



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

BA (Hons)

Environment and Planning

UCAS code K4L7

Entry requirements

A level: BBB

Study mode

Full-time

Duration

3 years

Apply by: **14 January 2026**

Starts on: **28 September 2026**

About this course

This degree programme gives you a full understanding of the primary environmental challenges of the 21st century and provides you with the skills base to help address them.

Introduction

You will develop a broad overview of how our towns, cities and regions have developed and have an opportunity to specialise in environmental or urban regeneration issues. You'll gain a rounded understanding of the factors and forces that are shaping the environment and the role that planning can play in reconciling competing and conflicting interests. Attention is focused on approaches to the protection and enhancement of natural and built environments in a rapidly changing world. An interdisciplinary approach to study provides learning opportunities that draw upon the expertise of academics in Planning as well as academics in the departments of Geography, Sociology and Architecture.

Over the past thirty years Liverpool has been transformed economically, socially and environment. Staff and students from the University of Liverpool have been part of these changes as they have been observing, reflecting and helping local planners, developers and communities to shape these changes. This makes Liverpool an ideal urban laboratory to study how our world is changing.

This course is designed as part of a suite of related programmes in planning, and core modules in years one and two are shared with our BA Urban Planning, MPlan Town and Regional Planning and BA Geography and Planning. Students can transfer between programmes in the first two years should their interests or career aspirations change, subject to achieving required grades.

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

- Basic features of the planning system in the UK
- Essential study and communication skills

Accreditation

This programme provides accreditation from the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA).

Accreditation in detail

Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment

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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

The first year of study provides an introduction to basic features of the planning system in the United Kingdom and an awareness of the broad social, economic and environmental context in which contemporary planning issues arise. Essential study and communication skills for academic study and future employability are given early emphasis so that students are well equipped to take full advantage of the wide range of teaching and learning resources including the Planning Studio, the Central Teaching Laboratories and external speaker series that are made available for their benefit.

Selecting modules

Students will take the core modules and select two choices from the optional modules.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>UNDERSTANDING PLACE (ENVS105)</u>	15
<u>TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING: AN INTRODUCTION (ENVS110)</u>	15
<u>URBAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS (ENVS155)</u>	15
<u>CONTEMPORARY TOWN PLANNING (ENVS152)</u>	15
<u>ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION (ENVS157)</u>	15
<u>COMMUNITY PLANNING (ENVS102)</u>	15

Optional modules	Credits
<u>LIVING WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE (ENVS119)</u>	15
<u>GLOBAL CHALLENGES: DEVELOPMENT, INEQUALITY, ALTERNATIVES (ENVS144)</u>	15
<u>CONTEXT 1.1: HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE (ARCH171)</u>	15
<u>RESEARCH FRONTIERS IN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS161)</u>	15
<u>NEW HORIZONS IN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS116)</u>	15
<u>HUMAN GEOGRAPHY THROUGH MERSEYSIDE (ENVS162)</u>	15

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

Year two

You will take the following compulsory modules.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>PEOPLE AND PLACE (ENVS205)</u>	30
<u>STRATEGIC PLAN MAKING (ENVS210)</u>	15
<u>PLANNING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ENVS218)</u>	15
<u>CITIES AND REGIONS (ENVS230)</u>	15
<u>URBAN MORPHOLOGY AND PLACE-MAKING (ENVS256)</u>	15

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>GIS FOR PLANNERS (ENVS279)</u>	15
<u>RURAL PLANNING (ENVS289)</u>	15

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

Year three

You will take the following compulsory modules.

You will also select two additional optional modules that relate to your chosen specialism: Spatial Planning for Environmental Change and their remaining modules from the optional modules detailed below.

You will be required to select a research module choice (for example, dissertation): ENVS346 or ENVS302.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF POLICIES, PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS (ENVS329)</u>	15
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT (ENVS360)</u>	15
<u>INTERNATIONAL PLANNING STUDIES (ENVS378)</u>	30

Optional modules	Credits
<u>CIVIC DESIGN DISSERTATION (BA) (ENVS302)</u>	30
<u>ISSUES IN PLANNING RESEARCH (ENVS346)</u>	15

Optional modules	Credits
<u>URBAN DESIGN STUDIES (ENVS312)</u>	15
<u>POLITICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS325)</u>	15
<u>MARINE PLANNING THEORY AND PRACTICE (ENVS341)</u>	15
<u>GEOGRAPHIC DATA SCIENCE (ENVS363)</u>	15
<u>CONTEMPORARY POPULATION DYNAMICS (ENVS311)</u>	15
<u>GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVS345)</u>	15
<u>URBAN DESIGN PROJECT (ENVS359)</u>	15
<u>CLIMATE CHANGE - A CRITICAL REVIEW (ENVS389)</u>	15
<u>PLANNING LAW AND GOVERNANCE (ENVS348)</u>	15
<u>PLANNING AND PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT (ENVS369)</u>	15
<u>BUILDING BETTER WORLDS (ENVS387)</u>	15

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

Teaching and assessment

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 programmes 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.

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.

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.

Careers and employability

Our programmes are varied, interdisciplinary, and have a strong vocational focus, meaning that Liverpool planning graduates enter a wide range of planning related careers in the public, private and voluntary sectors. We have graduates who are working in the UK and globally.

Recent employers of Environment and Planning graduates include:

- 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.

Our graduates leave to take up a very wide range of careers, including in the following areas:

- Planning and environmental consultants
- Strategic, local and transport development planning
- Urban regeneration and environmental development management
- Urban designers
- GIS and data science specialists
- Academic researchers.

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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 – £1,850

Year abroad fee – £1,385 (applies to year in China)

International fees

Full-time place, per year – £26,600

Year in industry fee – £1,850

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

Fees are for academic year 2025/26.

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 could include expenses such as field clothing and sustenance (food and drinks) during fieldwork.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

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Entry requirements

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

A levels

BBB

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

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma

DDD in relevant diploma.

International Baccalaureate

30 points overall with no score less than 4 or pass the IB Diploma plus 5,5,5 in 3 HL subjects.

European Baccalaureate

Overall 60% or better

Irish Leaving Certificate

H2, H2, H2, H3, H3, H3

Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher

Not accepted without Advanced Highers at grades BBB.

Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced

B in the Welsh Baccalaureate, plus BB at A level.

Access

Pass Access to HE Diploma with 45 Level 3 credits with 30 at Distinction and 15 at 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.

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

International Baccalaureate English A: Literature or Language & Literature

Grade 5 at Standard Level or grade 5 at Higher Level

International Baccalaureate English B

Grade 7 at Standard Level or grade 6 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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