to timetabling), or up to 20 credits of a single UCIL or language unit (subject to timetabling)		10-20 credits

*If you wish to select EART25102 Advanced geological field techniques, then you must select EART24001 Geological maps in Semester 1, and either EART28202 Structural geology OR EART23202 Interpreting the stratigraphic record in Semester 2

†A-level Maths **and** A-level Physics are pre-requisites for PHYS10191 and PHYS10692

Suggested combinations of options for planetary scientists with interests in:
(1) Maths and physics: PHYS10191 Introduction to astrophysics, PHYS10692 Exoplanets, and one other unit
(2) Environment and atmosphere: EART22001 Environmental modelling, EART23001 Atmospheric physics and weather, and EART21202 Global climate change
(3) Geology, with fieldwork: EART24001 Geological maps, EART28202 Structural geology OR EART23202 Interpreting the stratigraphic record, and EART25102 Advanced geological field techniques
(4) Geology, without fieldwork: EART24001 Geological maps, EART28202 Structural geology, and EART23202 Interpreting the stratigraphic record

Third Year		
Pathway core units You will automatically be enrolled on these units		
EART31100	Extended project in Earth and planetary science	30 credits
EART31001	Communicating science	10 credits
EART32201	Origin of the Solar System	10 credits
EART34201	Chemical evolution of the Earth's interior	10 credits
EART35202	Planetary evolution	10 credits
EART36302	Field course: Ries impact crater	10 credits
Pathway optional units Select FOUR of the following optional units, including at least TWO units in Semester 2		
EART32301	Tectonics in Earth's oceans and continents	10 credits
EART33001	Analytical techniques in Earth and environmental sciences	10 credits
EART36101	Geophysical techniques	10 credits
EART33201	Quantitative sedimentology: An experimental perspective	10 credits
EART31302	Sedimentary basins and the source-to-sink system	10 credits
EART34302	Volcanology	10 credits
EART37202	Remote sensing of atmospheres	10 credits
OR you may select any other 10-credit EART unit (subject to timetabling), or up to 20 credits of a single UCIL or language unit (subject to timetabling)		10-20 credits

PLEASE NOTE:
When selecting your course units you must ensure you enrol on:

- 120 credits in total (including any core units)
- A minimum of 50 credits per semester
- A maximum of 70 credits per semester

MEarthSci

2nd and 3rd year: Same as the BSc programmes

Fourth Year		
Core units You will automatically be enrolled on these units		
EART44440	Research project in Earth and planetary science	60 credits
EART40010	Integrated Earth and environmental science field course	15 credits
EART40031	Advanced science communication	15 credits
EART40130	Topics in Earth, planetary and environmental science	15 credits
Optional units You must select ONE of the following optional units		
EART40110	Elective in Earth and planetary science	15 credits
UCIL60312*	Creating a sustainable world	15 credits

*Available to all except those who completed this unit at undergraduate level

MEarthSci with Industrial Experience

2nd year: Same as the BSc programmes
3rd year: EART39990 Placement in Industry

Fourth Year		
Core units You will automatically be enrolled on these units		
EART44440	Research project in Earth and planetary science	60 credits
EART40010	Integrated Earth and environmental science field course	15 credits
EART40031	Advanced science communication	15 credits
EART40130	Topics in Earth, planetary and environmental science	15 credits
Optional units You must select ONE of the following optional units		
EART40110	Elective in Earth and planetary science	15 credits
UCIL60312*	Creating a sustainable world	15 credits

*Available to all except those who completed this unit at undergraduate level

MEarthSci with International Study

2nd year: Same as the BSc programmes
3rd year: EART39950 Study at University Abroad

Fourth Year		
Core units You will automatically be enrolled on these units		
EART44440	Research project in Earth and planetary science	60 credits
EART40010	Integrated Earth and environmental science field course	15 credits
EART40031	Advanced science communication	15 credits
EART40130	Topics in Earth, planetary and environmental science	15 credits
Optional units You must select ONE of the following optional units		
EART40110	Elective in Earth and planetary science	15 credits
UCIL60312*	Creating a sustainable world	15 credits

*Available to all except those who completed this unit at undergraduate level

MEarthSci with a Research Placement

2nd year: Same as the BSc programmes
3rd year: EART39980 Year in Research

Fourth Year		
Core units You will automatically be enrolled on these units		
EART44440	Research project in Earth and planetary science	60 credits
EART40010	Integrated Earth and environmental science field course	15 credits
EART40031	Advanced science communication	15 credits
EART40130	Topics in Earth, planetary and environmental science	15 credits
Optional units You must select ONE of the following optional units		
EART40110	Elective in Earth and planetary science	15 credits
UCIL60312*	Creating a sustainable world	15 credits

*Available to all except those who completed this unit at undergraduate level