

# Frances Walker

## *Thinking about Place*

**Royal  
Geographical  
Society**  
with IBG

Advancing geography  
and geographical learning



**Name:** Frances Walker  
**University:** Ulster University  
**Course:** BSc Geography

My name is Frances Walker and I am in my 1st year of studying BSc Geography at Ulster University.

Within the second semester of my degree we have been studying human geography and “thinking about place.” This was unexpected as I have never studied this before, like many others I thought geography was just about the world and how it works (physically) however, this module goes far beyond that.

We have learned that “place” has several meanings; it can be viewed as a location, it can be a setting for people in their daily lives and how people experience space differently due to their ethnicity, religion, class or gender. This topic is something I had never been aware of before and it was interesting seeing how we all experience a certain place in different ways. This led to us watching a documentary on David Harvey in New York, He mentioned redevelopment in places, how smaller buildings can feel pressured to expand because of larger buildings which was great to learn about, I never knew this was involved in geography.

In school we were taught more about physical geography (which is so interesting) although learning more about both physical and human at university has expanded my knowledge on workings of the world and how people perceive and live in it. I really encourage you to choose geography at university, because it includes a bit of everything and doesn't limit you to one job.