

BA (Hons)

# Environment and Planning

UCAS code K4L7

**Entry requirements**

A level: BBB

**Study mode**

Full-time

**Duration**

3 years

Apply by: **13 January 2027**Starts on: **27 September 2027**

## 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.

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## What you'll learn

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

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

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### 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
UNDERSTANDING PLACE (ENVS105)	15
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING: AN INTRODUCTION (ENVS110)	15
URBAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS (ENVS155)	15
CONTEMPORARY TOWN PLANNING (ENVS152)	15
ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION (ENVS157)	15
COMMUNITY PLANNING (ENVS102)	15

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

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change. As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, we are currently reviewing all of our programmes. This may include refining study pathways, strengthening links with employers, integrating generative AI, developing students' research skills, and enhancing alignment with our research strengths. The course content currently shown on this page reflects the programme as it is running in September 2026. This page will be updated for students beginning in September 2027 by 1 September 2026 at the latest.

## Year two

You will take the following compulsory modules.

## Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
PEOPLE AND PLACE (ENVS205)	30
STRATEGIC PLAN MAKING (ENVS210)	15

<b>Compulsory modules</b>	<b>Credits</b>
PLANNING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ENVS218)	15
CITIES AND REGIONS (ENVS230)	15
URBAN MORPHOLOGY AND PLACE-MAKING (ENVS256)	15
GIS FOR PLANNERS (ENVS279)	15
RURAL PLANNING (ENVS289)	15

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## **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**

<b>Compulsory modules</b>	<b>Credits</b>
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF POLICIES, PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS (ENVS329)	15
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT (ENVS360)	15
INTERNATIONAL PLANNING STUDIES (ENVS378)	30
<b>Optional modules</b>	<b>Credits</b>
CIVIC DESIGN DISSERTATION (BA) (ENVS302)	30
ISSUES IN PLANNING RESEARCH (ENVS346)	15
URBAN DESIGN STUDIES (ENVS312)	15
POLITICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS325)	15
GEOGRAPHIC DATA SCIENCE (ENVS363)	15
CONTEMPORARY POPULATION DYNAMICS (ENVS311)	15
GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVS345)	15
URBAN DESIGN PROJECT (ENVS359)	15
CLIMATE CHANGE - A CRITICAL REVIEW (ENVS389)	15
PLANNING LAW AND GOVERNANCE (ENVS348)	15
PLANNING AND PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT (ENVS369)	15

BUILDING BETTER WORLDS (ENVS387)

15

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## 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 Learning Framework

At Liverpool, we take a distinctive approach to education through the Liverpool Learning Framework. This means teaching that is engaging, inclusive and designed to help you succeed during your studies and beyond.

You'll develop specialist subject knowledge alongside the skills employers value most, including:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three Liverpool Hallmarks:

- Research-connected teaching - learning informed by the latest ideas and discoveries
- Active learning - taking part, applying knowledge and learning by doing
- Authentic assessment - assessments designed around real-world tasks and challenges

We also embed key priorities across our curriculum, including AI literacy, employability, and sustainability, helping you prepare for the future and make a positive impact in the world.

We're committed to creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment where every student can thrive.

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# 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 - £10,050

Year in industry fee - £2,010

Year abroad fee - £1,508 (applies to year in China)

### International fees

Full-time place, per year - £27,000

Year in industry fee - £1,955

Year abroad fee - £13,500 (applies to year in China)

The UK fees shown are for the academic year 2027/28. The international fees shown are for the academic year 2026/27 and will be subject for change for the academic year 2027/28. Please be advised that tuition fees may increase each year for both UK and international students. For UK students, this will be subject to the government's regulated fee limits.

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.

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## 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** from A levels, 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)

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## 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.

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## GCSE

4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics

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## BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma

DDD in relevant diploma.

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## International Baccalaureate

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

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### **European Bacculaureate**

Overall 60% or better

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### **Irish Leaving Certificate**

H2, H2, H2, H3, H3, H3

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### **Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher**

Not accepted without Advanced Highers at grades BBB.

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### **Welsh Bacculaureate Advanced**

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

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### **Access**

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

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### **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.

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## **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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## 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.

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### IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 5.5

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### TOEFL iBT

If you took a TOEFL test on or before 20 January 2026, you'll need 88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 17, writing 17, reading 17 and speaking 19. If you took a TOEFL test from 21 January 2026 onwards, when a new scoring system was introduced, you'll need 4.5 overall, with 4 or above in all components. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

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### Duolingo English Test

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

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### Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

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### LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 60

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### **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.

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### **Cambridge IGCSE First Language English 0990**

Grade 4 overall, with Merit in speaking and listening

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **Cambridge ESOL Level 2/3 Advanced**

176 overall, with no paper below 162

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### **International Baccalaureate English A: Literature or Language & Literature**

Grade 5 at Standard Level or grade 5 at Higher Level

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### **International Baccalaureate English B**

Grade 7 at Standard Level or grade 6 at Higher Level

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## **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.

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## 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 or online
5.5 overall, with no more than one component at 5.0	10 weeks	On campus or online
5.5 overall, with no component below 5.0	12 weeks	Online
5.0 overall, with no component below 5.0	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 at 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.

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