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Understand the World

University Directory • Career paths • Applications tips
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- **BSc** Geography
- **BSc** Physical Geography
- **BA** Human Geography
- **BSc** Environmental Earth Science
- **BSc** Environmental Science
- **BSc** Daear-yddiaeth (Welsh-medium)
- **BA** Sociology

- **MSc** Environmental Change, Impact and Adaptation
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Welcome

We’re so pleased to be able to bring you this issue of Study Geography. It’s been a tough couple of years for universities, students and teachers but at long last, there are real reasons for optimism. If anything, the Covid-19 pandemic highlights just how important the subject of geography is, focusing as it does on the interactions between humans and our environment. In the following pages we hope to inspire and inform those considering studying geography at university level. Hear from students of geography, professors of geography and those who have built successful careers off the back of a geography degree. Plus, as ever, our university directory offers a complete list of UK universities that offer geography as a degree.

Katie Burton
Editor, Geographical

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BA and BSc Geography at Durham University prepares students for careers that tackle global challenges.

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• Attend our Open Days (September 2021) and Post-Offer Visit Days (February and March 2022) durham.ac.uk/study/ug/visit/
Why geography?

With over 100 UK universities offering more than 1,200 geography-related degrees, there's a few factors to consider before sending in your application...

Geography explores how the world works, and how humans interact with it. Whether you're keen to help tackle the climate crisis, improve the lives of individuals across the globe, rethink city planning systems, educate the next generation or change the way the world responds to pandemics, a geography degree can equip you with the skills and inspiration needed to follow those ambitions.

Where can geography take me?

Geography has one of the highest employability rates of all undergraduate degrees. Transferable skills such as problem-solving and data analysis can lead to careers in environmentalism, Geographic Information Systems, conservation, sustainability, development, and more.

BA or BSc?

Geography is one of the few degrees that offers both a Bachelor of Arts (BA) and a Bachelor of Science (BSc) pathway. Most universities offer a choice between the two, or a general geography degree that combines elements of both. Both courses will offer a foundation in human, physical and environmental geography but a BA focuses on the social, economic, cultural and historical elements of the subject, whereas a BSc course dives into the natural elements of our world.

What qualifications do I need to study geography?

A geography qualification is useful when applying, but not necessary. BSc courses likely require a scientific focus in past qualifications, while BA candidates tend to have a background in humanities. Exceptions can, and are, made; it's worth contacting university admissions departments to confirm any flexibility in application requirements.

Physical Geography

A branch of natural science, this subject studies processes and patterns in the natural environment, as opposed to the cultural or built environment. Universities have specialities, but most undergraduate courses will cover:
- Plate tectonics
- Glacial environments
- Erosion and volcanology
- Climate change and environmental issues
- River systems and hydrology
- Biogeography and soil
- Meteorology

Human geography

Human geography is all about how people interact with their environment and focuses on the cultures, economies and societies that make up the world. Common topics include:
- Urban, environmental and rural issues
- Culture, society, gender and power
- Geographies of biomedicine and global health
- Geopolitics and international development
- Social justice

Other Courses

More specialised options can be studied as degrees in their own right, but many institutions offer them in tandem with geography. Popular options include:

Environmental Science: The study of living organisms and how they interact with the environment, as well as Earth's physical, chemical and biological processes.

Geophysics: The application of physics to study Earth, oceans and atmosphere.

Geoscience: The study of environmental conditions on Earth and the processes that maintain and modify them.

Geology: The science of the planet's evolution, including how it was formed, how it has changed over time, and how this affected life on Earth.

Heard about fieldwork? Most geography degrees include research trips to interesting destinations. Geographers often cite fieldwork as the best part of their degree experience. Read more on page 6!
Going places with geography

It’s touted as the best part of a university geography degree, but what do students actually get up to on a field trip? Trip organisers and students share their experiences...

Talking politics in Brussels

**Where to?**
Brussels, the capital city of Belgium, to explore how space, place and politics interact with its geography.

**Who goes?**
First-year human geography students at the University of Kent.

**Itinerary?**
The three-day visit aims to give students a flavour of urban-related activities in the city. You’ll visit local attractions and explore how the city’s history and political reality affect the urban environment. There are opportunities to meet and question European policy makers and hear policy debates run by the European Committee of Cities and Regions, on topics such as the European Green Deal.

**What they say..**
‘Programmes like these offer hands-on experience of how we can prepare ourselves for bigger challenges ahead, like climate change. Trips give students a flavour of what geography is about beyond the classroom. It equips them with a better understanding of what their professional future could look like and what debates and agendas they might engage with when they finish their degree.’
– Jonathan Rock Rokem, lecturer in human geography

Climbing mountains in Morocco

**Where to?**
The Toubkal massif, Morocco’s highest mountain group

**Who goes?**
Second year physical geography students at The University of Manchester.

**Itinerary?**
After a day spent exploring the bustling souks of Marrakesh, students head into the hills. First up is a reconnaissance walk across the mountains. Some students may look at former glacier sites or nearby rivers, while others will consider landslides. A highlight is heading to see the famous Arroumd landfall or, in Professor Philip Hughes’ words, ‘the big pile of rocks’.

**What they say...**
‘Field trips are a valuable part of a geography degree. We give students a lot of independence to do their own research. It’s good preparation for their dissertation. But it’s also great for student CVs – they have to work in a team, design the project themselves, and present their findings.’ – Philip Hughes, professor of physical geography
**Sharpening social skills in Mallorca**

**Where to?**
Mallorca, for a week zipping across the Balearic island.

**Who goes?**
An interdisciplinary trip for second year geography students at the University of Bristol.

**Itinerary?**
Day one begins with a coach trip to explore sites of geographical interest – think scouting out caves in the mountains. After that, staff lead activities for small groups. Past focuses have included researching the impact of agriculture on hydrology, considering land use and measuring tourism's impact. There's plenty of time to relax and enjoy the island's excellent bars, too.

**What they say...** 'The aims are to expose students to a totally new environment – a different physical and climatological environment to where they live, which will help them think about what goes on beyond our own borders. They learn important research skills but also sharpen their capabilities in producing independent field research. Field trips are the most memorable part of a degree – and the most fun bit.’

– Katerina Michaelides, associate professor, School of Geographical Sciences

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**Unearthing ruins in the Yucatan**

**Where to?**
The verdant lowlands of the Yucatan peninsula, Mexico.

**Who goes?**
Third year University of Nottingham students completing a tied-in geography module.

**Itinerary?**
Students fly into Cancun, travel across to Merida before heading south to a University of Yucatan UADY field station. Days are a mix of project-based fieldwork and visits to key archaeological sites, such as forest-clad Ek Balam and the stately pyramids of Chichén Itzá. Spot spider and howler monkeys in Putna Laguna Reserve and the pink flamingos of Celestún.

**Exploring rural Kerala**

**Where to?**
Kerala state, on India's sun-scorched Malabar Coast.

**Who goes?**
Second year students studying developmental geography at King’s College London.

**Itinerary?**
This week-long trip starts in the densely populated coastal city of Kochi. Students hit the ground running, exploring colonial influences in the town. Then, it’s down to palm-fringed Kottayam to observe the rural economy in action, with a trip to a fishing village by wooden boat. Based out of a local hotel, the next few days are preserved for pre-prepped individual projects. Students head out in small groups, working in partnership with tourism students at a local college who act as facilitators and translators, to observe land tenure regulations or interview regional tourism officials. Evenings are free, with chances to visit nearby villages.

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**Prowling the Peak District**

**Where to?**
The uplands of the UK's Peak District National Park.

**Who goes?**
First-year students at the University of Birmingham.

**Itinerary?**
This four-day trip begins with a hike up 517m Mam Tor. From there, days are spent putting observation techniques into practice. That might mean doing water chemistry tests and macroinvertebrate sampling in Burbage Brook, then heading to Tideswell Dale to start soil sampling and take field observations at a cement quarry the next.

**What they say...** 'Field trips make your studying experience more exciting. On the day we did water sampling, I got to try on waders (super long wellies) and stand in the middle of a deep stream to measure the bed attributes. It was great fun trying to stay balanced in the water and – because it was a foggy day – the view was ethereal.’

– Louisa K. Osei, final year BSc Environmental Science student
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  (2022 QS World University rankings)
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  (2022 QS Best Student Cities)

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Geographical research

One of the best things about studying at university level is the chance to be taught by people at the cutting edge of their field. As well as teaching, geography professors and other teaching staff also carry out their own research, enriching the experience of students and boosting the reputation of the university. The projects described below offer just a flavour of the huge amount of geographic research taking place at UK universities right now.

Newcastle University: The sustainability of delta regions

Stuart Dawley, head of geography at Newcastle says: ‘We’re really, really keen and always have been to bring research into the classroom. One of the key projects that we’ve been involved with in the last couple of years is a £20m global challenges research hub, called the Living Deltas Hub, which is looking at sustainability of delta regions in Vietnam, India and Bangladesh. Geographical knowledge has never been as important at it is now to tackle issues of sustainability and societal challenges and so much of this is coming together in this Living Delta’s project.’ The project focuses on climate change mitigation and adaptation, coastal resilience and ensuring positive futures for the region’s youth.

University of Chester: Carbon neutrality in Ashton Hayes

Roy Alexander leads the Ashton Hayes Going Carbon Neutral project. In 2006 the Cheshire village of Ashton Hayes set out to become the first carbon neutral village in England. Surveys of domestic carbon footprints were conducted in 2006 (baseline), annually from 2007 to 2010 and in 2015, the latter also examining aspects of social return on investment. Work is currently underway to evaluate progress during the first decade and will be reported via a book and journal articles.

The University of Manchester: Rivers of the past, present and future

Jamie Woodward, professor of physical geography at Manchester says: ‘We don’t just teach, we do research. And also we do different kinds of research. Something that goes through all of my research is an interest in river systems. So I’ve worked in the Nile Valley in Sudan with the British Museum, looking at long term changes in the behaviour of the river Nile and how that’s impacted on past human societies. Some of my more recent research has been looking at microplastic contamination in British rivers, which is a big research area, and quite a controversial one at the moment.

Queen Mary University of London: WhatsApp in India

Queen Mary researchers are examining the ways in which WhatsApp is transforming everyday political life in India. There are now more WhatsApp users in India than in any other democracy. Political parties have been instrumental in mobilising the platform. Against this backdrop, the research aims to understand how digital technology, and WhatsApp in particular, is reconfiguring and transforming everyday political life in India. It responds to calls for more nuanced understandings of digital technology beyond western contexts.
Studying geography

Whether you’re interested in mountains, rivers, migration or mapping, geography’s broad scope offers something for everyone. Hear what current students at universities across the UK have to say of their experiences studying the subject.

Teresa Cruz
Geography and Natural Hazards
Coventry University
My A-levels were in maths, biology, geology, physics and chemistry, and although I knew I wanted to explore a little bit of all those subjects in my degree, I didn't really know what I wanted to study at university. Then, I came across geography and natural hazards. The course has exceeded my expectations; we’ve worked with stats and analytical analysis and have been introduced to GIS and remote sensing software. I’d never done any of that before, so it’s really exciting. I’ve been able to tailor my degree, picking optional modules. Geography is very adaptable, and you gain a bunch of transferable skills, soft skills and technical skills.

Michaela Serieux
BSc Geography
Durham University
I chose geography because I enjoyed it at A-Level and, because being torn between the sciences or geography, I felt that it was an interdisciplinary course which dipped into different subjects I liked. My biggest highlight so far has been our residential fieldtrip to Portugal. I met new people, learnt new techniques and was able to enjoy the beautiful weather and make very fond memories. If anyone is doing geography, I would recommend going on at least one fieldtrip if your course allows. I’m hoping to do my dissertation focussing on the topic of hazards and risks, specifically on responses to earthquakes.

Ewa Idzikowska
BSc Geography
Aberystwyth University
Environmental Futures MSc
University of Leicester
When picking my university degree, it was a choice between two subjects that I enjoyed the most at school: geography and maths. I chose geography because I couldn’t imagine working behind a desk as my future career. I enjoy being in the field and having a say in the most pressing current issues. Graduating from geography gives me an opportunity to do both. It provides opportunities to work independently in the field and in the lab on projects using GIS, surveys, interviews and data.
Jade Lakhan  
**BA Geography**  
University of Southampton  
‘People may assume geography is nothing more than maps and capitals, but at university level it’s really eye-opening to see how vast geography truly is, and how much of a role it plays in almost everything we do. I chose my course because I was interested in studying the patterns that go on in everyday life and society, for example: what encourages people to migrate from one place to another, or the cultural norms in different places and how people consciously and subconsciously contribute to upholding those norms.’

Heather Millar  
**Geography and Politics**  
University of Glasgow  
I found human geography interesting in school and as I became more engaged with politics, I realised how the two overlapped. Geography is a very broad subject, but the Glasgow course allows you to gain knowledge in different areas including GIS, political, social, coastal geography and more. Last semester, I completed a course called ‘Geographies of Development’ which was all about the field of international development. It’s inspired me to consider a career in that field.

Louis Smith-Lassey  
**BSc Geography**  
University of Liverpool  
**MA Urban Design and Planning**  
University of Liverpool  
Ever since getting my first Atlas at six years old, geography was always in the forefront of my mind, and then I realised at school that I was good at it and it was definitely what I wanted to do at university. I did BSc geography but I was very fortunate at my university to be able to do planning modules as well, which not all universities offer. I found out I actually have a passion for and am quite

Laura Hewlett  
**BSc Geography with Environmental Maths**  
University of Leeds  
Physical geography has always interested me, whether it be through lessons in school, the news, landscapes I’ve seen on holidays or even those on my doorstep. The mathematical element of this degree was important to me as I like to take a quantitative approach in my learning and the combined elements of the two offered a unique opportunity to explore both disciplines. I’d love to pursue a career involving physical geography, specifically supporting efforts to reduce the impact of climate change. I want to continue travelling, too, exploring the dynamic landscapes we live in.
What's next? Careers with geography

Geography graduates have one of the highest rates of graduate employment in the country, and the transferable skillset picked up during their courses opens doors to employment opportunities in a range of sectors.

Greta Ferloni, research postgraduate
Durham University
BA Geography, University of Durham

When I was choosing my undergraduate university course, I had to decide between picking nanotechnology or geography – very different courses! My parents pointed out that life as a nanotechnologist is mostly based in a lab, but geography allows you to go anywhere and do anything. That idea of freedom cemented my choice.

I completed a human geography degree at Durham, but I was always interested in the hard-science side, too. My dissertation considered the soundscapes of conflict in Jerusalem, but I then decided to go and do a technical masters in GIS. It’s unusual to combine the two, but I followed what I was interested in.

Now, I’m researching the mobilities of, in and around sea ice in the Arctic, looking at both the physical side of the landscape but also considering how indigenous communities rely on it. My PhD is interdisciplinary and broaches the gap between human and physical geography. I never thought I would end up exploring soundscapes or interviewing indigenous communities in my career, but geography is incredibly broad and rewards people who have drive and direction.

Lucy Wood, environmental planning director
Barton Willmore
BSc Geography, University of Nottingham

I’m the director of the national environmental planning team at Barton Willmore, one of the UK’s leading independent planning and design consultancies.

That means I lead a team of eight people, working across the country to gain consent on major development projects, providing environmental, health and climate change impact assessments. That could be working on anything from new sustainable settlements and urban regeneration to solar farms and off-shore wind sites. I also offer direction for the strategy advice we provide clients, putting current issues like Covid-19 and climate change into context. I use both my geography degree and my environmental management master’s degree every single day.

When doing a geography degree, I’d totally recommend getting out there and doing field work. I went to Arctic Norway and studied glacial retreats for my dissertation and it boosted my resilience and independence – skills employers are always on the look-out for. If you’re interested in environmental planning, make sure to set up a LinkedIn profile, which allows you to build a network even when you’re a student.
Ian Jelley, director of living landscapes
Warwickshire Wildlife Trust
BSc Geography with Biology, University of Derby
The Wildlife Trust is a great organisation to work for, working hard to bring our wildlife back and enable people to take action for nature. I lead a department of 25 inspiring colleagues, and my role involves creating the right working environment by developing the strategic direction, securing funding and building relationships with other organisations. Practical modules at university, like learning surveying techniques and GIS, have provided me with transferable skills and been fundamental throughout my career.

James Cosgrove, senior catastrophe modeler
Risk Management Solutions (RMS)
BSc Physical Geography with Geology, University of Southampton
RMS provides science, technology and catastrophe risk models to help insurers and other organisations evaluate the risks of natural and man-made disasters. I could be working on a hurricane approaching the USA one day, an earthquake in Japan the next. Risk management employers generally look for candidates with a background in natural hazards with analytical, research and communicative skills – all of which you will acquire during your geography studies.

Susie Aust, freelance travel PR
BA Geography, University College London
I’ve always loved travel and by the end of my degree I knew I was seeking a role in the industry. My first job was on the John Lewis graduate programme. I worked there for 18 months before moving to travel communications company BGB [now Four Comms]. In 2013, I went freelance, continuing to consult for Four Comms, but also working with my own clients, including tourist boards and luxury holiday companies. The core skills I learnt in my degree are now a key part of my job – organising press trips for journalists is just the same as those field trips! Seeing your client in a print or online article is unbelievably rewarding, particularly after such a tough few years in the industry.

Robert Barnard, regulatory policy analyst
National Grid ESO
BSc Physical Geography, University of Leeds
I work in the commercial sector for the National Grid, in strategy and regulation. National Grid is a monopoly, regulated by the energy regulator Ofgem. Depending on how well we do, the regulator changes what we’re allowed to produce. So my job is looking after our obligations, making sure we have a good relationship with the regulator.

For more student and career profiles, plus much more information about studying geography, head to: geographical.co.uk/studygeography
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Highly respected by employers, a geography degree can open up a wide range of career paths and not all of them what you might expect. Did you know that more than 20 per cent of employed geography graduates take jobs in business, HR and finance? Transferable skills from a geography degree, such as research abilities, project management and data handling are in high demand in a range of industries.

If you’re unsure what path to take beyond a degree, taking a year in industry during your course or committing to work experience can help you discover industries and jobs you might not have previously considered, which match your skill set well.

We caught up with three HR professionals to find out what they look for in potential candidates, and why a geography degree is a passport to employment after university…

**Victoria Clarke**
Head of HR, Triple Point

‘Triple Point is an investment bank that invests with purpose, for profit. That means we lease to groups such as the NHS and local authorities, provide social housing funds, and support SMEs and entrepreneurs who might otherwise not be able to secure loans from banks. Our investments have a positive environmental, social and/or governance (ESG) impact, and we always ensure the company we're investing in is striving to be ethical. When hiring, we look for candidates with transferable skills who have the potential to develop. You should be an interesting, creative and ambitious person who wants to make a difference in the world. In a geography degree, you’re asking yourself questions about why things happen in the world around us, and that curiosity can translate into ways of working in the finance industry.’

**Brian Vinall**
Environment Agency operations manager and deputy head of the Government Geography Profession, Defra

‘The Defra Group and geographers sit very well together. As the government department responsible for the environment, and with the government increasingly focusing on spatial analysis, there is a lot of room for the skills of a geographer. There are roles for hydrologists, geomorphologists, hydrogeologists, human geographers, economic geographers, cartographers, GIS practitioners and more.

The Government Geography Profession was recently formally recognised – putting it alongside such professions as economics and statistics. So geography graduates fit into various roles in government, especially in Defra. They have an excellent, well-rounded training in the natural processes at work, and in the increasingly important field of spatial data analysis.’

**John Whelan**
HR consultant

‘Geography gives students an insight into practical, social, economic and environmental issues. Aspects of the study expose students to quantitative analysis methods creating transferable skills in IT and analytics – these are critical to business and in short supply right now.

It is inconceivable these days that you could study geography without understanding current environmental issues – these are now priority issues for all companies and affect many aspects of business including operations, product development, supply chain, marketing and distribution. There are other important underlying skills developed including planning, problem solving and communication skills – all critical to future leaders.’
Gain the knowledge and skills to tackle global priority issues, such as the climate crisis, social inequality and hazard vulnerability, and play your part in creating sustainable futures for all.

- Geography BA (Hons)** / BSc (Hons)*
- Geography with Year Abroad BSc (Hons)
- Geography (Combined) BSc/BA (Hons)
- Natural Hazard Management and Geography BSc (Combined Hons)
- Flood Risk Assessment, Modelling and Engineering MSc***

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Your Application

Ready to apply for a geography degree at university? Read our tips and tricks to ensure your personal statement shines

All university applicants are allowed a maximum of five choices. When you’ve heard back from all the universities you have applied to, you will only be able to hold two offers: generally, your first pick will be the university you most want to go to, while the second pick is a safety-net which requires lower grades for entry in case you face a hiccup during your exams.

So, what does an application look like? Alongside entering your expected grades, applicants have to submit a personal statement – a 4,000-character (around 650-word) piece of writing outlining why you want to study for a degree. It’s an opportunity for you to articulate why you’re a great match for the courses you are applying to, showcasing your interests, skills and experience. Think about covering topics such as:

- Why you’re applying
- What makes you suitable for the course
- The experience and skills you have which showcase your interests or achievements
- Any clubs, societies or projects you are part of
- Any personal circumstances which may have affected your educational performance and should be taken into account

Take a look at what admissions staff at UK institutions look for when reading a personal statement…

‘In a personal statement, we want to see evidence of enthusiasm and passion for geography. We want to know that you will have the curiosity and motivation to undertake what will be a fairly demanding three years of study. You can demonstrate your interest in different ways: by reflecting on places you have visited that have inspired you; by showcasing your involvement in your own community; or your thoughts on books, programmes and podcasts that you have engaged with. There is no single right answer here, as long as you tell us why geography is the course for you.’

Noam Leshem, director of undergraduate admissions, Geography, Durham University

‘Don’t be general and just say you love geography. Show us what this love has resulted in. Tell us what specific topics interest you, what you have read about them and any trips you’ve been on to explore this interest in more detail. Tell us about what you want to be in the future and how this degree will help you achieve that. Geography is such a broad subject that students from different backgrounds and a variety of interests can make a good fit for the degree.’

Marin Cvitanovic, programme leader for BSc Geography, Bournemouth University

‘We want to hear about your interest in global challenges, whether that be climate change, health, migration or poverty. At UEA, we’re interested in how we can tackle inequality and environmental challenges and we want students who have the same ambition. Enthusiasm for the subject is a core component.

Alix Delany, associate director, admissions and applicant engagement, University of East Anglia

‘First, reflect upon why you have chosen to study geography at university and what aspects of the discipline interest you. Second, if you have taken on any special duties at your school or college – perhaps serving on committees, running clubs and societies, or being a head girl or boy – make sure you include this. Third, it is always helpful to know about the things you do outside the classroom. So, tell us about work experience that you have undertaken, sports or instruments you play, inspirational places you have travelled, and any volunteering work you have completed.

Mark Whitehead, professor of human geography and admissions tutor, Aberystwyth University
Get Inspired

Get Social

Twitter and Instagram can be a great way to find out about the latest geography-related research. Here’s a few of our favourite accounts:

- Interested in geographical data use? Make sure you’re following NASA’s data visualisation and cartography lead Joshua Stevens @jscarto on Twitter. He posts impressive maps and data visualisations about the impact of flooding, wildfires, vaccines and more.

- @Jamie_Woodward from the University of Manchester tweets all thing Arctic and Ice Age.

- Geographer Francisca Rockey started the @blackgeographers Instagram and Twitter account, providing a digital space for black geographers to network and connect.

- Make sure to check out Dr Tristan Guttridge (@tristanguttridge) on Instagram for up close encounters with sharks in the deep blue.

- And of course, follow our twitter @GeographicalMag

Plug in

You’ll find plenty of free resources online that can help you start exploring the wide subject of geography:

- Routes is a free-to-access digital journal for student geographers, publishing peer-reviewed work from sixth form and undergraduate geography students. You can read essays, book reviews, academic posters and commentaries at routesjournal.org

- Geography Directions is a Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) blog applying geographical thinking to current world issues. Head to blog.geographydirections.com to read thoughts from an assistant professor in hydrological extremes on why our summer has been so wet, hear what a human geography lecturer has to say about the rise of digital streaming and discover how interactions with local nature can help migrants build better lives.

- Visit our own website for student and career profiles, out university directory, plus plenty more inspiring content for would-be geographers: geographical.co.uk/studygeography

Listen up

Podcasts are a great way to keep with world affairs and can provide good topics for personal statements:

- Our own podcast, The Geographical Podcast, covers a full-length story from the monthly print magazine, plus extra interviews with experts and journalists.

- The MapScaping Podcast focuses on the trends, tools and stories coming out of the geospatial world.

- Ask the Geographer: this award-winning podcast from The Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) covers the latest geographical research.

- The Climate Question answers knotty questions on our climate future, these half hour episodes from the BBC World Service put the crisis into context.

- Isn’t That Spatial offers pop-geography hosted by Ohio urban planner Amanda Kind. Previous episodes have covered vaccinations, gentrification, the geography of music scenes and the geopolitics of street names.

Eye’s open

- American Factory (Netflix): Against the backdrop of worsening Sino-American relations, Steven Bognar and Julia Fellows follow the trials and tribulations of a Chinese billionaire as he opens a high-tech glass factory in post-industrial Ohio. It’s an eye-opening insight into intimate cultural relations.

- The Street (Amazon Prime; BFI Player): Under the glinting megaliths of London’s financial district, documentary maker Zed Nelson explores the shifting facets of Hoxton Street, dissecting the impact of gentrification, Brexit and immigration.

- Kiss the Ground (Netflix): A forensic investigation into how modern farming is changing our soil, this compelling documentary makes an argument for radically rethinking agricultural practice, and land use more generally, focusing on the world’s most industrial farmed country, the USA.

- Honeyland (Amazon Prime and YouTube): A gentle exploration of the life of beekeeper in the remote mountain village of Muratova, Macedonia.
You can study Geography at Aberdeen as a MA or a BSc, focusing on Human Geography (MA), Physical Geography (BSc), or following a Joint Honours programme. If you study single Honours Geography you will get a degree accredited by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG). The curriculum introduces many of the most pressing problems faced by society today and ways in which those problems may be understood and resolved.

We have a varied approach to course delivery: lectures, small group teaching, labs, computer-based practical classes and you will attend residential field courses in Years Two and Three. Honours courses link directly to staff research interests ensuring you are taught at the cutting edge. These include, for example; rural studies, population change, urban development and sustainability, environmental change, glaciology and hydrology. The Aberdeen Geography degree provides you with training in a suite of skills transferable to the job market, maximizing your employability. This is reflected in the excellent record of our students at securing graduate-level employment.

We are a friendly and expanding Department, staff doors (physical or virtual) are open and there is a vibrant student-led Geography Society that runs events throughout the year. Come and study Geography at Aberdeen, a top ranked Department in Scotland, at the fifth oldest university in the UK.

Here is what our students say:
“The skills acquired throughout my Geography degree placed me ideally for beginning a career in transportation.”

“The various fieldtrip opportunities offered are also fantastic. I was lucky enough to spend these trips with a great group of friends and had a fantastic time!”

“I gained a large skill set which has served me well in gaining my current job, acquiring environmental skills and writing skills.”

Open Day: Saturday 2nd October 2021
To book a campus visit or for more information, email: geography@abdn.ac.uk
### University Directory

A comprehensive list of places to study geography in the UK...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Teaching</th>
<th>Experience</th>
<th>UCAS</th>
<th>Prospects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aberdeen</td>
<td>78.9</td>
<td>79.2</td>
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<td>68.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aberystwyth</td>
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<td>88.0</td>
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<td>84.1</td>
<td>123</td>
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<td>63.1</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>53.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birkbeck, London</td>
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<td>Brunel</td>
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<td>Canterbury Christ Church</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching: 88.4 Students: 86.0</td>
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<td>110</td>
<td>48.1</td>
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<td>77.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching: 85.3 Students: 88.0</td>
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<td>118</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching: 91.0 Students: 92.1</td>
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<td>Greenwich</td>
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<td>82.9</td>
<td>77.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key:**
- **Teaching quality %**
- **Student experience %**
- **Entry standards (UCAS)**
- **Graduate prospects %**

**Sources:**
- Teaching and students: National Student Survey (NSS)
- UCAS: This is the average new UCAS tariff score for new students under the age of 21 taken from HESA data for 2017-2018
- Graduate prospects: This is the percentage of graduates undertaking further study or in a professional job in the annual survey by HESA six months after graduation

---

20 - 2021
Prospects: 79.2
Harper Adams
Not included in surveys
Heriot-Watt
Not included in surveys
Hertfordshire
Teaching: 79.9 Students: 77.8
UCAS: 105 Prospects: 75.5
Highlands and Islands
Not included in survey
Huddersfield
Not included in surveys
Hull
Teaching: 87.6 Students: 86.2
UCAS: 117 Prospects: 70.4
Keele
Teaching: 89.2 Students: 87.3
UCAS: 118 Prospects: 83.1
Kent
Not included in surveys
King's College London
Teaching: 77.4 Students: 78.0
UCAS: 154 Prospects: 64.0
Liverpool Hope
Teaching: 83.2 Students: 80.9
UCAS: 108 Prospects: 94.6
Liverpool John Moores
Teaching: 86.3 Students: 85.4
UCAS: 125 Prospects: 65.5
London School of Economics
Teaching: 77.7 Students: 72.6
UCAS: 179 Prospects: 87.7
London South Bank
Not included in surveys
Loughborough
Teaching: 88.9 Students: 92.1
UCAS: 149 Prospects: 83.3
Manchester
Teaching: 85.3 Students: 84.9
UCAS: 161 Prospects: 77.9
Manchester Metropolitan
Teaching: 81.8 Students: 83.0
UCAS: 113 Prospects: 69.6
Newcastle
Teaching: 82.3 Students: 83.8
UCAS: 159 Prospects: 80.5
University Directory

(...continued)

Newman
Not included in surveys

Northampton
Teaching: 82.3  Students: 76.3
UCAS: 86  Prospects: 57.7

Northumbria
Teaching: 85.5  Students: 87.0
UCAS: 131  Prospects: 61.2

Nottingham
Teaching: 81.1  Students: 84.8
UCAS: 154  Prospects: 81.2

Nottingham Trent
Teaching: 80.8  Students: 78.1
UCAS: 113  Prospects: 76.8

Oxford
UCAS: 210  Prospects: 80.4

Oxford Brookes
Teaching: 75.6  Students: 75.6
UCAS: 121  Prospects: 58.8

Plymouth
Teaching: 82.3  Students: 82.3
UCAS: 121  Prospects: 65.4

Portsmouth
Teaching: 85.4  Students: 86.0
UCAS: 113  Prospects: 76.3

Queen Mary, London
Teaching: 73.4  Students: 72.9
UCAS: 129  Prospects: 69.7

Queen's University Belfast
Teaching: 76.9  Students: 77.1
UCAS: 138  Prospects: 63.7

Reading
Teaching: 75.9  Students: 76.3
UCAS: 127  Prospects: 70.4

Royal Holloway, London

Teaching: 86.8  Students: 88.8
UCAS: 137  Prospects: 72.4

Salford
Teaching: 94.8  Students: 85.4
UCAS: 109  Prospects: 61.5

Sheffield
Teaching: 84.2  Students: 86.2
UCAS: 150  Prospects: 75.0

Sheffield Hallam
Teaching: 81.0  Students: 84.0
UCAS: 106  Prospects: 60.7

South Wales
Teaching: 91.9  Students: 89.1
UCAS: 111  Prospects: 49.8

Southampton
Teaching: 84.8  Students: 83.6
UCAS: 153  Prospects: 71.8

Southampton Solent
Not included in surveys

St Andrews
Teaching: 93.6  Students: 92.5
UCAS: 203  Prospects: 77.2

St Mary's, Twickenham
Not included in surveys

Staffordshire
Teaching: 96.3  Students: 92.3
UCAS: 97  Prospects: 74.4

Stirling
Teaching: 82.5  Students: 82.2
UCAS: 164  Prospects: 73.8

Sussex
Teaching: 75.0  Students: 76.2
UCAS: 147  Prospects: 76.6

Swansea
Teaching: 82.6  Students: 86.0

UCAS: 129  Prospects: 80.2

UWE Bristol
Teaching: 90.5  Students: 90.5
UCAS: 113  Prospects: 63.8

West of England
Not included in surveys

Westminster
Not included in surveys

Wolverhampton
Not included in surveys

York
Teaching: 83.0  Students: 80.5
UCAS: 150  Prospects: 77.2

York St John
Not included in surveys
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