School of Geography

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

MRes IN GLOBAL CHANGE AND THE BIOSPHERE

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO THE RAINFORESTS?

MRes in Global Change and the Biosphere

Deforestation is perhaps only the most visible threat to the Earth's rainforests, which harbour much of its biodiversity. Long-term monitoring of Amazonian ecosystems suggests that, even where the forests are undisturbed, their species composition is changing. Parasitic lianas are becoming relatively more abundant, possibly due to fertilisation by the increasing concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere[1].

This is just one example of research into environmental change being pursued at Leeds. Our broad range of interests spans subjects such as plant dispersal and evolution during Quaternary climatic cycles; the role of soils in determining the structure of forests across the tropics; and modelling the storage and release of carbon by the oceans. **If you are passionate about research and want to contribute new knowledge about global change, then our MRes in Global Change and the Biosphere may be the course for you.**

We offer the opportunity to work alongside leading researchers as part of an active group of some 25 global change scientists and doctoral students, led by Professors Jon Lloyd (plant physiology-biosphere interactions), Oliver Phillips (tropical forest dynamics) and Chronis Tzedakis (Quaternary palaeoecology).

'Over the past decade the University of Leeds has become an international powerhouse in studies of global change biology, especially in the tropics. It is truly one of the world's elite institutions in tropical environmental science'

Dr William Laurance, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama, President of the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation

The programme includes:

- A taught component (60 credits) introducing core ideas, debates, theories and thinkers
- Hands-on experience of key experimental and analytical techniques
- Research methods and philosophy, project design and implementation
- Freedom to develop your own interests through a choice of optional modules
- A major research project (120 credits), with the option of overseas fieldwork
- Individual supervision tailored to your needs
- Assessment focused on real research outputs to help you on to the publications ladder.

Entry requirements
Normally an upper second class Honours degree or equivalent in a relevant degree subject.

Bursaries may be available.

For more information see:
http://www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/masters
Email geo-tpg-enq@leeds.ac.uk
Tel. +44 (0)113 343 6755

[1]Phillips, O.L. *et al.* (2002) Increasing dominance of large lianas in Amazonian forests. *Nature* 418, 770-774.

Printed on recycled paper

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