



Geography and Planning BA (Hons)

COURSE DETAILS

A level requirements: **ABB**

UCAS code: L7K4

Study mode: Full-time

Length: 3 years

KEY DATES

Apply by: **29 January**

2025 (<https://www.ucas.com/students>)

Starts: 22 September 2025

Course overview

Studying Geography and Planning will help you to look and think about the world differently. It offers a unique insight into how our towns, cities and rural areas develop, and how you can support these changes. Our Geography and Planning BA (Hons) programme blends the problem-solving nature of our planning degrees with an understanding of geographical concepts and processes that shape our knowledge of the world around us. With a pioneering approach to planning and regeneration, Liverpool is an ideal location to study how our world is changing.

INTRODUCTION

Our Geography and Planning BA programme draws equally from both disciplines, with some flexibility to enable the inclusion of optional sociology modules, offering an interdisciplinary and varied degree programme.

The programme provides you with knowledge of the challenges facing modern society, the means to interpret diverse phenomena, and an understanding of the conceptual and philosophical arguments surrounding human interactions with the environment.

Students are supported to acquire and enhance their oral, written, and visual communication skills and engage in group-based problem solving and practical work, gaining skills that are readily transferable to the workplace.

Residential field classes are an integral part of modules available in each year of study.

This course was designed as part of a suite of strongly-related programmes, and core modules in years one and two are shared between Planning programmes and Geography BA (Hons). This allows students to transfer between these courses in the first two years of study should their interests or career aspirations change.

A number of the School's degree programmes involve laboratory and field work. Fieldwork is carried out in various locations, ranging from inner city to coastal and mountainous environments. We consider applications from prospective disabled students on the same basis as all other students, and reasonable adjustments will be considered to address barriers to access.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

World's first planning school, founded in 1909

Accredited by the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment

Fieldwork opportunities internationally, and closer to home

Excellent employer links

Interdisciplinary courses maximise research links with the departments of Geography, Sociology, and Environmental Science

Award-winning learning environment.

ACCREDITATION

Students studying Geography and Planning BA (Hons) can gain professional accreditation through the Institute of Environmental Assessment & Management. To qualify, students must select modules ENVS329 Environmental assessment of policies, plans, programmes, and projects and ENVS360 Environmental planning and management project in their final year of study.

TEF
2023

Gold

Teaching Excellence Framework 2023

We're proud to announce we've been awarded a Gold rating for educational excellence.

Find out why we're rated Gold(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/undergraduate/tef-gold-rating/>) >

Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

YEAR ONE

The first year of study introduces you to the foundations of both geography and planning, covering a number of key issues in geography including climate change, globalisation, and sustainability and the fundamental features of the UK planning system, and an awareness of the broad social, economic and environmental context in which contemporary planning issues arise. You will be supported to acquire and enhance your oral, written and visual communication skills and engage in group-based problem solving and practical work, gaining skills that are readily transferable to the workplace. A residential field class early in the first semester enables you to begin applying your learning to a real life setting straight away.

Students will take the following compulsory modules and select one optional module detailed below.

COMPULSORY MODULES

CONTEMPORARY TOWN PLANNING (ENV5152)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This project-based module focuses on real-world planning projects set within a local context. It asks students to map out their subjective experiences of the urban realm, and to couple these with the kinds of thematic maps used in normative planning practice. Students then focus their attention on a specific site within these maps. By critically engaging with existing development proposals they will produce new insights and proposals.

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY THROUGH MERSEYSIDE (ENV5162)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Liverpool has been described as 'the world in one city', and in this module we utilise this unique geographical location to introduce key concepts and practices of human geography. Through a combination of field excursions, lectures and practical exercises, we develop skills of data collection, interpretation and analysis through considering the history, politics and socio-demographic characteristics of the city. The module helps students understand the connection between geographical concepts and real-world examples and is assessed through data analysis practicals and a field-based portfolio exercise.

NEW HORIZONS IN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENV5116)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module introduces new aspects of geographical thought to the First-Year students which are unlikely to have been encountered via an A level geography syllabus. It also aims to enhance students' understanding and awareness of complex global issues, focusing on two sub-disciplinary themes in human geography. Exact content will vary each year to reflect changes in the discipline, but broadly, one area will focus on understanding human population changes and geographical data (e.g. health or population geographies), whilst another will explore social, cultural and political approaches to geography (e.g. geopolitics, borders and nation states).

RESEARCH FRONTIERS IN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENV5161)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Contemporary Human Geography is a diverse discipline which offers unique insights into many of the most pressing challenges facing the world in the 21st Century. Many of the issues that reach the headlines on a daily basis are inherently geographical and research within human geography makes important contributions to knowledge of a broad range of social, cultural, political, economic, environmental and development challenges. This module provides an introduction to cutting edge debates within contemporary human geography, highlighting the ways in which the discipline contributes to interdisciplinary knowledge production across the humanities and social sciences. Each week, module lectures will provide an introduction to a different sub-disciplinary field, which will be explored with the aid of specific worked examples which encourage students to apply the theoretical issues discussed to 'real world' issues. Assessment is by coursework (mid-term essay) and a written exam (end-of-term).

^ URBAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS (ENVS155)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Economics affects every part of our daily lives. Using contemporary planning issues as our guide, we explore how urban and environmental economics shapes our world, for positive and negative. To do so we will explore the basic economic functions which govern urban thinking, and how economics is used to focus on some of the world's grand challenges. The module is assessed by coursework and examination.

^ TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING: AN INTRODUCTION (ENVS110)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Town and Country Planning: An Introduction is designed to provide a gentle introduction into the world of urban planning. To achieve this the module covers three distinct elements. The first covers the history of the town planning movement in Britain from the Victorians through to the modern day. The second provides an overview of the workings of the current planning system. The third explores the practical applications of planning thinking, and provides some early ideas about the kinds of jobs a planner might do. The module is assessment through coursework and exam.

^ UNDERSTANDING PLACE (ENVS105)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This module provides an exciting introduction to the skills you need as a Planning student. In the first semester, students are introduced to core academic skills, including essay writing, academic referencing, and oral communication. In the second semester, students will undertake a careers and employability exercise, learning about career opportunities in urban and environmental planning and developing a personalised CV that can be used to pursue future career opportunities. Learning and teaching is delivered through lectures, small-group seminars, practical exercises and a residential field class.

OPTIONAL MODULES

^ COMMUNITY PLANNING (ENVS102)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

Planning is about providing good quality places for people to live in. This is an issue at different scales, from the global through the national to the local, and the community level. This module focuses on the latter; it investigates the factors which affect the quality of places at the neighbourhood scale and the role played by communities. The module features a mixture of interactive learning styles, including lectures, seminars and workshops. In the second half of the module, a real-life project is introduced, building on the skills developed in this and other modules.

^ LIVING WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE (ENVS119)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module examines a number of global 'grand challenges' facing humans on the planet earth related to climate and environmental change. It will introduce students to core concepts of sustainability and human impacts upon the environment, as well as exploring the range of proposed solutions and mitigation strategies which are available to understand climate and environmental change. The module thus provides a core knowledge base for social and natural scientists who wish to understand environmental change.

^ GLOBAL CHALLENGES: DEVELOPMENT, INEQUALITY, ALTERNATIVES (ENVS144)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module is designed to appeal to students who would like to live in a better world and are interested in exploring and discussing critical approaches to inequality. Students on the module will gain understanding of the multiple and contested ways in which global challenges and international development are defined and studied. This will include critical attention to uneven processes of development over time and space, particularly related to global environmental change, inequality, and health. Similarly, the module provides a solid foundation and analysis of the historical, political, and economic forces related to globalisation. Students will therefore be critically informed about what globalisation produces for differing communities, cultures, and ecosystems. Students will also gain insight into how varying communities in different places are responding to development, globalisation, environmental injustices, and inequality through both resistance and building alternatives.

ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION (ENVS157)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

The zone of life on earth, or the 'biosphere', is a highly dynamic system responding to external pressures including changing human activities. The biosphere obeys a numbers of simple natural principles, but these often interact to create complex and sometimes unexpected responses. Using a wide range of examples we will explore these interactions between organisms and the environment. We will examine how species organise into communities, and how energy and other resources flow through ecosystems. We will explore how ecosystems respond to change, including gradual environmental shifts, sudden disturbance events and the effects of human activities. We will also learn how the key principles of ecology can be applied to conservation. We will assess the current state of the biosphere, and evaluate the major current threats. We will also look towards the future of ecosystems, including whether we can restore degraded habitats, and recreate "natural" landscapes.

Show all modules

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

YEAR TWO

In year two, principles, theory and skill levels are central components of our teaching to enable you to develop and engage deeply with module material. For example, you will gain further understanding of geographic theory, social statistics, strategic planning and place making. You will also have a choice of field classes in various locations in the UK. You also continue to develop critical thinking and communication skills to enable you to analyse material and communicate ideas effectively. Project work also enables you to develop an awareness of the methodological and spatial design issues that arise in the development of planning schemes.

Students will take the following compulsory modules, one field class optional module, one geography optional module and one planning optional module.

COMPULSORY MODULES

EXPLORING THE SOCIAL WORLD (ENVS225)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module aims to introduce students to the key methodological debates, and the main qualitative and quantitative methodological techniques that are used in the Social Sciences. In doing so, the module aims to deliver the research skills training that will enable students to successfully complete their field classes and dissertations. Students will be introduced through lecture and lab sessions to core research methods to understand and interpret the world we live in. The module is split into two sections – one qualitative and one quantitative, each with a different assessment. The qualitative section will cover core techniques such as interviews, focus groups and visual analysis, and is assessed through an extended bibliography of current research. The quantitative section will continue the core statistical training for Geographers begun in first year, and is assessed by a report produced through the analysis of a quantitative dataset.

PRINCIPLES AND THEORY IN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS249)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

The course aims to introduce students to current and historical debates about the nature, purpose and practice of geography. It compliments Research Skills (ENVS203) and provides a background for all modules in Geography. Particular emphasis will be placed upon the philosophical and conceptual developments within Geography as a discipline and the role of 'spatial thinking' in the production of geographical knowledge.

RESEARCH SKILLS (GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS203)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 3

The module will develop students' knowledge of careers and employability with a focus on enhancing employability through tutorial-based exercises. In addition, the module provides a range of research skills required for the planning, implementation, analysis and reporting (written and oral) of independent research projects. Practical training will be provided in a range of qualitative and quantitative techniques across a broad range of geographical and environmental science themes. From this, students should develop a critical awareness as to the advantages and disadvantages of research methodologies in particular contexts.

^ STRATEGIC PLAN MAKING (ENVS210)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Plans and policies are key instruments of the planner's toolkit. This module provides an introduction to the methods and techniques that are used in the preparation and implementation of strategic plans and policies and how these have evolved in time. The module will be delivered through interactive lectures focussing on the theory of plan making drawing on practical examples. The module is assessed through a more theory-focused short essay and a plan review reflecting on the practice of strategic plan making.

^ URBAN MORPHOLOGY AND PLACE-MAKING (ENVS256)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

In Urban Morphology & Place-Making various approaches to place-making are discussed in the light of social, aesthetic, functional and environmental aspects. The module introduces urban history and design theories, and you will be assessed on your working knowledge of these throughout the semester via mini quizzes. In hands-on lab and seminar-style sessions you will acquire basic urban design appraisal techniques as well as modelling and presentation skills, used by planners, urban designers and architects today. In small groups, you will undertake an appraisal of an area in central Liverpool. Independent site visits will allow you to evaluate the various qualities of the area. You will express your findings through professional-style plans, 3D models and site photographs and present these in seminar-style sessions.

OPTIONAL MODULES

^ CITIES AND REGIONS (ENVS230)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Cities and regions have undergone tremendous changes over the past decades. In this module students will explore the process of urban restructuring from a social, economic and environmental perspective and its spatial manifestations, looking at the drivers, consequences and policy implications of urban and regional change. The module teaches students the concepts and methods to analyse change and current policy responses. This module will be delivered through lectures, each highlighting a specific theme of urban and regional change and through self-directed learning. The module is assessed through a seminar paper and a written exam.

^ ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ENVS218)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Environmental concerns have become increasingly pressing over the last few decades, covering pollution, resource depletion, loss of biodiversity and poor quality of life. Overarching all these concerns is the global challenge of climate change. We need to find new approaches to our way of life. This module explores the notion of environmental sustainability particularly from the point of view of urban planning. It is taught through lectures and assessed through an exam focusing on the principles and practices of environmental sustainability, and an individual project in which students develop their own imaginative idea for tackling a particular sustainability problem.

^ FIELD CLASS (BELFAST) (ENVS282)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This module, focused around a field class in Ireland, provides practical experience and training in designing, executing, analysing, writing-up and presenting a field research project. Belfast provides an interesting urban area where students can study a variety of political, social and cultural geographical topics. Students choose a topic to research as a short project, and develop their hands-on research experience utilising various methods to explore it. For much of the module you will work as part of a group, providing you in addition with the opportunity to develop team-working and communication skills.

^ FIELD CLASS (EDINBURGH) (ENVS286)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This module, focuses around a field class in Scotland, provides practical experience and training in designing, executing, analysing, writing-up and presenting a field research project. Edinburgh provides an interesting urban area where students can study a variety of political, social and cultural geographical topics. Students choose a topic to research as a short project, and develop their hands-on research experience utilising various methods to explore it. For much of the module you will work as part of a group, providing you in addition with the opportunity to develop team-working and communication skills.

^ FIELD CLASS (GLASGOW) (ENVS288)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This module, focused around a field class in Scotland's largest city, provides practical experience and training in designing, executing, analysing, writing-up and presenting a field research project. Glasgow provides an interesting urban area where students can study a variety of political, social and cultural geographical topics. Students choose a topic to research as a short project, and develop their hands-on research experience utilising various methods to explore it. For much of the module you will work as part of a group, providing you in addition with the opportunity to develop team-working and communication skills.

^ RURAL PLANNING (ENVS289)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module explores the need to carefully think about the planning, development and change that affects our rural areas, particularly in terms of the goods and services they provide to a predominantly urban population. The module is taught through lectures and workshops and includes a compulsory residential field class to rural Britain.

^ GIS FOR HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS257)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

The module introduces the principles of geographical information systems and science with a focus on human geography. Examples will be drawn from population geography with components linked to data sources, analysis and visualisation. Students will learn how to use GIS to map population data, to explore social deprivation, geographic inequalities, and commuting patterns, amongst other themes.

^ POLITICAL ECONOMIES OF GLOBALISATION (ENVS264)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This module introduces students to the study of globalisation in the early 21st century. In the 19th and 20th centuries there were big debates between those who think things work best when people are left to decide how they want to live and get what they need by trading with each other, and those who wanted a communist society where people get what they need and contribute what they can to the common good. Of course it did not work out that way, and now for many people free markets, or neoliberalism is the only serious game in town. The course examines those debates before moving on to examine case studies of how they have worked out in practice.

^ SOCIAL AND CULTURAL GEOGRAPHIES (ENVS275)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

Social and Cultural Geographies are two diverse, interlinked fields within contemporary human geography. Social geography is, broadly, interested in the relationships between social identities, power and space, and cultural geography examines the ways in which meaning is produced through 'culture' – social ideas, discourse, performances, objects, art, entertainment, images, music etc. This module will introduce you to these broad themes through a focus on the interrelations between identity, space and power and the ways in which these are produced through cultural forms. This includes exploring a range of social differences and identities such as gender, class, disability, sexuality, body size, race and ethnicity, and exploring representations and modes of engaging with the world including online/virtual space, mobilities, music, TV, and material culture.

[Show all modules](#)

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

YEAR THREE

Year three offers you flexibility and choice to tailor your degree to your interests and developing expertise in both geography and planning. You are able to select modules that challenge you, enable you to explore areas of specialist knowledge and develop previous learning, as well as continue to develop your analytical, communication and research skills. You will also complete a dissertation on a topic of your choice and you have multiple field class options to choose from.

Students select one dissertation choice, and a further three Geography and three Planning optional modules.

OPTIONAL MODULES

^ CIVIC DESIGN DISSERTATION (BA) (ENVS302)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 3

The dissertation is a key part of your studies during this final year. It is the equivalent of two standard modules and spans two semesters. It is also the part of your studies that demands the most in terms of personal initiative and organisation. Students will select their own topic and work through an individual research project that culminates in the dissertation itself. It is also the part of your studies that allows you to develop a personal specialism to the fullest extent which you can highlight in your CV and which can therefore be a very rewarding and fulfilling exercise.

^ WORK-BASED DISSERTATION (GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS323)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 1

This module provides students with the opportunity to undertake an independent research project into a topic of their choosing, under the supervision of an allocated member of staff. The work-based dissertation additionally involves students working collaboratively with an external organisation on a mutually agreed research topic, thereby providing students with valuable work-related experience.

^ FIELDWORK: LIVERPOOL & ITS REGION (ENVS365)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module gives students experience of designing, collecting and analysing field data in the North West of England. It will develop students' understanding of application of geographic theory to fieldwork whilst focusing on an issue that interests them. The module develops and enhances students' research skills developed previously in their degree, whilst also encouraging the development of authentic assessment-related skills through the writing of policy briefs or alternatives and the presentation of research findings in a format of the student's choice. The module has been designed to allow students who may not wish to travel or undertake residential fieldwork to continue to develop their fieldwork skills.

^ INTERNATIONAL PLANNING STUDIES (ENVS378)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 2

Planning has a long-standing international dimension. Today globalisation and challenges such as climate change and other global policy agendas, focus attention on how planning addresses ecological, social, economic and cultural questions in different parts of the world. On this module you will learn about how planning systems can be characterised; the purposes of comparative planning study; how 'learning from other countries' might be approached in a meaningful way; the rise of a 'global agenda' for planning through international initiatives such as the UN's 2030 Sustainable Development Goals; different forms of cross border and transnational spatial planning in Europe and other global regions; and, how key planning challenges are being addressed through planning in different places. The module draws on the diverse international experience and expertise of planning staff at Liverpool and features an international residential field class. Assessment is by two individual assignments and one group assignment.

^ POLITICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS325)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Increasingly recognition of the environmental threats that we all face means that responding to this crisis affects the decisions we all make at a variety of different scales. This module explores the extent to which environmental concerns are taken into account in various decision-making processes involving the public (government), private and third sectors at a variety of different scales, global, European, national and local. The module is assessed by an essay and an open-book exam, which provides students with significant choice to explore those parts of the module they find most interesting.

^ POSTCOLONIAL GEOGRAPHIES (ENVS334)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Whilst for many people, colonialism has ended, we live in a world where the effects of colonialism are still visible. Many academics have taken a critical perspective on these continued legacies, and this field of thought is now broadly known as 'postcolonialism'. This module explores the social, political and cultural effects and legacies of colonialism as they occur in particular contexts. The module is divided into two sections, one exploring the theoretical ideas of postcolonialism, the other looking at how thinking 'postcolonially' helps us to understand the world. Students are assessed through two pieces of coursework, one a theoretically-driven essay on a student-chosen topic, and one, focused on authentic assessment, which analyses the postcolonial aspects of contemporary culture (e.g. a film, book or museum).

^ BODIES, SPACE AND POWER (ENVS344)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module aims to give students a sustained and critical understanding of the relationship between bodies, space and power, with a particular focus on critical approaches to public health. Building on ENVS275 Social and Cultural Geographies, the module will provide students with an in-depth engagement with critical theory (particularly feminist and poststructural theory) as applied to contemporary and historical examples surrounding public health.

^ GEOGRAPHIC DATA SCIENCE (ENVS363)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module will introduce students to the nascent field of Geographic Data Science (GDS), a discipline established at the intersection between Geographic Information Science (GIS) and Data Science. The course covers how the modern GIS toolkit can be integrated with Data Science tools to solve practical real-world problems. Core to the set of employable skills to be taught in this course is an introduction to programming tools for GDS in R and Python. The programme of lectures, guided practical classes and independent study illustrate how and why GDS is useful for social science applications.

^ CONTEMPORARY POPULATION DYNAMICS (ENVS311)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This course explores contemporary population dynamics across Europe. Students will explore fertility, mortality and migration dynamics across selected countries in Europe; review explanations for population change; and examine the policy challenges posed by such population change. Students will also explore these debates in a local context through a digital field walk in Liverpool, blending traditional approaches with expanded potentials via technology.

^ POLAND: POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL GEOGRAPHIES SINCE 1939 (ENVS313)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module introduces students to specific geographical developments in Poland since 1939. The course will be structured around the control and use of space in three key time periods: second world war, socialism, post-socialism. The second world war theme considers the impact of war on population and territory in Poland, and the subsequent contestations surrounding wartime memory within the country, focusing on museums and memorial sites as contested sites of memory. The second section of the course considers the spatial dimensions of everyday life under socialism, including: uses of public and private space, queuing and the shortage economy, imagined geographies of the west, and resistances. The final section investigates changes in Poland since 1989: to what extent the country has 'returned to Europe', the impact of shock therapy on social geographies, and how Poland is still working through socialist legacies. Special attention will also be given to Polish migration, before and after EU accession. Ultimately this module enables students to develop an in-depth empirical knowledge of a key site of change in contemporary Europe, while encouraging deep engagement with a range of historical, political, social, cultural and post-socialist geographical readings.

^ CLIMATE CHANGE - A CRITICAL REVIEW (ENVS389)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This module examines climate change impacts on humans and ecosystems. The module is designed to give the student a good overview of the strength and weaknesses of climate modelling approaches. Elements of the global carbon cycle are discussed.

^ URBAN DESIGN STUDIES (ENVS312)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module is designed as a follow-on to ENVS256 'Urban Morphology & Place-Making'. Here you will explore some of the themes of urban design and place-making in further depth. Topics covered in this context include health, site planning, inclusive design, sustainability and public realm design. You will develop your design skills and will learn about concepts such as 'social' and 'healthy' places. You will learn to develop positive design responses and acquire a range of analytical, design and presentational skills required for urban design projects. Assessments are based on, and closely linked to, the knowledge and skills developed in the classroom. You will prepare a contextual study in a small group. Also, as an individual piece of work you will prepare an indicative masterplan for a smaller part of the area. This interactive module is delivered through illustrated lectures, guest talks, design workshops, IT lab sessions, tutorials and a design crit.

^ URBAN AND REGIONAL REGENERATION (ENVS336)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

What should planners do when things go wrong? What happens to places that have experienced decline? Who is responsible for responding to this decline? The module discusses a broad range of urban issues related to regeneration (e.g. housing, community, health, economies) and equips students with an in-depth understanding of the theory and international case studies of urban regeneration and the ability of planners to generate effective policy responses to areas of decline.

^ MARINE PLANNING THEORY AND PRACTICE (ENVS341)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Marine planning is a new approach to the management of the seas and oceans, in the interests of marine nature conservation and the sustainable use of the seas for shipping, energy, fishing, minerals extraction, tourism, etc. It is developing as a means of organising the use of national sea space around the world. This module introduces the theoretical and practical aspects of marine planning for students with interests in spatial planning or marine science and management through a series of lectures. Assessment is by two assignments: a presentation and an essay.

^ PLANNING LAW AND GOVERNANCE (ENVS348)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Understanding how the different parts of the planning system relate to each other and to the legal and constitutional framework which underpins that system is a critical part of planning education. This module aims to provide that understanding from both theoretical and practical perspectives, by bringing in practitioners to deliver different sessions and by asking students to research different aspects of planning law and governance in theory and practice.

^ PLANNING AND PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT (ENVS369)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

The module provides students with an introduction to the principles of real estate valuation before going on to pose and answer a series of questions about how the state might regulate built environment outcomes. Having completed this module students will have acquired an in-depth understanding of how real estate developers evaluate site viability and how government's work with developers to ensure consented development is accompanied by the requisite infrastructure. The module is evaluated by a piece of coursework centred around the evaluation of development proposal and an unseen written examination.

^ GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVS345)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

Green Infrastructure planning is essential in supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals, especially in the global context of climate change. The module introduces the field of Green Infrastructure and green space planning by addressing its principles, values, utility, and its multiscale implementation within environmental planning from theoretical and practical perspectives through a series of lectures and guest talks. Students will understand the interconnection between greening and human beings with support from a series of qualitative and quantitative methods. Students will undertake tasks that mirror real-world professional practices, which helps them to learn and practically use the skills they may require to evaluate the role and multiple benefits of Green Infrastructure in real-world planning scenarios. Assessment is through an essay and a project poster.

^ SOCIAL AND SPATIAL INEQUALITIES (ENVS357)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

This module provides insight into social and spatial inequalities, and their inter-relations. The module will consider how and why inequalities might have persisted over time, how social inequalities have specific geographies, and the implications of this unevenness for those who are marginalised. The module is structured through four major themes: for example, inequalities and the labour market; ethnicity and inequalities; spatial understandings of poverty; and theories about inequality. The difficulties in defining and measuring social and spatial inequalities, and how such definitions may relate to broader theories, perspectives or frameworks of relevance are issues covered in the module, as well as how these terms are interpreted and (mis-)represented. The module draws on empirical evidence, theoretical approaches and policy responses. The module provides insight into government responses that aim to combat social and spatial inequalities and related issues in the UK, at the regional and sub-regional level.

^ URBAN DESIGN PROJECT (ENVS359)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

Problem solving, critical thinking and creativity are at the heart of this module. You will be provided with an opportunity to take part in a client-based design project and to engage first hand with local communities. The aim of this studio-based module is to lead you through the process of analysing a large site, carrying out necessary contextual studies and preparing an urban design framework and a physical model by means of a realistic design brief. With the help of design professionals, you will learn to understand the inter-relationship of economic feasibility and the urban design development potential of a site. You will work in small teams and on your own to explore a range of design scales. Lectures on specific design aspects and skills will be given at key project stages. Weekly tutorials will give you the guidance and support needed to successfully complete this module, which will be concluded by an exhibition day.

^ DISSERTATION (GEOGRAPHY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS321)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 1

This module provides students with the opportunity to undertake an independent research project into a topic of their choosing, under the supervision of an allocated member of staff.

^ FIELD CLASS (BARCELONA) (ENVS350)

Credits: 30 / Semester: semester 2

Barcelona is today seen as an important European tourist and business destination. However, before the 1992 Olympics it was seen as a declining industrial city. The changes in the city have had huge consequences, and the long-term sustainability of its tourist based economy is often questioned. As a result, Barcelona's experience is often seen as something for other cities to learn from, not least because of the much vaunted 'Barcelona-model' of cultural led urban development. This module is a fieldwork-based comparative study of Liverpool and Barcelona, based around a 5 day period of field work in Barcelona, alongside research activity in Liverpool throughout the semester. Students will be introduced to the ideas of urban comparative research and will undertake a group fieldwork project on a project that is feasible in both cities. They will explore what Liverpool can learn from Barcelona, and what Barcelona could potentially learn from Liverpool. Group-project work is supplemented by individual components including an extended essay and a piece of ethnographic writing.

^ BUILDING BETTER WORLDS (ENVS387)

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

This module is designed for students seeking nuanced understandings of the drivers of various struggles for social change and environmental justice, as well as ways in which resistance, contestation, and alternatives are practised. Readings will provide a critical overview of the historical and sociopolitical forces that continue to generate inequality, damage the environment, escalate the climate crisis, and impact the world. Students will examine the complex dynamics and contentious politics that emerge across differing environmental, political, and economic conflicts, as well as evaluate the role of social movements, mutual aid, and collective action in advancing transformative change. Content will also cover various activist strategies, tactics, and forms of protest, revolt, and rebellion.

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 2

We live in a youthful world: 41% of the world's population are under 25. Young people's experiences of growing up are deeply shaped by dynamics that span the globe and have particular local effects: economic restructuring, environmental change, political conflict, cultural currents. Yet young people are not just passive subjects, rather, their actions are on the frontline of how societies and places are remade for good or ill. This module explores young lives in a variety of global settings. It considers how geographers and others have theorised childhood and youth, and explores the real-world challenges young people face in particular contexts. In doing so, the module aims to enable students to engage with a range of conceptual debates in the social sciences, and to 'think from' youth in order to critically examine how power relations are being reproduced or contested around the world. The module will be taught primarily through lectures (broken up with in-class discussions), and one interactive workshop. Assessment will consist of two pieces of coursework: one academic essay, and one web article or podcast script written for a non-academic audience. The module builds on foundations from 'Social and Cultural Geography'.

Credits: 15 / Semester: semester 1

You will work on a real-world urban regeneration site, responding to the needs of a client organisation (e.g. local authority or developer) to create a plan that responds to decline and the needs of local residents. The module builds on the previous Urban Regeneration modules to provide a reflective and hands on experience of project work. Your group will identify evidence of regeneration need, consider international best practice examples of regeneration and undertake a planning exercise to design a regeneration plan or policy.

[Show all modules](#)

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

HOW YOU'LL LEARN

Planning education has an important vocational focus and in Liverpool we consider a real-world connection to be extremely important. Our students gain a broad understanding of planning, from the ways in which towns and cities have evolved and are being reshaped to meet the challenges of the 21st century to the effects of planning on the environment and planning's role in urban regeneration.

To do this we have designed varied programmes of study with a range of teaching styles. You will 'learn by doing' through place-based projects and field classes as well as be introduced to real-life examples from around the world.

Our courses also include specialised training in geographic information systems, mapping, and urban design. Together these approaches ensure that you gain valuable transferable skills whilst studying with us.

Please note: A number of the School's degree programmes involve laboratory and fieldwork. The fieldwork is carried out in various locations, ranging from inner city to coastal and mountainous environments. We consider applications from disabled students on the same basis as all other students, and reasonable adjustments will be considered to address barriers to access.

HOW YOU'RE ASSESSED

Assessments are designed around developing skills and styles of communication that will be relevant to future employers. So, in addition to exams and essays, you will also undertake assessments that include computer-based exercises, oral presentations, policy briefs, poster presentations, field projects, research reports, design work, group work, seminar presentations and papers. Students complete a compulsory dissertation or project module in the final year on a topic of your choice. This is your opportunity to develop skills as an independent academic researcher, supported on a one-to-one basis by an expert in the field.

LIVERPOOL HALLMARKS

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

Careers and employability

Our Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment accredited programme ensures that you are fully qualified to enter this dynamic profession on graduation. This interdisciplinary course has a strong vocational focus, preparing Liverpool graduates for a wide range of planning careers.

If you wish to continue your education beyond your undergraduate degree we also offer a range of postgraduate degrees, including our RTPI accredited Master of Civic Design.

We also offer a series of specialist postgraduate programmes including:

- MSc Marine Planning and Management (RTPI accredited)
- MSc Environmental Assessment and Management (IEMA accredited)
- MA Town and Regional Planning
- Further PhD study.

Career paths taken by our recent graduates include:

- Planning and environmental consultants
- Transport planning and urban regeneration
- Economic development
- Environmental management
- GIS and data science specialists
- Social housing

Our recent graduates have found employment with the following:

- Consultancy: Atkins, Arup, Indigo, Savills
- Local Authority: Islington Borough Council, Lancashire County Council
- Public bodies: Transport for London (TFL), Natural England, Environment Agency, National Parks Authorities
- Non-governmental organisations: Liverpool Vision, Council for the Protection of Rural England, RSPB
- Advocacy: Housing associations, social enterprise, economic development.

90% OF GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING STUDENTS ARE IN WORK AND/OR FURTHER STUDY 15 MONTHS AFTER GRADUATION.

Discover Uni, 2018-19.

Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

TUITION FEES

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)		International fees	
Full-time place, per year	£9,250	Full-time place, per year	£24,800
Year in industry fee	£1,850	Year abroad fee	£12,400
Year abroad fee	£1,385		

Fees shown are for the academic year 2024/25. Please note that the Year Abroad fee also applies to the Year in China.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support. **Learn more about paying for your studies**(<http://www.liverpool.ac.uk/paying-for-your-studies>).

ADDITIONAL COSTS

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This may include a laptop, books, or stationery. Additional costs for this course could include field class and project costs.


Find out more about the **additional study costs**(<http://www.liverpool.ac.uk/paying-for-your-studies/study-costs/?course=geography-and-planning-ba-hons>) that may apply to this course.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

We offer a range of scholarships and bursaries that could help pay your tuition and living expenses.

We've set the country or region your qualifications are from as United Kingdom. **Change it here**([/international/countries/](#))


RIGBY ENTERPRISE AWARD

 UK students

Are you a UK student with a household income of £25,000 or less? If you've participated in an eligible outreach programme, you could be eligible to apply for a Rigby Enterprise Award worth £5,000 per year for three years of your undergraduate degree.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/rigby-enterprise-award/>)


THE LIVERPOOL BURSARY

 UK students

If you're a UK student joining an undergraduate degree and have a household income below £35,000, you could be eligible for a Liverpool Bursary worth up to £2,000 for each year of undergraduate study.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/liverpool-bursary/>)


ASYLUM SEEKERS SCHOLARSHIP

 UK students

Apply for an Asylum Seekers Scholarship and you could have your tuition fees paid in full and receive help with study costs. You'll need to have applied for asylum in the UK, or be the dependant of an asylum seeker, and be joining an eligible undergraduate degree.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/asylum-seekers-scholarship/>)


CARE LEAVERS' OPPORTUNITY BURSARY

 UK students

If you've spent 13 or more weeks in Local Authority care since age 14, you could be eligible for a bursary of £3,000 per year of study. You'll need to be a UK student joining an eligible undergraduate degree and be aged 28 or above on 1 September in the year you start.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/care-leavers-opportunity-bursary/>)


COWRIE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

 UK students

Are you a UK student with a Black African or Caribbean heritage and a household income of £25,000 or less? You could be eligible to apply for a Cowrie Foundation Scholarship worth up to £8,000 for each year of undergraduate study.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/cowrie-foundation-scholarship/>)


ESTRANGED STUDENTS BURSARY

 Home students

If you're a UK student identified as estranged by Student Finance England (or the equivalent UK funding body), you could be eligible for a bursary of £1,000 for each year of undergraduate study.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/estranged-students-bursary/>)


GENESYS LIFE SCIENCES SCHOLARSHIP

 Home students

Joining a School of Biosciences degree and have a household income of less than £25,000? If you're a UK student, you could apply to receive £4,500 per year for three years of your undergraduate course.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/genesys-life-sciences-scholarship/>)

GRADUATE ASSOCIATION HONG KONG & TUNG UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS


 International students

 Hong Kong

If you're an undergraduate student from Hong Kong who can demonstrate academic excellence, you may be eligible to apply for a scholarship worth £10,000 in partnership with the Tung Foundation.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/hong-kong-awards/>)


NOLAN SCHOLARSHIPS

 Home students

Do you live in the Liverpool City Region with a household income of £25,000 or less? Did neither of your parents attend University? You could be eligible to apply for a Nolan Scholarship worth £5,000 per year for three years of undergraduate study.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/nolan-scholarships/>)


ROLABOTIC SCHOLARSHIP

 Home students

Are you a UK student with a household income of £25,000 or less? Did neither of your parents attend University? You could be eligible to apply for a ROLABOTIC Scholarship worth £4,500 for each year of your undergraduate degree.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/rolabotic-scholarship/>)


SPORT LIVERPOOL PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

 Home and international students

Apply to receive tailored training support to enhance your sporting performance. Our athlete support package includes a range of benefits, from bespoke strength and conditioning training to physiotherapy sessions and one-to-one nutritional advice.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/sport-liverpool-performance-programme/>)

TECHNETIX BROADHURST ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP

 Home students

Joining a degree in the School of Electrical Engineering, Electronics and Computer Science? If you're a UK student with household income below £25,000, you could be eligible to apply for £5,000 a year for three years of study. Two awards will be available per academic year.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/technetix-broadhurst-engineering-scholarship/>)

UNDERGRADUATE GLOBAL ADVANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

 International students

If you're a high-achieving international student starting an undergraduate degree with us from September 2024, you could be eligible to receive a fee discount of up to £5,000. You'll need to achieve grades equivalent to AAA in A levels and be joining a non-clinical degree.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/global-advancement-scholarship/>)


UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

 International students

Completed a Foundation Certificate at University of Liverpool International College (UoLIC)? We're offering a £5,000 fee discount off the first year of undergraduate study to some of the highest achieving students joining one of our non-clinical degrees from UoLIC.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/uolic-excellence-scholarship/>)


UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE FIRST CLASS SCHOLARSHIP

 International students

We're offering a £1,000 fee discount for years 2 and 3 of undergraduate study to eligible students progressing from University of Liverpool International College. You'll need to be studying a non-clinical subject and get an average of 70% or above in year 1 of your degree.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/uolic-first-class-scholarship/>)


UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE IMPACT PROGRESSION SCHOLARSHIPS

 International students

If you're a University of Liverpool International College student awarded a Kaplan Impact Scholarship, we'll also consider you for an Impact Progression Scholarship. If selected, you'll receive a £3,000 fee discount off the first year of your undergraduate degree.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/uolic-impact-progression-scholarships/>)

YOUNG ADULT CARER'S (YAC) BURSARY

 Home students

If you're a young adult and a registered carer in the UK, you might be eligible for a £1,000 bursary for each year of study. You'll need to be aged 18-25 on 1 September in the year you start your undergraduate degree.

(<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/paying-for-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries/undergraduate/yac-bursary/>)

Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Your qualification	Requirements About our typical entry requirements(https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applying/entry-requirements-and-qualifications/)
A levels	<p>ABB</p> <p>Applicants with the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) are eligible for a reduction in grade requirements. For this course, the offer is BBB with A in the EPQ.</p> <p>You may automatically qualify for reduced entry requirements through our contextual offers scheme(https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applying/contextual-data/).</p> <p>If you don't meet the entry requirements, you may be able to complete a foundation year which would allow you to progress to this course.</p> <p>Available foundation years:</p> <p>Geography BSc (Hons) (4 year route including a foundation year at Carmel College) (/courses/2025/geography-bsc-hons-4-year-route-including-a-foundation-year-at-carmel-college) BSc (Hons)</p>
GCSE	4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics
BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma	D*DD in relevant diploma.
International Baccalaureate	33 with no score less than 4.
Irish Leaving Certificate	H1, H2, H2, H2, H3, H3
Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher	ABB in Advanced Highers.
Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced	AB at A Level and B in Welsh Bacc.
Access	Access – 45 Level 3 credits in graded units in a relevant Diploma, including 30 at Distinction and a further 15 with at least Merit.
International qualifications	<p>Many countries have a different education system to that of the UK, meaning your qualifications may not meet our entry requirements. Completing your Foundation Certificate, such as that offered by the University of Liverpool International College(https://www.kaplanpathways.com/colleges/university-of-liverpool-international-college/), means you're guaranteed a place on your chosen course.</p>

ALTERNATIVE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, **contact us**([/study/undergraduate/contact-us/](https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/contact-us/)) for advice

Applications from mature students([/study/undergraduate/applying/mature-students/](https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applying/mature-students/)) are welcome.

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+44 (0)151 794 2000

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