Explore the science of the planet and its people

Geography is an essential subject for solving global issues of the 21st century. Its unique approach of linking the physical and social sciences makes it the only subject capable of joined-up understanding of the planet, its people and their interactions. It moves learners beyond the lecture theatre, to think and act both globally and locally. Understand our planet – study geography!

Study the challenges facing the environment with our flexible degrees covering both human and physical geography. Take advantage of our unique location, near to the coast, countryside and major urban centres and join us on some of our amazing international field trips.

Geography forms an integral part of Lancaster Environment Centre, an internationally recognised centre for teaching and learning related to the environment. Being part of a multidisciplinary environment centre means you can study topics from across the full breadth of the discipline of geography, all of which are taught by academics who are leading experts in their fields.

By joining us at Lancaster, you will become part of a broad community of like-minded students, academics, researchers, scientists and commercial enterprises working together to address today’s biggest environmental challenges.
Geography is a distinctive subject that links the natural and social sciences in a quest to solve issues of global significance. Study in our outstanding practical facilities, explore our beautiful surroundings, take part in international field trips and learn from world-renowned lecturers.

Human Geography
Gain first-hand experience of the ways in which people interact with their environment and how they form communities, cultures and economies. Study a diverse range of modules that are developed and taught by our world-class academics who are leading experts in human, environmental and political geography.

Physical Geography
Learn about processes operating within our natural environment and explore the physical world, whilst working in our outstanding practical facilities alongside world-renowned lecturers. Choose from a wide range of modules delivered across Lancaster Environment Centre.

Joint degrees
Studying geography provides a global perspective on issues facing humanity. Link your degree with another discipline (economics or modern languages) to provide a global perspective on issues of economy, language and culture.

We offer you a suite of degree schemes and a diverse range of module choices wrapped up in a flexible approach to learning. This allows you to tailor your learning to your area of geographical interest, and ensures we maintain a vibrant learning culture with satisfied students and impressive career prospects.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography
Made for learning

Flexible and interdisciplinary

We believe that you will excel in your degree when exploring in-depth the areas of geography that you are particularly interested in. Your first year of study will give you the skills to succeed. From Year two onwards, you will begin to specialise, choosing to study the topics which fascinate you the most.

What’s more, studying in a multidisciplinary department gives you the unique opportunity to expand the breadth of your degree by taking modules in Environmental Science or Ecology.

Practical study

You won’t just learn in lecture theatres at Lancaster! We place great emphasis on practical learning, whether that is in our new teaching labs or out in the field. Practical learning enables you to put theory into practice and understand the principles underpinning the topics you are studying, whilst also developing skills which will be of use throughout your degree and future career.

Industry links

We give you the opportunity to enhance your CV throughout your degree. This is crucial in order to stand out in the graduate jobs market.

Our in-house Enterprise and Business Partnerships team engages with hundreds of different businesses giving you invaluable experience of working alongside these organisations, including during your dissertation project.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography
Your study

Our academics are leaders in their fields and deliver enthusiastic and engaging teaching through a range of methods.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography
Equipped for achievement

State-of-the-art laboratories
Spread over two floors in a new £4m building, our teaching laboratories can house over 200 students and are the location for many practical classes. These will provide you with hands-on experience that puts theory into practice. You can also use this facility as part of your dissertation project, for example undertaking controlled experiments or processing field samples.

Field and laboratory facilities
The final year dissertation provides you with the opportunity to work alongside our ongoing research projects or perhaps develop a project of your own. You may have the opportunity to work at research field sites in the UK or overseas and to gain hands-on experience with cutting-edge analytical equipment. This includes mass spectrometers and ion chromatographs to analyse the chemical composition of water or soil samples, in-situ fluorimeters to analyse algae living in streams and rivers, or gas chromatographs to analyse greenhouse gases released to the atmosphere.

Meteorological Station
We run the Hazelrigg Meteorological Station, a unique field and weather station located just one kilometre from the University campus. Measurements from the site help the Met Office validate weather forecasts and climate models, and you may have the opportunity to visit the Station as part of your studies or as a volunteer taking measurements that contribute to official Met Office records.

Geographical Information Systems
You will have access to the latest versions of GIS and image processing software, as well as a wide variety of digital data resources. We also have a dedicated GIS Technician who offers support if you are using GIS as part of your coursework or dissertation research.

An environmental community
The newly refurbished atrium at the heart of Lancaster Environment Centre forms a home for our community of high-achieving students, world-class environmental researchers, government scientists and enterprises working together to address today’s biggest environmental challenges. The eco-friendly design of this space extends from the 100% recycled flooring, to the glazed roof, designed to reduce the need for lighting within this communal space.

Lancaster Environment Centre is the University’s largest department, with newly enhanced facilities, teaching rooms, laboratories and social spaces.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography
Learning on location

We take full advantage of our natural surroundings to create amazing fieldwork experiences, in addition to the opportunities to travel the world with residential and overseas field trips.

Fieldwork is a fascinating way to develop your practical skills. You’ll gain hands-on experience of a wide range of environmental, ecological and geological situations that will place your studies in the context of real-world issues.

Martin Mere
Learn about biodiversity, restoration and international conservation of wetlands and endangered birds on a half day visit to Martin Mere WWT nature reserve.

Kingsdale
Develop your glaciology field skills during a first year trip to Kingsdale in the local Yorkshire Dales.

Heysham
Unravel the geological history of the area and learn geoscience techniques as part of a second year module at the Heysham coastline.

Manchester and Salford
Critically explore how the physical infrastructure of Salford and Manchester is experienced by different groups of people.

Lancaster Wastewater Treatment Works
Learn first-hand how and why wastewater is treated before being released into the environment during a third year trip to the local treatment works.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography
Croatia
Visit Croatia with us and explore the Istrian Peninsula, an idyllic landscape of olive groves, forests, wineries and beaches. This environment is strongly governed by its geology, biodiversity and position between differing climates, whilst Istria is also the setting of dramatic socio-economic, political and environmental changes. During this trip, you will focus on the challenges of environmental management, particularly of water resources, in this unique landscape.

Italy
Visit Mount Etna, Europe’s largest active volcano, and study the complex processes that take place both on the surface and beneath volcanoes. During this intensive week-long field trip, you will explore a number of physical volcanic processes, including lava flow emplacement, explosive events and the evolution of a basaltic volcano. In addition, you will also evaluate methods of managing volcanic hazards on heavily populated active volcanoes. This field trip is only available to students who have taken specified pre-requisite modules.

Switzerland
This is an intensive week-long residential field trip to south west Switzerland. You will select from one of six interconnected study themes to explore in depth, spanning: alpine climate and hydrology; glacial processes; alpine rivers; streams; soils; and ecosystems. Through the collection of significant amounts of field data on your chosen theme you will gain an in depth understanding of a particular thematic focus of alpine environments.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geo/
The place for the researcher

Renowned experts, at the forefront of their fields, are shaping our understanding of the world. Their work feeds into our degree programmes, ensuring that your education is informed by cutting-edge thinking. During your degree you’ll conduct your own independent research project where you’ll benefit from the research experience of our internationally renowned staff and be exposed to the latest technology used in cutting-edge research laboratories.

Colonial legacies and contemporary realities of sanitation work in South Asia

Dr Sally Cawood and Dr Pratik Mishra, members of the Political Ecologies cluster in LEC, are working on an ESRC-funded project on Hazardous Sanitation Labour in Bangladesh (2022-25). Using archival and participatory action research, the study seeks to better understand caste and colonial legacies of the occupation, why hazardous forms of waste work (such as manual cleaning of septic tanks and sewers) persist, and how workers – especially educated youth – seek to exit or improve the work. The study forms part of a wider agenda to highlight the working realities and priorities of sanitation workers who are consistently overlooked in policy and practice. As well as community and practitioner partners in Bangladesh, the research involves an international advisory network including academics, Dalit rights activists, and labour advocates, to foster learning and sharing across contexts. Initial findings from the archival research indicate that workers are largely absent or even adults of the smallest seabird species.

devastating bird populations as they eat eggs, chicks, and other marine species such as algae and sponges, guano is then leached off the islands by rain and into the island in the form of guano – or poo. Some of the seabirds are a critically important distributor of nutrients for island and marine environments. They feed on fish often in the open ocean far from islands, and then return to islands to roost – depositing nitrogen-rich nutrients on the island in the form of guano – or poo. Some of the guano is then leached off the islands by rain and into the surrounding seas where the nitrogen fertilises corals and other marine species such as algae and sponges, boosting the food-chain.

Restoring seabird-led nutrient cycles

Professor Nick Graham is Principal Researcher of a study into the eradication of rats from tropical islands. The Lancaster University-led study shows that critical cycles of seabirds’ feeding to coral reefs are re-established within relatively short time periods after rats are removed – even around islands that have been infested for hundreds of years. The findings offer encouragement that rat eradication can benefit coral reefs, because these nutrient flows can bolster the health of delicate coral reef ecosystems and may improve their chances of rebounding between climate disturbance events.

Seabirds are a critically important distributor of nutrients for island and marine environments. They feed on fish often in the open ocean far from islands, and then return to islands to roost – depositing nitrogen-rich nutrients on the island in the form of guano – or poo. Some of the guano is then leached off the islands by rain and into the surrounding seas where the nitrogen fertilises corals and other marine species such as algae and sponges, boosting the food-chain.

However, over the last several centuries people introduced rats to many tropical islands through settlement, sailing between islands and shipwrecks. Rats are a very damaging invasive species, consuming the seeds of many plants, and devastating bird populations as they eat eggs, chicks, and even adults of the smallest seabird species.

This study adds to the weight of evidence suggesting rat eradication can have substantial conservation benefits to tropical island and adjacent marine ecosystems. The nutrient cycles that returning seabirds bring can bolster coral and fish assemblages, With climate impacts severely impacting coral reefs, management actions to boost the ecosystem are incredibly important.

Wind direction can boost solar panel efficiency

Research led by Dr Alona Armstrong, has shown that a southerly wind can increase the electricity output of a solar park by up to 4.3%. The increased output is caused by the cooling effect of the wind on the photovoltaic panels counteracting the negative impact of the solar panels warming up. The work was conducted by LEC Master’s student Damon Waterworth and established that, as expected, solar radiation has the greatest influence over electricity output with relative humidity also playing an important role. However, when isolated from the influence of other meteorological variables, wind direction can vary electricity output by 20% to 43%, with greater differences occurring when solar radiation and electricity output are higher. Understanding the effect of different weather conditions on the output of renewable energy technology allows more accurate predictions of electricity generation. This is increasingly important as the proportion of renewables in our energy mix increases. Until now however, there have been limited field studies that investigate the impact of different weather conditions on solar panels in the real world and the impact of wind speed and direction on solar panel efficiency has been entirely overlooked. Consequently, this research highlights the need to better understand wind impacts in the field and help inform management of the electricity grid. The research was undertaken at Westmill Solar Park (www.westmillsolar.coop), Oxfordshire, using meteorology data collected by Dr Armstrong and electricity output data provided by Westmill Solar Cooperative Limited.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography
Environmental volunteering

Our Green Lancaster scheme provides you with plenty of opportunities to become more sustainable and promote positive environmental choices. The many nature reserves near to Lancaster offer volunteering opportunities. Within Lancaster Environment Centre, we also offer you volunteering opportunities, either with external partners specifically in the environment sector or as a research assistant in our own laboratories or research groups.

Environmental Education and Nature-Based Pedagogy

This hands-on module provides an exciting opportunity for you to put your geographical skills to work in a real school setting, thereby gaining valuable work experience. We organise for you to spend some time working with staff and pupils in local primary and secondary schools where you can help to deliver outdoor education alongside the Morecambe Bay Curriculum that is currently being designed with Eden Project North. Not only is this an excellent insight into a career in teaching, but you will also return from your placement as a confident communicator and well versed in the latest debates in nature-based pedagogy.

Eco-innovation

Eco-innovation is the development of new products, processes or services that support business growth with a positive environmental impact. This second year module will not only provide you with a knowledge of eco-innovation and how the concept relates to business opportunities, but you will also acquire the knowledge and skillset required to understand how organisations apply eco-innovation into their business planning. As a part of the module, you will learn how to create proposals for eco-innovation and prepare presentations for a panel of experts.

Placement year

Our placement year scheme provides you with support to secure a paid work placement during the third year of a four year degree scheme. You will experience twelve months working in the type of organisation that you might aspire to join when you graduate. The placement offers you the opportunity to work as a full-time employee of the organisation, with the same training and opportunities as other employees, whilst still receiving both academic and pastoral support from Lancaster University.

Internship opportunities

Our Faculty of Science and Technology internship programme gives you the opportunity to obtain high quality, relevant work experience that will help you stand out when applying for graduate jobs. They will help you to really accelerate your development of vital sector-specific and transferable skills. Full-time, 2-3-month summer internship opportunities are available from July to September. Part-time internships are available all year round at varying durations to fit around your academic requirements.
I am undertaking a Human Geography course and did my placement in corporate social responsibility at HE Simm, an engineering firm in Liverpool. Sustainability and corporate social responsibility (CSR) is now at the forefront of HE SIMM, as they are working towards zero carbon emissions whilst helping local communities. For my placement role, I was in the Human Resources (HR) department and my responsibilities varied each week. However, my main ones included measuring the community impact of HE Simm, talking with sub-contractors about their own sustainability, working with a sustainable consultancy firm and researching the sustainable objectives of our clients.

The process of applying was made easy through the support of the LEC/FST placement team. My application to HE SIMM was a speculative one because I had undertaken an internship with them previously. The placement team helped me throughout my application process, and provided me with support when writing my CV, cover letter and preparing for interviews. During my placement, the FST placement team also stayed in contact and made sure I was enjoying myself and making progress.

Overall, I am extremely glad I undertook a placement year as part of my degree. I gained a variety of invaluable skills that I will take with me into my future job applications and working life. One of the biggest benefits were the connections I made, both within the business but also with other organisations that had links with my company. It made my placement more fun and social, and I can use these connections in the future. Proactively building my network, I’ve connected with these professionals on LinkedIn. This way, upon graduation, I’ll have a valuable resource to explore work experience opportunities and gain insights into various industry sectors.

Furthermore, my placement year as a sustainability specialist at an engineering firm offered a unique opportunity to gain industry insights and understand real-world applications within the field. One of the most valuable outcomes of my placement year was the increased confidence I’ve gained in navigating the professional world after graduation. Through this experience, I’ve gained a deeper understanding of the workplace environment and how sustainability efforts are integrated into daily operations. This has boosted my confidence and provided me with concrete examples to showcase my skills and understanding of sustainability in interviews. This will not only set me aside from other graduates but also helps me to decide what I may want to go into as a future career.

Now that I am in my final year at Lancaster, I am starting to think about what to do post-university. And I believe that my placement has been invaluable in helping me feel more confident about post-graduation.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography
Discover your world beyond borders

Enhance your studies, boost your self-confidence and immerse yourself in the culture of another country as part of our exciting opportunities to study overseas.

**Study abroad**

Broden your academic horizons by spending a year studying abroad in either North America or Australasia. You’ll study similar modules to those available in Lancaster whilst gaining an understanding of a different culture and society. For those studying the BA/BSc you will spend Year 3 overseas, returning to Lancaster to complete your degree in Year 4.

For more information, please visit [www.lancaster.ac.uk/study-abroad](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study-abroad)

**Other opportunities abroad**

There are other options for students who are not on the Study Abroad programme, e.g. shorter travel options during the summer holidays.

For more information, please visit [www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/global-experiences/](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/global-experiences/)

We are also developing a number of new opportunities for short study placements across Europe and beyond. These opportunities, which you would be able to sign up for, will be announced as they become available.

**Student support**

Studying on the other side of the world can be a daunting prospect. In addition to having a dedicated advisor, who will help you decide where to go and what to study, you’ll also have the opportunity to network with students who have previously studied abroad and who are able to provide you with a wealth of practical tips. Additionally, our Global Experiences team is on hand to help you with application forms and the financial and legal aspects of studying overseas.

For more information, please visit [www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography](http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography)
Anna’s study abroad year

I had the opportunity to complete my study abroad year at McGill University in Montreal. The range of modules offered at McGill University was extensive, and gave me the opportunity to develop my interest in urban planning much more due to their large department. While still able to complete compulsory modules equivalent to what I would have studied at Lancaster, attending classes in Montreal also gave me a huge amount of knowledge of Canadian history and Quebecois culture.

My Canadian experience proved to be academically enriching and personally unforgettable, offering a wealth of opportunities that broadened my horizons. I was welcomed by such a friendly community of other exchange students, and the huge range of classes allowed me to make lifelong friends with people all over the world. The proximity of Montreal to the USA allowed me to go on the most memorable road trip in the height of autumn, making our way through 4 different states. Travelling to Mont Megantic National Park in the -25ºC winter, as well as to Banff and Vancouver island with my other exchange friends were definitely the highlights of the year.

The resilience I gained during my study abroad, as well as the ability to adapt to a new culture, is definitely something that will stay with me forever. Arriving on a completely new continent with my 2 suitcases not knowing a single person in the city was naturally scary, but gradually seeing myself settle in and adapt to my new life (even picking up some French!) showed me the strength I never knew I had. The unique classes offered at McGill University also allowed me to develop a huge interest in new master-planned cities, which I have now decided to complete my dissertation on. Without a doubt, I recommend taking on the opportunity of studying abroad to anyone seeking an enriching experience. It was undeniably a transformative year that left me with countless memories. Don’t miss this chance to broaden your horizons!
What was it about the course that made it the right one for you?

For me, it was definitely the variety of module options that I was offered throughout the degree scheme. From covering the basics of cultural, developmental and economic geographies in first year to studying the environmental and economic impacts of energy or methods of eco-innovation in my second, I was always studying something new and something that I had chosen to study because I was truly interested in which I think is pivotal to a good degree scheme.

Studying Economic Geography in my second year alongside a module on geo-social spaces investigating the relationship between humans and the environment, on which I am now doing my dissertation, was only possible due to the interdisciplinary nature of the degree scheme at Lancaster!

How is Lancaster equipping you with skills to ensure you are career-ready?

The variety of teaching and assessments have really helped me to develop my learning and prepare me for life after university. From presentations, group work, literature review practice, interviews and even writing mock research proposals there are copious amounts of opportunities to hone skills you will rely on every day after university.

Also, the state-of-the-art labs we have here at Lancaster are excellent for people who want to go into further research in geography enabling them to learn skills in everything from water chemistry to the collection of biophysical data from trees!

Does your course encompass more physical geography, human geography, or a combination of both?

When I left school, I distinctly remember my geography teachers trying to sway me each way to study either physical or human geography as when I was at university "I would have to choose". However, at Lancaster the interdisciplinary approach that is offered has meant that I don't have to choose which has been one of my favourite parts of the course so far. I have always loved human geography, but I have also always had an interest in some aspect of the physical side of the course.

Studying Economic Geography in my second year alongside a module on geo-social spaces investigating the relationship between humans and the environment, on which I am now doing my dissertation, was only possible due to the interdisciplinary nature of the degree scheme at Lancaster!

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography
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At Lancaster, no two degrees in Geography are ever alike. That’s because we offer flexibility in module choice across all three years, allowing you to tailor your degree to your learning interests and skills needs.
Entry requirements for BA/BSc Hons Geography and BSc Hons Geography (Placement Year) 
A level  AABB
BTEC  DDM

International Baccalaureate 
32 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6 or an alternative cognate subject 

Entry requirements for BA/BSc Hons Geography (Study Abroad)
A level  AAB 
BTEC  DDD

International Baccalaureate 
36 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6 or an alternative cognate subject

Requirements
A level Geography is recommended, or alternatively one of the following subjects: Anthropology, Biology, Chemistry, Classics, Economics, English Literature, Environmental Studies, Geology, History, Mathematics, Philosophy, Physics, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, World Development.

GCSE Mathematics grade C or 4 
GCSE English Language grade C or 4

Degree overview and structure
Geography is a distinctive subject; you will learn about the Earth’s landscapes, species, places and environment in a broad discipline that merges natural and social sciences.

In first year you will study the ‘Double Part 1’ enabling a broad understanding of human and physical geography to be obtained. This comprises two thirds of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying another subject (known as the ‘minor’ subject) either from Lancaster Environment Centre, or from another department. This enables you to tailor your studies to your area of interest whilst keeping a broad outlook on your first year of learning.

Specialisation begins in second year, enabling you to choose topics that match your interests. Core modules will focus on practical work, giving you a range of analytical and research project skills, optional modules will include some exciting international field trips.

The third year, you will undertake a dissertation project, guided by your academic supervisor, which offers a chance to perform original geographical research on a topic of your choice, whilst also being offered further module choices. Throughout your degree, considerable weight is placed upon enhancing your employability and such skills are greatly valued by potential employers.

We also offer Geography as a MSci or MArts degree. See website for details.
### Human Geography

**BA Hons Human Geography**
- **L720** (3 years)
- **L723** (4 years with Year 3 spent on placement)
- **L724** (4 years with Year 3 spent oversees at a partner university)

**Entry requirements for BA Hons Human Geography (Study Abroad)**
- **A level** AAB
- **BTEC** DDM

**International Baccalaureate**
- 32 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6 or an alternative cognate subject

**Required subjects**
- A level Geography is recommended, or alternatively one of the following subjects: Anthropology, Classics, Economics, English Literature, History, Philosophy, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, World Development.
- GCSE English Language (C or 4), Mathematics (C or 4)

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#### Degree overview and structure

With a unique blend of social sciences and geography, gain first-hand experience of the ways in which people interact with their environment and how they form communities, cultures and economies.

In first year you can choose to study either the 'Double Part 1' enabling a broad understanding of human, physical and environmental geography to be obtained, or you can choose to specialise immediately by just studying Part 1 Human Geography. This latter option is ideal for those of you who know for certain that human geography is your passion. If you choose to study the Double Part 1, this comprises two thirds of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying another subject from a different department (this is known as the ‘minor’ subject). If you study just the Part 1 Human Geography, this comprises only one third of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying two additional subjects from other departments. These additional ‘minor’ subjects provide the opportunity to explore other social sciences such as sociology or politics, or gain transferable skills in economics or marketing, for example.

In the second year, you will undertake a series of core modules that focus on human geography skills and concepts. Optional choices include a field trip to Spain and modules that address individual topics in culture and politics, as well as our Communicating Geography module in which you can help teach the subject in a local school, gaining valuable classroom experience.

In the third year you will undertake a dissertation project, guided by your academic supervisor, which offers a chance to perform original geographical research on a topic of your choice. While completing the dissertation, you will use the key research, analytical and academic writing skills you have learnt throughout your degree. In addition, you may select from a range of optional modules which cover topics such as food and agriculture, health, enterprise and global consumption, as well as field trips to New York, Croatia and the Brazilian Amazon. Those returning from their Placement or Study Abroad year will spend fourth year completing the module structure for Year 3.

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#### Emma Cresswell

**BA Human Geography and Politics**

My degree has allowed me to explore the world from the comfort of the beautiful city of Lancaster. The University offered me a wide variety of module choices from Globalisation and Urban Landscapes to Political Geographies and International Organisations, allowing me to personalise my degree to areas that interest me most. Lancaster’s flexible degree system meant that I could combine my Geography degree with Politics to enhance my knowledge of international relations and global political systems, complementing my Geography degree perfectly!
Physical Geography
BSc and MSci Honours

Entry requirements for BSc Honours Physical Geography
A level: ABB
BTEC: DDM

International Baccalaureate
32 points overall with 15 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6, or an alternative cognate subject

Entry requirements for BSc Honours Physical Geography (Study Abroad)
A level: AAB
BTEC: DDD

International Baccalaureate
36 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6 or an alternative cognate subject

Optional modules
- Alpine Environmental Processes
- The Causes and Consequences of Environmental Radioactivity
- Climate and Society
- Coastal Processes
- Coral Reef Ecology
- Environmental Remote Sensing and Image Processing
- Geographical Information Systems: Principles and Practice
- Geological Hazards
- Glacial Systems
- Global Change and the Earth System
- Global Change Biology: Challenges and Solutions
- Hydrogeology
- Hydrological Processes (Slapton)
- Introduction to Geophysical Techniques
- Issues in Conservation Biology
- Lakes, Rivers and Estuaries
- Sustainable Agriculture
- The Dynamic Earth
- Volcanic Processes
- Water Resources Management
- Water, Society and the Istrian Landscape

Required subjects
A level Geography is recommended or alternatively one of the following subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Environmental Studies, Mathematics, Physics
GCSE English Language (C or 4), Mathematics (C or 4)

We also offer Physical Geography as an MSci degree. See website for details.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography

Degree overview and structure
Physical geography considers the processes and patterns occurring within our natural environment, including the atmosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere and geosphere. You will discover how the environment has changed in the past, the controls on environmental processes in the present, and how we can predict changes in the future.

Lancaster proves to be an exceptional location for studying a degree in physical geography. You will gain a wealth of hands-on experience with field trips to places such as the Yorkshire Dales, Cumbrian coast and Lake District, as well as international locations such as Switzerland, the Mediterranean and Croatia.

In first year you can choose to study either the ‘Double Part 1’, enabling a broad understanding of human, physical and environmental geography or you can choose to specialise by just studying Part 1 Physical Geography. This latter option is ideal for those of you who know for certain that physical geography is your passion. If you choose to study the Double Part 1, this comprises two thirds of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying another subject (known as the ‘minor’ subject). If you study just the Part 1 Physical Geography, this comprises only one third of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying two additional subjects (one from Lancaster Environment Centre, and the other from wider afield in the University). The additional (otherwise known as ‘minor’) subjects provide the opportunity to broaden your understanding of environmental processes, whilst providing flexibility of subject choice.

In the second year, you will learn a variety of physical geography skills and concepts in preparation for your final year of study. Optional module choices include a field trip to Spain, where you will study environmental problems in Mediterranean environments, and modules that address individual topics, for example Fluvial processes in Mediterranean environments, and modules that address individual topics, for example Fluvial processes and glaciology.

In the third year you will undertake a dissertation project, guided by your academic supervisor. This offers a chance to perform original geographical research on a topic of your choice. While completing the dissertation, you will use the key research, analytical and academic writing skills you have learnt throughout your degree. In addition, you will be offered further optional module choices including exciting fieldwork opportunities in Croatia and Switzerland. Those returning from their Placement and Study Abroad year will spend fourth year completing the module structure for Year 3.
Geography and Economics

BA Hons

Entry requirements for BA Hons Economics and Geography

A level
ABB
BTEC
DDM

International Baccalaureate
32 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6 or an alternative cognate subject.

1 Distinction required in a related subject but we may additionally require a supporting A level in Geography at grade B, or an alternative cognate subject. Please contact the Admissions Office for further advice.

Required subjects

A level Geography is recommended or alternatively one of the following subjects: Anthropology, Classics, Economics, English Literature, History, Philosophy, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, World Development.

GCSE English Language (C or 4), Mathematics (B or 6)

Degree overview and structure

Take advantage of the complementary aspects of economics and geography with this combined degree programme and benefit from expert teaching in both subjects.

In economics you will explore the production and distribution of resources at local, national and international levels and address important contemporary topics like public policy, banking, global poverty, climate change and regional and urban growth. In geography you will consider the spatial and environmental impacts of such topics including natural resource management, environmental conservation planning, sustainable development, urban neighbourhood dynamics, transport policy and geopolitics.

You’ll be taught jointly by academic staff in the quadruple-accredited Lancaster University Management School and the award-winning Lancaster Environment Centre.

In first year you can choose to study either ‘Double Part 1’ Geography, enabling a broad understanding of human, physical and environmental geography to be obtained, or you can choose to specialise by just studying Part 1 Human Geography. If you choose to study the Double Part 1, this comprises two thirds of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying modules from economics. If you study just the Part 1 Human Geography module, this comprises only one third of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying modules from economics and one additional subject from another department. The additional (otherwise known as ‘minor’) subject provides the opportunity to broaden your disciplinary understanding whilst providing flexibility of subject choice.

Through studying economics and geography you will acquire an incisive perspective and analytical skills that are greatly valued by employers in many fields, including corporate planning, economic consultancy, the financial sector and the civil service.

Year 1

+ Double Part 1 Geography and Economics OR
+ Part 1 Human Geography, Economics and one other subject

Year 2

Core modules
+ Being a Geographer, Issue, Ethics and Skills
+ Career and Employability II
+ Spatial Analysis and Geographical Information Systems

Optional geography modules
+ Cultural Geography
+ Development, Geography and the Majority World
+ Economic Geography
+ Environmental Economics and Climate Change
+ Geosocial Spaces
+ Introduction to Eco-Innovation
+ People and the Sea
+ Political Geography
+ Research Methods in Human Geography

Optional modules in economics
(please see website for more modules and details)
+ Applied Economics
+ Game Theory
+ Introduction to Econometrics
+ Macroeconomic Analysis
+ Microeconomic Analysis

Year 3

Core modules
+ Geography Joint Majors Extended Essay

Optional modules
+ Africa: Geographies of Transformation
+ Cities and Globalization
+ Climate and Society
+ Environment, Politics and Society in Amazonia
+ Environmental Governance and the Biodiversity Crisis
+ Geographical Information Systems: Principles and Practice
+ Geographies of Health: understanding tackling inequity
+ Water, Society and the Istrian Landscape †

Optional modules in economics
(please see website for more modules and details)
+ Development Economics
+ Industrial Organisation
+ International Business
+ Labour Economics
+ Monetary Macroeconomics

† = Field trip

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography
Modern Languages and Geography

BA Hons

BA Hons French Studies and Geography
LR71 (4 years with Year 3 spent abroad)

BA Hons German Studies and Geography
LR72 (4 years with Year 3 spent abroad)

BA Spanish Studies and Geography
LR74 (4 years with Year 3 spent abroad)

Entry requirements for BA Hons French/German/Spanish Studies and Geography
A level
- ABB
- BTEC DDM

International Baccalaureate
- 32 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6, or an alternative cognate subject, and appropriate evidence of language learning ability.
- Distinction required in a related subject but we may additionally require a supporting A level in Geography at grade B, or an alternative cognate subject, and appropriate evidence of language learning ability.

Required subjects
- A level Geography is recommended or alternatively one of the following subjects: Anthropology, Classics, Economics, English Literature, History, Philosophy, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, World Development.
- A level French/German/Spanish, or if this is to be studied from beginners’ level AS grade B or A level grade B in another foreign language, or GCSE grade A or 7 in a foreign language. Native language speakers will not be accepted onto the corresponding degree scheme.
- GCSE English Language (C or 4), Mathematics (C or 4)

Degree overview and structure

These exciting programmes will allow you to gain a detailed understanding of geography, while giving you the skills and knowledge to engage with the discipline overseas in a French, German or Spanish speaking country.

In first year you can choose to study either ‘Double Part 1’ Geography, enabling a broad understanding of human, physical and environmental geography, or you can choose to specialise by just studying Part 1 Human Geography. If you choose to study the Double Part 1, this comprises two thirds of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying modules from the Modern Languages Department. If you study just the Part 1 Human Geography module, this comprises only one third of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying modules from Modern Languages and one additional subject from another department. The additional (otherwise known as ‘minor’) subject provides the opportunity to broaden your disciplinary understanding whilst providing flexibility of subject choice.

Specialisation begins in second year, enabling you to choose topics that match your particular interests. Additionally, you will also take a specialist module that will prepare you for your international placement year. You will spend your third year studying or working overseas – either of which provides you with the opportunity to analyse the social, cultural, political and economic issues related to the area, complementing both your language and geography studies. In recent years students who opted to work during their year overseas have found diverse roles using their language skills, such as:

- French - Administrative and Commercial Assistant, JCM Consul Immobilier, Tahiti
- German - Transport Logistics Coordinator, LKW Walther, Vienna, Austria
- Spanish - Public Relations Intern, Marco de Comunicación, Madrid, Spain

Returning to Lancaster for your fourth year, you will undertake an extended essay, guided by your academic supervisor. This offers you a chance to investigate, in-depth, a topic of your choice related to both aspects of your joint degree. Throughout your degree, considerable weight is placed upon enhancing your employability and such skills are greatly valued by potential employers. Additionally by the end of your fourth year of language study, you will have achieved A level of fluency comparable to C1/C2 of the Common European Framework for Languages.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography

Ruth Fisher

BA Spanish Studies and Geography

I started my degree at Lancaster last October, and so far, have thoroughly enjoyed studying here. The first year has given me a broad geographical understanding, covering topics from soil science to cultural geography. I developed skills using quantitative and qualitative data, GIS (Geographic Information Systems), and fieldwork skills. I am looking forward to my second-year modules - there is a wide range of choice that allows me to specialise in modules I enjoyed in my first year. I was drawn to Lancaster because of the flexibility of the degree programmes - here I can study two subjects at once - and also, due to its location - be near to both Morecambe Bay and the Lake District, which offers great fieldwork opportunities! I have found Lancaster really welcoming, and there are so many societies, activities, and events taking place, where you can meet new people.
I am excited to continue studying here for the next few years!
Hello Future

Ever wonder what sort of career you can progress into with a geography degree? A geography degree doesn’t just equip you with subject-specific knowledge but also a combination of transferrable skills, including problem-solving and critical thinking, making geographers some of the most employable graduates. For example you could go on to inspire the next generation of geographers through teaching, advise businesses and organisations on how to reduce their environmental impact as an environmental consultant or shape the towns and cities we live in as a transport planner.

Our recent graduates have moved into a diverse range of roles, across a variety of different sectors.

Examples of the types of career paths that our recent graduates have followed include:

- **Civil Service (Fast Track)**
- **Climate Change Engagement Officer**
- **Corporate Social Responsibility Officer**
- **Data Analytics Associate**
- **Energy Specialist**
- **Environment Officer**
- **Ethical Trade Officer**
- **Flood Risk Analyst**
- **GIS Officer**
- **Graduate Engineer**
- **Graduate Hydrological Modeller**
- **Graduate Transport Planner**
- **Kielder Osprey Assistant**
- **Land Management Consultant**
- **Low Carbon Sector Adviser**
- **Marketing Executive Permitting Officer**
- **PhD Research**
- **Process Capability Graduate**
- **Project Co-ordinator**
- **Recruitment Consultant**
- **Software Developer**
- **Sustainability Consultant**
- **Sustainable Finance Associate**
- **Urban Planning Officer**
- **Waste Management Consultant**
- **Water Quality Scientist**

**Future**

Hello Future

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### Career development

**Whatever your career aspirations may be, or even if you’re still not quite sure, we’re here to support you to reach your goals.**

You will undertake a module in employability skills, giving you excellent preparation for applying to graduate-level jobs and graduate schemes, and our dedicated Careers Service are here to assist you every step of the way. From helping you identify the types of career you’d like to explore to ensuring you are well prepared for interviews and assessment centres, they are able to offer you tailored and personal support. What’s more, they provide lifelong careers support to our graduates so, if you need us, we will always be here to help.

We offer you a wealth of opportunities during your studies at Lancaster to enhance your employability and help you develop the skills to succeed in the workplace.

- **Internships**
- **Dissertation with external partner**
- **Volunteering**

**Internships**

Relevant work experience is crucial to achieving a good graduate job, and through our internship programme, you’ll have the opportunity to apply your knowledge to real-world situations whilst developing transferrable skills.

**Dissertation with external partner**

Our in-house enterprise team engages with hundreds of businesses and organisations, giving you the unique opportunity to research environmental solutions to real-world problems.*

**Volunteering**

Lancaster has a thriving volunteer culture and our Students’ Union provides opportunities to work with schools, charities or other local organisations. This is a great way to enhance your CV whilst making a positive difference in the local community.

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**Robbie Folkes (BSc Geography)**

**Graduate Water Resource Planner for Stantec**

I chose to attend an Open Day at Lancaster as I was impressed with its highly-rated and very flexible Geography course, the range of field trips on offer, as well as knowing I wanted to study at a campus university. At the Open Day, I was very impressed with the feel of the campus and the Environment Centre, especially how green and open it was and how friendly everybody seemed. It was the first university I had visited on an open day but after the day I knew I would definitely be happy there!

After studying BSc Geography in LEC, I started my job as a Graduate Water Resource Planner for Stantec in September after I graduated. Stantec is a big engineering company, and work on a lot of large-scale projects involving water, such as building new reservoirs or river abstraction stations.

My work involves making sure these projects are safe in terms of water quality and river levels. A lot of the content I learnt through the Water Resource Management module in my third year has been really useful in it. There has also been opportunities for me to go on fieldwork, doing groundwater sampling and surveying, which were both great fun!

I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Lancaster and wish it didn’t have to come to an end! I made memories that will last a lifetime and I’m very grateful for all the staff and fellow students that made my time there so good.

*Not available to students on a Study Abroad degree scheme.
Come and meet us

Open days
Join us at one of our open days to experience what life as a student at Lancaster is like. You will have the opportunity to see what facilities are available and explore our beautiful 560 acre campus including our award-winning accommodation, newly refurbished library, the Students’ Union and sports facilities. You can also visit Lancaster Environment Centre where you have the opportunity to chat with current staff and students about studying geography.

Campus tours
We organise regular campus tours to give you a flavour of life at Lancaster. The tour is designed to acquaint you with our friendly campus, showing you our award-winning student accommodation, social venues, library and a lot more.

You can book onto open days and campus tours at:
www.lancaster.ac.uk/visitus

Offer holder events
We will be offering both online and in-person events. If you are offered a place on one of our degrees you will automatically be invited to attend one of our offer holder events in January to April. It’s not compulsory, but we highly recommend you take part to get a feel for our community. At these events, you will have the opportunity to hear all about the University and department, watch live demonstrations and speak with academics and current students. Offer holder events are designed to give you a real taste of what it is like to be a student with us at Lancaster. You will receive further information about these if you’re made an offer to study with us.

Visiting us
Lancaster is very well served by road, rail and air networks and is nearby to major cities such as Manchester and Liverpool. More information about visiting the University can be found at:
www.lancaster.ac.uk/travel

Disclaimer
The information provided in this brochure relates primarily to 2025/26 entry to the University and every effort has been taken to ensure the information is correct at the time of printing in June 2024. The University will use all reasonable effort to deliver the course as described but the University reserves the right to make changes after going to print. You are advised to consult our website at www.lancaster.ac.uk/study for up-to-date information before you submit your application.

Further legal information may be found at www.lancaster.ac.uk/compliance/legalnotice

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www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography