



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

BA (Hons)

Geography

UCAS code L700

Entry requirements

A level: ABB

Study mode

Full-time

Duration

3 years

Apply by: **29 January 2025**

Starts on: **22 September 2025**

About this course

Globalisation, geopolitics, population change, and sustainability are amongst the largest challenges confronting society in the 21st century. Our Geography BA (Hons) course helps you to understand these issues and the ways in which they shape the world.

Introduction

Geography offers unique insights into many of the most pressing issues facing the world in the 21st century, such as globalisation, geopolitics, climate change, sustainability, health, economics, population, hazards, pollution, and natural resource management.

Our Geography BA (Hons) course helps you develop expert knowledge and skills to interrogate the range of different approaches to, and perspectives on, these issues, as well as the ability to understand how they interact.

The University of Liverpool is home to one of the longest established Geography departments in the world, with courses on offer since 1886. Our expertise in human geography spans population and migration, health, geodemographics, GIS, environmental economics, social and cultural change, urban and rural geographies, as well as political and environmental activism.

Students on this course often choose human geography-oriented modules, and the core modules for this degree are focused on this area. However, you also have the option to also take physical geography modules. Maintaining a balance between the two areas of geography is an option many of our students pursue. You can also take up to two 15-credit modules per year from other subjects so you can maintain an interest in another discipline as part of your geography degree. We will guide you in your module choice to ensure that you choose modules that complement each other and follow a pathway that will help you to gain skills and knowledge relevant to your future career.

From your first week to your final year, field classes are an integral part of your learning. Destinations include Barcelona, Lorca (Spain), Portugal and, closer to home, cities such as Glasgow, Belfast, Cardiff, Edinburgh, as well as the Lake District and mid-Wales. There is also the opportunity to undertake final year dissertation fieldwork abroad.

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

- Shape your learning with options in physical geography and other disciplines
- High levels of field-based learning within the UK and abroad
- An emphasis on active, problem-based learning ('learning by doing')
- Hands-on experience of cutting-edge laboratory technologies in physical geography
- Innovative GIS, statistical and qualitative research methodologies, and community consultation in human geography
- A final year independent research-based dissertation supervised by a dedicated expert in the field.

Accreditation

The Geography BA (Hons) programme is accredited by the Royal Geographic Society with IBG.

Accreditation in detail

Royal Geographical Society

The Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) is the UK's learned society and professional body for geography.

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Course content

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

Year one

All students take core modules in year one, which introduce you to the breadth of the subject, and the key ideas which inform the rest of the course. You can also choose optional modules from within human and physical geography, or from other disciplines.

Students will take the following compulsory modules and choose two optional modules as detailed below.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>HUMAN GEOGRAPHY THROUGH MERSEYSIDE (ENVS162)</u>	15
<u>LIVING WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE (ENVS119)</u>	15
<u>NEW HORIZONS IN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS116)</u>	15
<u>RESEARCH FRONTIERS IN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS161)</u>	15
<u>STUDY SKILLS AND GIS (ENVS100)</u>	30
Optional modules	Credits
<u>CONTEMPORARY TOWN PLANNING (ENVS152)</u>	15
<u>ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION (ENVS157)</u>	15

Optional modules	Credits
<u>EXPERIMENTS IN PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY (ENVS120)</u>	15
<u>THEORY AND LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS IN EARTH SURFACES PROCESSES (ENVS165)</u>	15
<u>TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING: AN INTRODUCTION (ENVS110)</u>	15
<u>URBAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS (ENVS155)</u>	15
<u>GLOBAL CHALLENGES: DEVELOPMENT, INEQUALITY, ALTERNATIVES (ENVS144)</u>	15
<u>FOUNDATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (POLI104)</u>	15
<u>COMPARATIVE POLITICS (POLI107)</u>	15

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

Year two

Skills development is a central part of the course in year two, with core modules in research skills, exploring the social world, principles and theory in geography, and a field class. You can then choose additional modules from a range of human geography specialisms. You also have the flexibility to choose physical geography modules along with options from outside the discipline.

Students will take the following compulsory modules and choose four optional modules as detailed below.

Students MUST choose ONE of either ENVS282 Field Class (Belfast), ENVS286 Field Class (Edinburgh), ENVS288 Field Class (Glasgow).

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>PRINCIPLES AND THEORY IN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS249)</u>	15
<u>RESEARCH SKILLS (GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS203)</u>	15
<u>EXPLORING THE SOCIAL WORLD (ENVS225)</u>	15
Optional modules	Credits
<u>AN INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY (ENVS223)</u>	15
<u>CATCHMENT HYDROLOGY (ENVS217)</u>	15
<u>CHANGING ENVIRONMENTS (ENVS214)</u>	15
<u>CITIES AND REGIONS (ENVS230)</u>	15
<u>CLIMATOLOGY (ENVS231)</u>	15
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ENVS218)</u>	15
<u>GEOMORPHOLOGY: ICE, SEA AND AIR (ENVS252)</u>	15
<u>GIS FOR HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS257)</u>	15
<u>POLITICAL ECONOMIES OF GLOBALISATION (ENVS264)</u>	15
<u>POPULATION AND SOCIETIES (ENVS221)</u>	15
<u>RURAL GEOGRAPHIES (ENVS227)</u>	15
<u>SOCIAL AND CULTURAL GEOGRAPHIES (ENVS275)</u>	15

Optional modules	Credits
<u>FIELD CLASS (EDINBURGH) (ENVS286)</u>	15
<u>FIELD CLASS (BELFAST) (ENVS282)</u>	15
<u>FIELD CLASS (GLASGOW) (ENVS288)</u>	15

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

Year three

In year three, you will complete an independent dissertation, which brings together the skills and techniques you have learned in the degree to produce your own piece of academic research. Amongst several specialist human geography modules in year three, there are opportunities for overseas field study in destinations.

Students will select one compulsory dissertation module and choose six (four if taking an optional field class) optional module as detailed below.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>DISSERTATION (GEOGRAPHY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS321)</u>	30
Optional modules	Credits
<u>CLIMATE CHANGE - A CRITICAL REVIEW (ENVS389)</u>	15
<u>COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS: SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL CHANGE (ENVS376)</u>	15
<u>BODIES, SPACE AND POWER (ENVS344)</u>	15

Optional modules	Credits
<u>FLUVIAL ENVIRONMENTS (ENVS372)</u>	15
<u>GEOGRAPHIC DATA SCIENCE (ENVS363)</u>	15
<u>POLAND: POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL GEOGRAPHIES SINCE 1939 (ENVS313)</u>	15
<u>BUILDING BETTER WORLDS (ENVS387)</u>	15
<u>HUMAN-ENVIRONMENTAL INTERACTIONS (ENVS315)</u>	15
<u>NATURAL HAZARDS AND SOCIETY (ENVS319)</u>	15
<u>POLITICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS325)</u>	15
<u>POSTCOLONIAL GEOGRAPHIES (ENVS334)</u>	15
<u>SOCIAL AND SPATIAL INEQUALITIES (ENVS357)</u>	15
<u>TEACHING GEOGRAPHY (ENVS308)</u>	15
<u>CONTEMPORARY POPULATION DYNAMICS (ENVS311)</u>	15
<u>CARBON, NUTRIENTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION (ENVS381)</u>	15
<u>WORK-BASED DISSERTATION (GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS323)</u>	30
<u>FIELD CLASS (BARCELONA) (ENVS350)</u>	30
<u>FIELDWORK: LIVERPOOL & ITS REGION (ENVS365)</u>	15
<u>GLOBAL GEOGRAPHIES OF YOUTH (ENVS339)</u>	15

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

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

To help you meet the intellectual and practical challenges of studying geography, our programmes are taught using a student centred approach, involving a range of learning experiences. These include:

- Small tutor groups (typically eight students) through all years
- High levels of field-based learning within the UK and abroad
- An emphasis on active, problem-based learning ('learning by doing')
- Hands-on experience of cutting-edge laboratory technologies in physical geography
- Innovative GIS, statistical and qualitative research methodologies and community consultation in human geography
- Supervised independent and group project work, including (for Single Honours degrees) a final year independent research-based dissertation supervised by a dedicated expert in the field.

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 prospective students with disabilities 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, field projects, and research reports. Geography students complete a compulsory 10,000-word dissertation in their final year on a topic of their 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.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

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Careers and employability

Geography is a subject that bridges the social and physical sciences. Those studying geography develop transferable knowledge and skills which open up a wide range of career opportunities.

By the time you graduate you will have developed core research skills in human geography, including surveying, interviewing and innovative community liaison techniques stand students in good stead for a range of employment destinations.

You can explore the following work experience opportunities:

- Internships during the course of their degree
- Work-based dissertation – which combines the final year independent research project with a placement in industry.

Students can also continue their studies at postgraduate level and PhD study with opportunities to apply for funding from a range of organisations, including the ESRC (Economic and Social Research Council) and NERC (Natural Environment Research Council). Geography is a subject that bridges the social and physical sciences. Those studying geography develop transferable knowledge and skills which open up a wide range of career opportunities.

Work experience opportunities

We encourage students to undertake work experience and internships during the course of their degree. Our students can also select a work-based dissertation, which combines the final year independent research project with a placement in industry.

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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)

Full-time place, per year – £9,535

Year in industry fee – £1,905

Year abroad fee – £1,430 (applies to year in China)

International fees

Full-time place, per year – £26,600

Year in industry fee – £1,905

Year abroad fee – £13,300 (applies to year in China)

The tuition fees shown are correct for 2025/26 entry. 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.](#)

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 includes the cost of your dissertation/project, and optional field classes in year three.

Students should expect to cover the following costs.

Year three optional field class:

Year three optional field class:

- Option A: Europe. One-week residential field class (eg to the Algarve). Students will cover the full cost of the field class, including travel, accommodation, food, and the price of the field class (around £800*)
- Option B: North America. Two-week residential field class. Students will cover the full cost of the field class, including travel, accommodation, food, and the price of the field class (around £1,300).

***BA Geography (L700) only.** The School will normally cover the cost of accommodation and travel for option A only. Students will cover sustenance costs.

Project/dissertation costs:

The School may provide a budget of up to £200 for specific field / lab-based projects. Desk-based projects receive no budget from the School.

[Find out more about additional study costs.](#)

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Entry requirements

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

A levels

ABB

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.

You may automatically qualify for reduced entry requirements through our contextual offers scheme. Based on your personal circumstances, you may automatically qualify for up to a two-grade reduction in the entry requirements needed for this course. When you apply, we consider a range of factors – such as where you live – to assess if you're eligible for a grade reduction. You don't have to make an application for a grade reduction – we'll do all the work.

Find out more about [how we make reduced grade offers](#).

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.

Available foundation years:

- [Geography BSc \(Hons\) \(4 year route including a foundation year at Carmel College\) BSc \(Hons\)](#)

T levels

T levels considered in a relevant subject and specialism.

Applicants should contact us by [completing the enquiry form on our website](#) to discuss specific requirements in the core components and the occupational specialism.

GCSE

4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics

Subject requirements

For applicants studying A levels with English exam boards: Where a science has been taken at A level (Chemistry, Biology, Geology or Physics), a pass in the

Science practical of each subject will be required.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma

D*DD in relevant diploma

International Baccalaureate

33 points, with no score less than 4.

Irish Leaving Certificate

H1, H2, H2, H2, H3, H3

Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher

Not accepted without Advanced Highers at grades ABB.

Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced

Accepted at grade B including 2 A levels at AB.

Access

45 Level 3 credits in graded units, including 30 at Distinction and a further 15 with at least Merit.

International qualifications

Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.

If you hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent, but don't meet our entry requirements, you could be eligible for a Pre-Master's course. This is offered on campus at the [University of Liverpool International College](#), in partnership with Kaplan International Pathways. It's a specialist preparation course for postgraduate study, and when you pass the Pre-Master's at the required level with good attendance, you're guaranteed entry to a University of Liverpool master's degree.

English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a [majority English speaking country](#).

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 5.5

TOEFL iBT

88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 17, writing 17, reading 17 and speaking 19. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

TOEFL Paper

Grade 7 at Standard Level or grade 6 at Higher Level

Duolingo English Test

125 overall, with speaking, reading and writing not less than 105, and listening not below 100

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 60

Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0500

Grade C overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking and listening. Speaking and listening must be separately endorsed on the certificate.

Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0990

Grade 4 overall, with Merit in speaking and listening

Cambridge IGCSE Second Language English 0510/0511

0510: Grade B overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking. Speaking must be separately endorsed on the certificate. 0511: Grade B overall.

Cambridge IGCSE Second Language English 0993/0991

0993: Grade 6 overall, with a minimum of grade 2 in speaking. Speaking must be separately endorsed on the certificate. 0991: Grade 6 overall.

Cambridge ESOL Level 2/3 Advanced

176 overall, with no paper below 162

LanguageCert

Grade 5 at Standard Level or grade 5 at Higher Level

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or [the equivalent score in selected other English language tests](#), to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5	6 weeks	On campus
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.5	10 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	12 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no component below 4.5	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no component below 4.5	30 weeks	On campus
4.5 overall, with no more than one component below 4.5, and no component below 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

If you've completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to [Pre-sessional English entry requirements](#) for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 5.5, for further details.

Alternative entry requirements

- If your qualification isn't listed here, or you're taking a combination of qualifications, [contact us](#) for advice
- If you are returning to learning, have had a disrupted education or are switching career pathways, the one-year [Go Higher diploma](#) qualifies you to apply for University of Liverpool arts, humanities and social sciences programmes
- [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.

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