Faculty of Environment

TOP 10 IN THE WORLD FOR GEOGRAPHY

CWUR World University Rankings 2017

GEOGRAPHY UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES 2019
WELCOME TO THE SCHOOL OF GEOGRAPHY

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Important Information

Information provided by the University, such as in presentations, University brochures and on the University website, is accurate at the time of first disclosure. However, courses, University services and content of publications remain subject to change. Changes may be necessary to comply with the requirements of accrediting bodies or to keep courses contemporary through updating practices or areas of study. Circumstances may arise outside the reasonable control of the University leading to required changes. Such circumstances include industrial action, unexpected student numbers, significant staff illness (where a course is reliant upon a person’s expertise), unexpected lack of funding, severe weather, fire, civil disorder, political unrest, government restrictions and serious concern with regard to the transmission of serious illness making a course unsafe to deliver. After a student has taken up a place with the University, the University will look to give early notification of any changes and try to minimise their impact, offering suitable alternative arrangements or forms of compensation where it believes there is a fair case to do so. Offers of a place to study at the University will provide up-to-date information on courses. The latest key information on courses, entry requirements and fees can be found at courses.leeds.ac.uk. Please check this website before making any decisions.
School of Geography

The School of Geography is renowned for its teaching, global research and engagement with industry and government. We’re one of the largest and most innovative teaching departments in the UK, home to over 600 single honours undergraduate students from all over the world.

Geography is one of the most relevant and fascinating subjects you could choose to study. It tackles some of the most pressing social, economic, political and environmental challenges facing the world today.

Our academics work in some of the remotest places on Earth, including the Arctic, the Antarctic and the depths of the tropical rainforests. Closer to home we tackle the challenges created by urban development, cultural change and the environmental impacts of today’s consumer society. Because of the importance of the research questions we ask, our findings also have a wider impact and influence the policy of governments, businesses and international organisations.

“In The School of Geography we continually challenge ourselves to deliver an outstanding experience for our students. Our curriculum is designed to deliver research-led teaching that is both current and cutting-edge. We provide a world-class learning environment for our students, and incorporate a wide range of innovative teaching practices in our student education.”

Professor Louise Waite, Director of Student Education

The University of Leeds achieved a Gold rating in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) 2017
Learning and teaching

The world is changing through natural causes and through the impact of human activity.

These changes affect the whole of society and there is a growing need to understand them in order to provide practical solutions to manage and mitigate their impact.

Research-based degrees

Our research power, and the funding it attracts, means that we’re actively engaged in cutting-edge research. You’ll be taught by internationally renowned academics working at the forefront of their fields, who are passionate about the subjects they teach.

You’ll benefit from our integrated style of learning and teaching through a variety of methods, including project work and field work that enables you to develop your own skills as a researcher, asking and answering important questions about the way our world works. Whether you want to understand why we delve into the past to predict the future for climate change, or how cities are reshaped by international flows of people, money and ideas – geography at Leeds will provide you with the knowledge and skills to answer these questions.

Industry relevant courses

Our degrees will give you a solid academic foundation in geographical knowledge and skills, preparing you to address the needs of the world beyond higher education.

Our BA and BSc Geography degrees are accredited by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), while the BA Geography and Geology is accredited by the Geological Society of London.

Our BA Geography with Transport Studies degree offers an industry focused programme that provides practical insight, with graduates in high demand.

Student support

We have an excellent Student Support team, that works alongside your tutor and teaching staff in the delivering of pastoral care. They will help you with anything - from academic advice and guidance, online module enrolment and registration, timetabling, results and progression requirements to coursework/project submission enquiries and what to do if you miss study through illness.

Throughout your studies you’ll benefit from a structured support system, with a personal tutor who will offer help and advice about your approach to studying and how to become adept at independent learning. We regularly refresh our teaching methods in light of student feedback to make sure they meet your needs.

The web-based student portal will enable you to access the University’s student services and information, while our Minerva portal will allow you access to personal timetables, course materials, academic and social groups, and much more.

Discovery modules

Our courses allow you to take optional modules and/or discovery modules which give you the opportunity to broaden your learning and pursue interests outside Geography.
Research-led teaching

The Faculty is home to a community of scientists and eminent lecturers working at the forefront of their specialisms, who bring knowledge and passion to their subjects. Your lectures will be based on research that is happening now.

Our team of committed researchers work across the world, on projects that take them from the busy metropolitan cities of Europe, to the hot deserts of Africa and into the Arctic Circle. Their dedication to innovative research is yielding new knowledge and technologies that shape the decisions of business, policy makers, and NGOs, the world over.

The Faculty of Environment has an excellent reputation for world-class research and innovative teaching. The latest Research Excellence Framework (2014) ranks us first in the UK for the quantity of world-leading research.

The School of Geography research groups:
- Centre for Spatial Analysis and Policy
- Social Justice, Cities, Citizenship
- Ecology and Global Change
- River Basin Processes and Management

Our Faculty’s national centres:
- Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy
- National Centre for Atmospheric Science
- Centre for Polar Observation and Modelling
- Centre for the Observation and Modelling of Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Tectonics

Cross-campus research institutes hosted by the Faculty of Environment:
- Energy Leeds
- Centre for Integrated Energy Research
- water@leeds
- Petroleum Leeds
- Transport Systems Hub
- Centre for Computational Fluid Dynamics
- Leeds Ecosystem, Atmosphere and Forest Centre

Interdisciplinary Research Institutes:
- Priestley International Centre for Climate
Fieldwork

From how river ecosystems work to why cities develop as they do, fieldwork is really important and one of the most enjoyable parts of geographical study.

Fieldwork is a key part of all our geography degrees, where you’ll gain valuable hands-on experience:

- Practise the skills you have learnt in class in real-life situations.
- Gain first-hand experience of collecting and analysing data.
- Develop individual research skills – vital for your final year research project.
- Develop the project planning and team-working skills valued by employers.
- Get to know your lecturers and fellow students even better.

Some field courses are compulsory, while others may be optional depending on your degree choice. All compulsory fieldwork in your first and second years is funded by the School and we also provide funding to help cover the costs of some optional field classes.
The highlight of this course was definitely the geography trip to Miami. We went to the Winwood and Little Havana districts to look at how the areas are being developed and changed. It was great to be able to see this trend in action, and not just read about it in a textbook. It was such an amazing trip, Miami is so beautiful and I learnt so much about the area. It really helped me with my studies to have this practical experience.

Helena Stevens, BA Geography and Sociology

As a BA Geography student, you’ll carry out local fieldwork in your first year and then have the opportunity to choose optional field trips in both years two and three. In your second year, we currently offer Belgrade (Serbia), Montpellier (France) or Helsinki (Finland). In your third year, you could visit the multicultural city of Buenos Aires in Argentina, Miami, one of the most dynamic urban areas in the United States, or Athens (Greece) to explore urban and regional development.

As a BSc geographer, you’ll focus on local fieldwork in your first year, including a residential course in Malham. In your second year, you’ll have the chance to choose one of our compulsory field trips; currently to the Austrian Alps, Mallorca in Spain, or to the Algarve region of Portugal. In your third year, you’ll have the chance to choose one of our optional field trips to New Zealand or Costa Rica and get first-hand experience of carrying out field-based research in an exotic and challenging environment.
Careers and employability

As a geography graduate, your employment opportunities couldn’t be more exciting and wide-ranging.

We provide a range of curricular and co-curricular employability activities, and throughout your time with us our dedicated career consultants will be there to support, guide and advise you.

Rewarding careers

94% of our recent graduates have successfully secured employment or gone on to further study within six months of graduating (Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey 2015/16).

Our graduates find positions in areas such as conservation, land and water management, public utilities, transport planning and consultancy, IT and business consultancy, retail planning, direct marketing, GIS, government and NGOs, financial services, banking, insurance, teaching and research.

We embed employability and transferable skills throughout our degree programmes. This includes careers talks by alumni and modules dedicated to developing you as a highly employable graduate. The work experience opportunities we offer are plentiful and if you opt to do a year in industry you are often offered a graduate job with that company when you finish your studies.

Matthew Blakemore
BSc Geography and Geology

Industrial placement year at the Canal and Rivers Trust

As part of the hydrographic survey team, I am responsible for surveying the entire network over an eight year cycle to ensure the recorded depth of water is accurate. Using state of the art equipment and a survey boat, my team and I are collecting data along approximately 500 miles of the network, and using bathymetric data we then target specific areas that require dredging where the channel had silted up naturally over time.

I really enjoyed being able to talk to the general public and experience new challenges daily. It was really rewarding to see the whole project through; going from planning the site visit and collecting the data, to processing that data back in the office and generating depth charts ready to be published was a great achievement.

Undertaking the year in industry and the transferable skills I’ve developed as a result will be a great addition to my CV - hopefully helping me to stand out and get set up in my future career.
Careers support
Throughout your time with us, our Employability team is here to support, guide and advise you.

In addition to specialist face-to-face meetings, you’ll benefit from timetabled employability sessions, ongoing support to find internships and placements, presentations and workshops delivered by employers, career guidance and appointments.

Our Employability team also holds an annual Careers Fair specifically for geographers, which is attended by leading companies representing both physical and human geography career paths.

Our Careers Centre has recently been highly commended at the National Council of Work Experience Awards. It is one of the largest in the country with experienced advisers and strong relationships with graduate recruiters.

The University of Leeds is a top five university targeted by employers (The Graduate Market in 2017, High Fliers Research).

Strong industrial links
We work closely with a wide range of employers across the commercial, industrial and public sectors.

Our students benefit from employer presentations, careers events, guest lectures, work placement opportunities, external supervision of student projects and graduate employment opportunities.

Enhance your experience
All our courses give you the option of undertaking a year-long industrial placement between year two and three.

Alternatively, you might choose to immerse yourself in a different culture by studying overseas for a year. Either way, you’ll gain valuable skills that will enhance your CV, giving you a head start in today’s competitive job market.

“My time at the School of Geography, enabled me to develop essential knowledge which I now use in my current role. My presentation, teamwork and communication skills all improved throughout my degree.”

Angus MacDonald, BSc Geography Industrial, Assistant Manager, Ofgem
Industrial placement

An industrial placement year is a fantastic way of exploring your own strengths and the realities of working life. In recent years, all our students who chose a year in industry went straight into graduate employment, often with their placement company.

Our degrees include the option to complete a placement year in industry, which would be the third year of your course. You’ll have the opportunity to work in a wide range of areas such as operations analysis, conservation, ecology, management consultancy and hydrographic surveying, public transport operations, transport planning and development consultancy just to name a few.

The School’s professional development manager, working alongside the Careers Centre, academic staff, employers and former students will ensure that you are armed with the key skills required for employment. We’ll keep in touch with you while you’re away, visiting you during your placement in the UK, or arranging Skype calls if you choose to work overseas.

100% of our recent year in industry graduates have successfully secured employment or gone on to further study within six months of graduating.

(Latest Destinations of Leavers from HE survey)

Spencer Williams
BSc Geography (Industrial)

Year in industry with Price Waterhouse Coopers (PwC)

Spending over three years of my life at the University of Leeds has been an incredible experience. Looking back the time has flown by and I’ve achieved a lot! My biggest achievement has to be securing a graduate job with PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in London after a successful year in industry with them, something that wouldn’t have been possible without the support of the School.

During this placement, I was training to be a Chartered Accountant (and passing 8 out of 15 ACA exams) was a bit of a shock to the system coming from a geography background! But the support I had from the School whilst on placement, and then while re-integrating myself into my final year was fantastic and really helped me achieve what I wanted.
Study abroad

Once you’ve enrolled on to a three-year degree, you can register your interest to spend an additional year overseas before returning to Leeds to complete your final year of study.

Spending a year living and studying in another country is a fantastic opportunity that will expand your networks, broaden your horizons and develop your confidence – giving you skills employers look for in graduates.

The University has partnerships with over 60 institutions with which you can choose to study. You can spend the year immersing yourself in the culture of your host country under the horizon programme or choose to study geography under the well-established traditional programme.

The School of Geography has partnerships with some of the world’s top universities, who reserve a limited number of places especially for our geography students. You can choose to study at the National University of Singapore, consistently ranked amongst the top universities in the world, or, if you want to study closer to home, you can take advantage of our partnership with universities in Europe. We also offer partnerships with leading universities in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, and the United States.

“If you’re considering a year abroad I’d go for it! The time I’ve spent in Japan so far has been some of the best in my life and I’ve formed lifelong friends from all over the world.”

Isabelle Bavetta, Study Abroad Year at the Osaka University in Japan

“I think this opportunity is best utilised by throwing yourself into the deep end, into a culture you probably know nothing about and will never experience again.”

Deeva Parikh, Study Abroad Year at Hong Kong Baptist University
BA Geography

UCAS CODE: L700
ENTRY GRADES: AAA
DURATION: 3 YEARS
YEAR IN INDUSTRY AND STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS AVAILABLE

If you’re interested in globalisation, social justice, urban development and population growth, or how ethnicity, class, gender and age affect identities and belonging, then this is the degree for you.

Each year of this programme is designed around a combination of compulsory core modules, as well as opportunities to take optional modules and/or discovery modules across the University so you can choose additional subjects of interest.

You will have a personal tutor all the way through your degree.

In year one, you’ll develop a grounding in the core concepts and themes of human geography, plus key academic writing and digital learning skills. Core modules explore different geographies of a changing world, including economic globalisation, neighbourhood change, urbanisation and cities, migration, health, development, environmental management and sustainability. We focus on issues of justice, difference, identity, nature, space and place across different scales and ideologies, and give you a foundation in a range of mapping and statistical skills.

In year two, you’ll be provided with a core programme of research and career skills training that you’ll supplement from optional modules that cover geo-politics and international development, service analysis and planning, economic geography, the development of modern cities, citizenship and identity, sustainable development, and transport and mobility.

In year three, you’ll be required to undertake a significant independent final year project, alongside a suite of optional modules that cover subjects such as urban social movements, alternative futures, population and health geographies, geocomputation and location analysis, global insecurities, migration and encounter, and healthy cities. You will also have the choice of a research, work or teacher placement.

Fieldwork

In your first year you will use Leeds as your ‘laboratory’, carrying out group work around the city you live in. In your second year you can currently choose from a variety of optional field trips to Europe, including Montpellier, Helsinki and Belgrade. In your third year you can choose an optional field trip; currently to Athens, Buenos Aires or Miami. These trips are extremely popular, enabling you to apply your learning in a real-world context.

Career paths

Our BA Geography degree equips you for a multitude of careers including:

• Accountancy and banking
• Marketing and recruitment
• Retail planning
• Regional and overseas development
• Campaigning and charity work
• IT and business consultancy.

Further information

We also offer four-year international and industrial versions of these degrees.

For further details visit: www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/ba

ACCREDITATIONS

This course is accredited by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG). It delivers a solid academic foundation in geographical knowledge and skills, preparing graduates to address the needs of the world beyond higher education.

“People are often surprised I studied geography and came to work for a bank, but the variety of skills I gained from my degree prepared me perfectly for the role!”

Naomi Walker, BA Geography Industrial, Risk Graduate Scheme, Lloyds Banking Group
Joshua Anderson
BA Geography (Industrial)

Studying human geography at Leeds will undoubtedly set you up for the future. I am speaking from first-hand experience, having successfully completed a year in industry with Procter and Gamble with a full-time job offer when I graduate. Graduate employees really do value the skills and experience Leeds geographers obtain throughout their time here, especially the analytical capabilities developed through modules in data analysis, GIS and retail. The likelihood is you’ll be choosing from a number of employers, not the other way around!

Getting involved with GeogSoc was one of the best decisions I made – there are sports teams, regular socials, international trips and end of year balls. On the more academic side, the relationship between staff and students is second to none – I now don’t think twice about knocking on their office door to bounce ideas off them, or even just to have a quick chat.

Another opportunity to develop friendships with the lecturers and other students is through the numerous field trips on offer.

In short, if you are looking to study in a city with a thriving student population, at a university that provides an abundance of opportunities, and in a department which will gear you up for your future then I would definitely recommend studying geography at Leeds.

Where am I now?

I work in the IDS function at Proctor and Gamble (P&G), which is all about bringing cutting edge technology and business needs together to create value for the company. I have been given real responsibility from day one, leading global project teams on high priority projects, managing budgets and being accountable for project deliverables. I have also managed to maintain my connection with the University by being appointed as the Leeds recruitment lead. The analytical skills and discipline I gained during my course at Leeds, have set me up for success in my career and I would advise any prospective students to spend a year in industry.
BA Geography with Transport Studies

UCAS CODE: L7N9
ENTRY GRADES: AAB
DURATION: 3 YEARS
YEAR IN INDUSTRY AND STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS AVAILABLE

On this course you will explore how transport contributes to quality of life, but also causes problems for society – an issue that has taken it to the top of the political agenda. You will learn how to plan transport to beat traffic jams, how to make cities sustainable and healthy at the same time as providing access to jobs and explore how transport professionals achieve their objectives.

Each year of this programme is designed around a combination of compulsory core modules, as well as opportunities to take optional modules and/or discovery modules across the University so you can choose additional subjects of interest. You will have a personal tutor all the way through your degree.

In year one, you’ll develop a grounding in the core concepts and themes of human geography, plus key academic writing and digital learning skills. Core modules explore different geographies of a changing world, including economic globalisation, neighbourhood change, urbanisation and cities, migration, health, development, environmental management, sustainability and transport studies. We focus on issues of justice, difference, identity, nature, space and place across different scales and ideologies.

In year two, you’ll be provided with a core programme of research and career skills training, and you’ll explore how transport contributes to quality of life, but also causes problems for society – an issue that has taken it to the top of the political agenda. You’ll also supplement modules that cover geo-politics and international development, service analysis and planning, economic geography, the development of modern cities, citizenship and identity, sustainable development, and transport and mobility.

In year three, you’ll be required to undertake a significant independent final year project, alongside learning how to plan transport to beat traffic jams, how to make cities sustainable and healthy at the same time as provide access to jobs and explore how transport professionals achieve their objectives. You’ll be able to choose from a suite of optional modules that cover subjects such as urban social movements, alternative futures, population and health geographies, geocomputation and location analysis, global insecurities, migration and encounter, and healthy cities. You will also have the choice of a research, work or teacher placement.

Fieldwork
In your first year you will use Leeds and the surrounding region as your ‘laboratory’, carrying out group work around the city you live in and beyond. In your second year you can choose from a variety of optional field trips in Europe that enable you to apply the ideas you’ve learnt in a real-world context.

In your third year you can choose from optional geography field trips to the current locations of Athens, Buenos Aires or Miami. Individual modules may also involve small-scale fieldwork.

Career paths
Our BA Geography with Transport Studies degree equips you for a multitude of careers in the transport sector worldwide, including:

- Transport and development planning with consultancies
- Transport analysis and economics, and public transport planning with public transport operators or consultancies.
- Project management with a wide range of employers
- Physical distribution and logistics operations with online retailers or freight operators.

You’ll also graduate with the skills to equip you in roles such as:

- Location planning with retailers and consultancies
- Accountancy and banking
- Marketing
- Retail planning
- Teaching.

Further information
We also offer four-year international and industrial versions of this degree.
Jack Child

BA Geography with Transport Studies

One of the great strengths of BA Geography with Transport Studies is the diverse range of optional modules, allowing you to tailor the course to your own interests. Transport is a multi-disciplinary subject and it ties in really well with the human geography study themes. For example, modules on Transport Economics and Planning and Land Use and Development complement the urban, economic, and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) themes available within the School of Geography.

I have really enjoyed the more socially-based transport topics, which cover themes including identity, politics and citizenship. Lectures and seminars are always interesting and full of current issues – whether it be the latest debates surrounding HS2, or the use of virtual mobility and mobile phone technology to overcome accessibility barriers!

The Institute for Transport Studies is world renowned for its research and there are many opportunities to network with employers in consultancy, planning or modelling roles.

However, Transport Studies is just one element of the course and there is also a wide variety of other career options available. I know I will be leaving Leeds with a diverse set of skills which, together with the excellent support from my personal tutor and the Careers Centre, means I will be well placed for graduate employment across a variety of sectors.

Above all, Leeds is a fantastic city and the University has such a buzz – there is always something new and exciting going on!

ACCREDITATIONS

This course is accredited by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG). It delivers a solid academic foundation in geographical knowledge and skills, preparing graduates to address the needs of the world beyond higher education.
BSc Geography

UCAS CODE: F800
ENTRY GRADES: AAB
DURATION: 3 YEARS
YEAR IN INDUSTRY AND STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS AVAILABLE

This is a physical geography course that focuses on connections between different parts of the global system to explain how processes work at the Earth’s surface.

Each year of this programme is designed around a combination of compulsory core modules, as well as opportunities to take optional modules and/or discovery modules across the University so you can choose additional subjects of interest. You will have a personal tutor all the way through your degree.

In year one, you’ll develop a grounding in the core concepts and themes of physical geography, in addition to developing key analytical and writing skills. Core modules explore environment change in the past-present-future, processes on the earth’s surface, the biosphere, and the interactions between humans and the environment. Physical geography at Leeds is an integrative science that deals with processes and patterns in the atmosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere and geosphere, and the interaction of humans and their environment.

In year two, you’ll be provided with a core programme of research and career skills training that you’ll supplement from optional modules that build on all the key themes at level one.

In year three, you’ll be required to undertake a significant independent final year project (dissertation), alongside a suite of optional modules that cover subjects such as global environmental challenges, understanding the dynamics of the biosphere, water as a resource, glaciers and glaciation and Earth system science. You will also have the choice of a research, work or teacher placement.

Fieldwork

There are plenty of opportunities to apply your learning in practice. In your first year field trips are mainly in Yorkshire at sites such as Malham. In your second year you can currently choose the Algarve region of Portugal, the Austrian Alps or Mallorca for your compulsory field trip. You can also currently choose an optional field trip to Costa Rica or New Zealand in your third year. Individual modules also often involve fieldwork in Britain.

Career paths

Our BSc Geography degree equips you for a multitude of careers in environmental management such as:
- Flood risk analysis
- Conservation
- Hydrology
- Environmental planning

Our students also secure graduate roles in sectors such as:
- Banking and finance
- IT and business consultancy
- Marketing and recruitment.

Further information

We also offer four-year international and industrial versions of these degrees.

“My placement at Atkins has taught me a lot about how the water demands are met in the UK and how much planning is needed to provide for the future!”

Kate Thompson, Industrial Placement Student at Atkins
Abigail Nixey  
BSc Geography

This course provided me with the opportunity to focus on the physical aspects of geography which has always been where my main interests lie. Leeds offers such a diverse range of modules enabling you to study a really wide variety of topics, many of which I initially would not have associated with ‘geography’ as I knew it!

While studying, I have learnt the value of research-led teaching. The academic staff are pioneering in their research fields, carrying out the latest research and writing papers – in terms of current knowledge you just cannot get any better than that! As well as this, my degree has provided me with a range of skills that have been beneficial during my time studying here – skills that are going to prove invaluable going forward into the workplace. I have built strong teamwork, leadership and communication skills and I have grown in confidence. My ability and belief in using my initiative has really developed. I can also plan, collect, analyse and interpret data using a variety of computer software and research sources I have been introduced to whilst studying here. This is something the tutors and lecturing staff provide guidance with to ensure that once you reach your third year you are ready to take on your dissertation.

When I reflect on my time here, the highlight for me by far has been the second year field trip to the Austrian Alps. This trip gave me the chance to put into practice the skills I had learnt over the first two years of my degree, as well as place what I had been taught in lectures into a real life context. I also took this as an opportunity to collect data for my dissertation – something I would highly recommend doing!

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at university and I adore the city, but above all I have absolutely loved my degree and looking back I would not change anything. This was definitely the right choice for me and if I could, I would redo the whole thing (yes – even my dissertation) in a heartbeat!
If you are a geographer with a strong science background and an interest in the internal structure and composition of Earth, then this could be the degree for you.

In your first year you’ll study the same themes as other physical geographers, but will complement this with specialist study in geology. As you progress through year 2 and 3, you have the opportunity to specialise according to your strengths and interests in both physical geography and geology. Each year of this programme is designed around a combination of compulsory core modules, as well as opportunities to take optional modules and/or discovery modules across the University so you can choose additional subjects of interest. You will have a personal tutor all the way through your degree.

In year one, you will develop a grounding in the core concepts and themes of physical geography and geology, in addition to developing key analytical and writing skills. Core modules explore environment change in the past-present-future, processes on the Earth’s surface, fundamentals of geology and earth science, the biosphere, and the interactions between humans and the environment. This programme combines the study of physical geography and the earth science in one integrated degree programme.

In year two, you will be provided with a core programme of research and career skills training that will be supplemented from optional modules that build on all the key themes in physical geography and geology at level one. Field courses will demonstrate the integrated aspects of physical geography and geology.

In year three, you will be required to undertake a significant independent final year project (physical geography dissertation or geological mapping project), alongside a suite of optional modules that cover subjects such as global environmental challenges, sedimentology, palaeontology, volcanology, environmental management, the biosphere, water as a resource, glaciers and glaciation and Earth system science. You will also have the choice of a research, work or teacher placement.

Fieldwork

In your first year you’ll go on two residential field trips, one to Malham Tarn in the Yorkshire Dales with the BSc Geography students and the other to South Wales (Pembrokeshire) to learn the basic skills of a field geologist. At the end of this year you’ll visit the north of Scotland to develop your geological mapping skills.

In your second year you can choose between a geography field trip to current locations of Algarve region of Portugal, the Austrian Alps or Mallorca, Spain. You’ll also get to visit Ireland with the geology students to study sedimentary rocks.

In your third year you can choose an optional field trip in geography current locations of Costa Rica or New Zealand, and in geology to Cyprus, Northern Ireland or the Yorkshire coast. In addition, many of your optional year two and three modules have day field trips associated with them.

Career paths

A BSc Geography-Geology degree equips you for a multitude of careers including the following sectors:

- Environmental consultancy
- Oil and mineral industries
- Local government administration
- Engineering
- Conservation
- Public utilities.

Further information

We also offer four-year international and industrial versions of this degree.

ACCREDITATIONS

This course is accredited by The Geological Society.
Amy King  
**BSc Geography-Geology (International)**

If I could sum up the University of Leeds in just a few words, it would be that it was a place where you can achieve whatever goals you have the ability to imagine.

In my academic career as a geography-geologist, I have always had a huge choice of modules which has made my learning experience varied and interesting. With the choices available, and the constant guidance of supportive tutors, I have managed to find my specialities and understand what I want to do in the future, not bad for someone who came to university without a clue as to what I wanted to do.

Field trip and independent research project modules have been particular highlights of my study. Devising my own research question, planning and completing fieldwork, organising lab time, and processing the results, has been a steep and exciting learning curve and I have got to travel throughout England, Ireland and Wales and on to Cyprus and Austria, studying some of the best geological sites in the world!

As I finish my final few weeks here in Leeds, I know I have become a successful and well-rounded person with so many possibilities for the future. Despite being sad to leave, I am looking forward to the future that the last few years has set me up for.

**Where am I now?**

After graduating I enrolled on an MSc in Polar and Alpine Change at the University of Sheffield. I really enjoyed the course and got to go to Svalbard in the Arctic for five weeks last summer. I’m now studying a PhD at the University of Cambridge and the British Antarctic Survey jointly and I will be using carbon and organic tracers in Antarctic ice cores to reconstruct past climates and oceans. My brother is studying a PhD in the School of Geography at Leeds so I’m delighted the Leeds connection carries on!
You’ll join a physical geography course, where you’ll develop an appreciation of how processes at work on Earth’s surface can be described mathematically and represented in simulation models. If you want to explore how our Earth system operates and its underlying mathematical principles, then this is the degree for you.

Each year of this programme is designed around a combination of compulsory core modules, as well as opportunities to take optional modules and/or discovery modules across the University so you can choose additional subjects of interest. You will have a personal tutor all the way through your degree.

In year one, you’ll develop a grounding in the core concepts and themes of physical geography, in addition to developing key writing, analytical, and applied mathematical skills. Core physical geography modules explore environmental change in the past-present-future, processes on the Earth’s surface, the biosphere, and the interactions between humans and the environment. Core maths modules, that comprise a sixth of the year, deal with calculus and solving differential equations.

In year two, you’ll be provided with a core programme of research and career skills training that you’ll supplement with a range of optional modules that build on all the key themes at level one. In the maths component, worth a quarter of the year, you will develop your skills in calculus, data analysis and coding. You will also participate in a residential field course, currently to the Algarve, Mallorca or the Austrian Alps which will reinforce the integrated nature of physical geography.

In year three, you’ll be required to undertake a significant independent final year project (dissertation), alongside a suite of optional modules that cover subjects such as global environmental challenges, understanding the dynamics of the biosphere, water as a resource, glaciers and glaciation, and Earth system science. You will also have the choice of a research, work or teacher placement and the option to undertake a field course, currently to Costa Rica or New Zealand. The maths component provides skills in data analysis and the solution of equations that describe important environmental processes.

Fieldwork
There are plenty of opportunities to apply your learning in practice. In your first year field trips are taking place mainly in Yorkshire, at sites such as Malham Tarn in the Yorkshire Dales. In your second year you can choose the Western Algarve region of Portugal, the Austrian Alps or Mallorca for your compulsory field trip. In your third year you can choose an optional field trip to Costa Rica or New Zealand. Individual modules often also involve fieldwork in Britain.

Career paths
Our BSc Geography with Environmental Mathematics degree equips you for a multitude of careers in environmental management such as:
- Flood risk analysis
- Conservation
- Hydrology
- Environmental planning.

Our students also secure graduate roles in sectors such as:
- Banking and finance
- IT and business consultancy
- Marketing and recruitment.

Further information
We also offer four-year international and industrial versions of these degrees.

ACCREDITATIONS
This course is accredited by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG). It delivers a solid academic foundation in geographical knowledge and skills, preparing graduates to address the needs of the world beyond higher education.
Caledonia Collier  
BSc Geography (Industrial)  
Industrial Placement Student within the Water Management Consultancy at Atkins

As a Physical Geography student, I love getting out in the field. I was able to attend site work on two occasions during my placement with Atkins, one of the World’s leading design, engineering and project management consultancies.

A highlight of my year in industry was simply experiencing office life and working with many different colleagues every day. I was fortunate enough to join a genuinely wonderful team of people with whom I got along with really well and formed many lasting friendships.

I am a better-rounded, confident person, with a broader skill set than I was previously. I am grateful that I had this experience before graduating as I feel more aware of what working life is like.
Joint honours courses

The distinctiveness, appeal and strength of our joint honours programmes lie in the combination of depth, breadth and flexibility they offer, as well as in the broad range of degree combinations available.

They allow students to study two disciplines, in depth and to degree level while acquiring a broader range of skills than is typically possible with a single honours degree.

If you choose a joint honours course, you can choose from a wide range of optional modules available in each discipline. Within certain parameters, you can make connections and devise pathways according to your own preferences. The flexibility of these degrees allows you to change direction more easily, and more radically, than with single honours.

BA Geography and Business Management

UCAS CODE: LN72
ENTRY GRADES: AAA
DURATION: 3 YEARS
YEAR IN INDUSTRY AND STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS AVAILABLE

On this course you’ll study key specialisms in human geography together with management modules which will develop your understanding of how organisations function and the role of the contemporary manager.

You’ll be able to explore urban, economic, social, political and development geographies, and environmental sustainability, as well as examine the ideas and methods that underpin research in human geography. You’ll also gain technical skills in a range of mapping and statistical skills.

In parallel, you’ll gain business management skills and knowledge, focusing on the factors influencing organisational behaviour, the evaluation of organisational performance and the workings of specific economic sectors, such as banking and advertising.

A wide range of optional modules will allow you to shape your degree to suit your own interests and career intentions, from human resource management to citizenship and identity via entrepreneurship and migration. Fieldwork offered in every year will also allow you to put your geographical knowledge and skills into practice beyond the University.

Current fieldwork

Level 1 – Leeds
Level 2 – Belgrade, Montpellier, Helsinki
Level 3 – Athens, Buenos Aires, Miami

BA Economics and Geography

UCAS CODE: LL17
ENTRY GRADES: AAA
DURATION: 3 YEARS
YEAR IN INDUSTRY AND STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Our BA Economics and Geography allows you to study key specialisms in human geography alongside economic issues in business, public policy and society at large.

You’ll be able to explore urban, economic, social, political and development geographies, and environmental sustainability. You will also examine the ideas and methods that underpin research in human geography, and learn skills in digital geographies including a range of mapping and statistical skills.

In parallel, economics modules will consider the factors that influence income, wealth and wellbeing, how scarce resources are allocated, distributed and used today, and how they might change in the future.

A wide range of optional modules will allow you to shape your degree to suit your own interests and career intentions, from economic development to citizenship and identity via environmental economics and migration. Fieldwork offered in every year will allow you to put your geographical knowledge and skills into practice beyond the University.

Current fieldwork

Level 1 – Leeds
Level 2 – Belgrade, Montpellier, Helsinki
Level 3 – Athens, Buenos Aires, Miami

This varied degree allows you to explore the complexity of society and explore key ideas and themes in human geography.
BA Geography and Sociology

UCAS CODE: LL37
ENTRY GRADES: AAB
DURATION: 3 YEARS
YEAR IN INDUSTRY AND STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Core modules will examine the social, cultural, economic and political processes that shape human experience, the structure of society, the impact of social divisions and the changing nature of human action. You’ll also investigate how we plan cities, regions and resources, and learn skills in digital geographies including a range of mapping and statistical skills.

From this foundation, you’ll have the freedom to focus on topics that suit your own interests – we offer a wide range of optional modules that reflect the diversity of our research interests in both subjects. Drawing on expertise in both the School of Geography and the School of Sociology and Social Policy, you could study political, urban, social and development geography alongside disability studies, urban disorders, the sociology of gender or racism, ethnicity studies and many others.

Current fieldwork
Level 1 – Leeds
Level 2 – Belgrade, Montpellier, Helsinki
Level 3 – Athens, Miami

BA Geography and History

UCAS CODE: VL17
ENTRY GRADES: AAB
DURATION: 3 YEARS
YEAR IN INDUSTRY AND STUDY ABROAD OPTIONS AVAILABLE

This varied degree will give you the chance to study the ways in which humans interact with different environments, while gaining an understanding of how human activity has changed over time.

Core modules will introduce you to themes in modern human geography, exploring how people interact with the world around them, how globalisation is shaping the world, and the impact this is having on urban development and population growth. You’ll also build your understanding of historiography and acquire other valuable historical research skills.

Because our research interests are so diverse at Leeds, we also offer an impressive range of optional modules in both subjects. For example, you could study political geography or sustainable development alongside the fall of the Roman Empire, colonial Africa or the Harlem Renaissance. You could even choose modules that involve international fieldwork. It’s a fascinating opportunity to gain new insights into the many facets of human behaviour.

The University of Leeds has plenty of excellent resources for historians and geographers. The world class Brotherton Library holds a wide variety of manuscript, archive and early printed material in its Special Collections, and the Library offers plenty of training to help you make the most of the facilities we have. The School of Geography also houses state-of-the-art research facilities.

Current fieldwork
Level 1 – Leeds
Level 2 – Belgrade, Montpellier, Helsinki
Level 3 – Athens, Miami
The Faculty of Environment

The Faculty of Environment is a world-leader in responding to global challenges with over 400 staff actively engaged in research and teaching across a wide range of topics, covering earth sciences, environmental science and sustainability, human and physical geography and transport planning.

Our Faculty comprises of the School of Geography, the School of Earth and Environment and the Institute for Transport Studies. Our integrated programmes of study offer exciting opportunities to work alongside research leaders and to develop the skills and knowledge required by future decision-makers, industry leaders and informed global citizens.

Have you considered our Earth and Environment undergraduate degrees?

- Environment and Business BA / MEnv, BA
- Environment and Business BA/MEnv
- Environmental Science BSc / MEnv, BSc
- Meteorology and Climate Science BSc / MEnv, BSc
- Geological Sciences BSc / MGeol, BSc
- Geophysical Sciences BSc / MGeophys, BSc
- Environmental Science BSc / MEnv, BSc
- Meteorology and Climate Science BSc / MEnv, BSc

For more information, visit courses.leeds.ac.uk

In recognition of our strong and continued commitment to gender equality, we have received a prestigious Athena SWAN Bronze Award.

This is awarded by the Equality Challenge Unit, the national body that promotes equality in the higher education sector.
Our standard entry requirements are listed below.

**Geography BA**
UCAS code: L700
Entry grades: AAA
Access to Leeds: ABB
Preferably including Geography.

If Geography is not included then we would expect 2 A-levels from History, English, Economics, Sociology, a modern language, Psychology, Maths and Biology.

International Baccalaureate: 35 points overall, 18 at Higher Level.

GCSE: English and Mathematics at grade B (6) or above, or an appropriate English language and Mathematics qualification.

**Geography and Geology BSc**
UCAS code: FF68
Entry grades: AAB
Access to Leeds: BBB
Including a science subject and preferably including Geography.

If Geography is not included then we would expect 2 science A-levels from Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Maths and Physics.

International Baccalaureate: 35 points overall, 17 at Higher Level.

GCSE: English and Mathematics at grade B (6) or above, or an appropriate English language and Mathematics qualification.

**Geography with Transport Studies BA**
UCAS code: L7N9
Entry grades: AAB
Access to Leeds: BBB
Preferably including Geography.

If Geography is not included then we would expect 2 A-levels from History, English, Economics, Sociology, a modern language, Psychology, Maths, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Computing, Law, Philosophy and Statistics.

International Baccalaureate: 35 points overall, 17 at Higher Level.

GCSE: English and Mathematics at grade B (6) or above, or an appropriate English language and Mathematics qualification.

**Geography BSc**
UCAS code: F800
Entry grades: AAB
Access to Leeds: BBB
Preferably including Geography.

If Geography is not included then we would expect 2 science A-levels from Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Maths and Physics.

International Baccalaureate: 35 points overall, 17 at Higher Level.

GCSE: English and Mathematics at grade B (6) or above, or an appropriate English language and Mathematics qualification.

**Geography and Environmental Mathematics BSc**
UCAS code: FG80
Entry grades: AAB including A in Maths
Access to Leeds: BBB
Including Maths, preferably Geography.

If Geography is not included then we would expect 2 science A-levels from Biology, Chemistry, Geology and Physics.

International Baccalaureate: 35 points overall, 17 at Higher Level.

GCSE: English and Mathematics at grade B (6) or above, or an appropriate English language and Mathematics qualification.

**Economics and Geography BA**
UCAS code: LL17
Entry grades: AAA
Access to Leeds: ABB
Preferably including Geography.

If Geography is not included then we would expect 2 A-levels from History, English, Economics, Sociology, a modern language, Psychology, Maths and Biology. GCSE Mathematics grade A.

International Baccalaureate: 35 points overall, 18 at Higher Level.

GCSE: English at grade B (6) or above. Mathematics at grade A OR grade 7 or above. Or an appropriate English language and Mathematics qualification.

**Economics and Geography BA**
UCAS code: LL17
Entry grades: AAA
Access to Leeds: ABB
Preferably including Geography.

If Geography is not included then we would expect 2 A-levels from History, English, Economics, Sociology, a modern language, Psychology, Maths and Biology. GCSE Mathematics grade A.

International Baccalaureate: 35 points overall, 18 at Higher Level.

GCSE: English and Mathematics at grade B (6) or above. Or an appropriate English language and Mathematics qualification.

**Economics and Geography BA**
UCAS code: LL17
Entry grades: AAA
Access to Leeds: ABB
Preferably including Geography.

If Geography is not included then we would expect 2 A-levels from History, English, Economics, Sociology, a modern language, Psychology, Maths and Biology. GCSE Mathematics grade A.

International Baccalaureate: 35 points overall, 18 at Higher Level.

GCSE: Mathematics at grade B (6).
All undergraduate applications should be made through the Universities and College Admissions Service (UCAS). Full instructions on how to apply are available at www.ucas.com

Offer process
Suitable applicants will be invited to an applicant day, for which we strongly encourage attendance, as this gives you the opportunity to meet our students, academic and admission staff, and find out more about your course.

You will have the chance to discuss your application in more detail, check that it's the right course for you and your career plans, have your questions answered and find out more about studying at Leeds.

English language requirements
English language at GCSE grade B or above, or an appropriate English language qualification such as IELTS:
- IELTS 6.5 overall, with no less than 6.0 in any component for Geography and Sociology BA and Geography and History BA
- IELTS 6.0 overall, with no less than 5.5 in any component for all other Geography degrees.
Email our admissions team at geo-ug-enq@leeds.ac.uk for information on equivalent English language qualifications.

International Foundation Year
Our International Foundation Year (IFY) is intended for international students who do not yet have a formal qualification required for entry to year one of our degree courses.
Internationalfoundationyear.leeds.ac.uk

Language centre
Our Language Centre provides the Academic English for Undergraduate Studies pre-sessional course, which is designed to help international students develop the necessary language and academic study skills for undergraduate study.
www.leeds.ac.uk/languages

Fees and student support
For full information on fees and student finance please visit www.leeds.ac.uk/yourfinances

Mature students
If you are a mature applicant, you will receive individual consideration, taking account of existing academic qualifications, relevant work experience and personal motivation for study.

For further advice and guidance on making an application contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office email geo-ug-enq@leeds.ac.uk

International students
If you are looking to move to the UK for your studies, the School welcomes students from a wide variety of countries around the globe. You'll benefit from the large and diverse community of cultures studying and working within a premier Russell Group University. Check your eligibility for special scholarships by referring to ‘Scholarships and Prizes’. Find out more at www.leeds.ac.uk/international

Further information
For further information on our admissions process, including the application and selection process, please visit
www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/how-to-apply
Or please contact our admissions office:
geo-ug-enq@leeds.ac.uk

Find us online:
www.geog.leeds.ac.uk
@SoGLeeds
@universityofleeds
@universityofleeds