



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

BA (Hons)

Geography and Planning

UCAS code L7K4

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

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
- 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.

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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 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.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>CONTEMPORARY TOWN PLANNING (ENVS152)</u>	15
<u>HUMAN GEOGRAPHY THROUGH MERSEYSIDE (ENVS162)</u>	15
<u>NEW HORIZONS IN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS116)</u>	15
<u>RESEARCH FRONTIERS IN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS161)</u>	15
<u>URBAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS (ENVS155)</u>	15
<u>TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING: AN INTRODUCTION (ENVS110)</u>	15

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>UNDERSTANDING PLACE (ENVS105)</u>	15
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Optional modules	Credits
<u>COMMUNITY PLANNING (ENVS102)</u>	15
<u>LIVING WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE (ENVS119)</u>	15
<u>GLOBAL CHALLENGES: DEVELOPMENT, INEQUALITY, ALTERNATIVES (ENVS144)</u>	15
<u>ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION (ENVS157)</u>	15

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.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>EXPLORING THE SOCIAL WORLD (ENVS225)</u>	15

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>PRINCIPLES AND THEORY IN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS249)</u>	15
<u>RESEARCH SKILLS (GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS203)</u>	15
<u>STRATEGIC PLAN MAKING (ENVS210)</u>	15
<u>URBAN MORPHOLOGY AND PLACE-MAKING (ENVS256)</u>	15
Optional modules	Credits
<u>CITIES AND REGIONS (ENVS230)</u>	15
<u>ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ENVS218)</u>	15
<u>FIELD CLASS (BELFAST) (ENVS282)</u>	15
<u>FIELD CLASS (EDINBURGH) (ENVS286)</u>	15
<u>FIELD CLASS (GLASGOW) (ENVS288)</u>	15
<u>RURAL PLANNING (ENVS289)</u>	15
<u>GIS FOR HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS257)</u>	15
<u>POLITICAL ECONOMIES OF GLOBALISATION (ENVS264)</u>	15
<u>SOCIAL AND CULTURAL GEOGRAPHIES (ENVS275)</u>	15

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 required dissertation module, one required field class module and a further two Geography and two Planning optional modules.

Modules

Optional modules	Credits
<u>CIVIC DESIGN DISSERTATION (BA) (ENVS302)</u>	30
<u>WORK-BASED DISSERTATION (GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS323)</u>	30
<u>FIELDWORK: LIVERPOOL & ITS REGION (ENVS365)</u>	15
<u>INTERNATIONAL PLANNING STUDIES (ENVS378)</u>	30
<u>POLITICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS325)</u>	15
<u>POSTCOLONIAL GEOGRAPHIES (ENVS334)</u>	15
<u>BODIES, SPACE AND POWER (ENVS344)</u>	15
<u>GEOGRAPHIC DATA SCIENCE (ENVS363)</u>	15
<u>CONTEMPORARY POPULATION DYNAMICS (ENVS311)</u>	15
<u>POLAND: POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL GEOGRAPHIES SINCE 1939 (ENVS313)</u>	15
<u>CLIMATE CHANGE – A CRITICAL REVIEW (ENVS389)</u>	15

Optional modules	Credits
<u>URBAN DESIGN STUDIES (ENVS312)</u>	15
<u>URBAN AND REGIONAL REGENERATION (ENVS336)</u>	15
<u>MARINE PLANNING THEORY AND PRACTICE (ENVS341)</u>	15
<u>PLANNING LAW AND GOVERNANCE (ENVS348)</u>	15
<u>PLANNING AND PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT (ENVS369)</u>	15
<u>GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVS345)</u>	15
<u>SOCIAL AND SPATIAL INEQUALITIES (ENVS357)</u>	15
<u>URBAN DESIGN PROJECT (ENVS359)</u>	15
<u>DISSERTATION (GEOGRAPHY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS321)</u>	30
<u>FIELD CLASS (BARCELONA) (ENVS350)</u>	30
<u>BUILDING BETTER WORLDS (ENVS387)</u>	15
<u>GLOBAL GEOGRAPHIES OF YOUTH (ENVS339)</u>	15
<u>URBAN AND REGIONAL REGENERATION PROJECT (ENVS384)</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 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.

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

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:

- MA Housing and Community Planning (RTPI accredited)
- Urban Design and Planning MCD (RTPI accredited)
- MA Sustainable Urban 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.

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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 may include a laptop, books, or stationery. Additional costs for this course could include field class and project costs.

Project/dissertation costs

The School of Environmental Sciences will provide a budget of up to £200 for field/lab-based projects. Desk-based projects receive no budget.

Field classes

Core costs for compulsory field classes are covered.

Year three optional field classes:

- Option A: One-week residential field class in Europe (e.g. Paris). Students meet travel and subsistence costs
- Option B: Two-week residential field class in China (Shanghai). Students meet full costs.

[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

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, 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

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
- [Applications from mature students](#) are welcome.

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