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Why choose Planning at Liverpool?

Liverpool was the world’s first Planning School, founded in 1909, and we remain one of the most innovative and forward-looking. Planning at Liverpool will introduce you to the grand challenges society faces in the 21st century. Reconciling growing pressures for development with the need to protect the environment and achieve greater social equity requires the interdisciplinary skills of planners. Studying planning at Liverpool will enable you to be part of the solution to meet these challenges head-on.
Set the foundations for your career in our world-leading Planning School

We are internationally recognised as a Centre of Excellence and innovation in planning education. All of our programmes benefit from the expertise of our academic staff who are leading global discussions in spatial planning, planning economics, marine planning, and environmental assessment and management. This means you will benefit from research-led teaching, bringing the latest planning theory and practice into the classroom. Within the Department we also edit two respected peer reviewed academic journals (Town Planning Review and Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal) and host the Centre for Sustainable and Resilient Cities and the Environmental Assessment and Management Centre. All of this means you can be confident that your learning is at the forefront of the discipline.

Take inspiration from planning in practice in our dynamic city location

Liverpool City Region offers excellent opportunities to study Planning in practice and the application of cutting-edge practices in tackling the challenges of urban regeneration and environmental management. Developments like Liverpool Waters, the regeneration of Anfield and the Atlantic Gateway scheme make Liverpool an ideal place to study Planning.

Broaden your understanding through our interdisciplinary links

All our programmes are interdisciplinary and draw upon strong teaching and research links with geography, sociology and environmental science. These links will help you to see planning in context and gain important transferable skills. Our dual honours BA Geography and Planning programme also enables you to combine these two disciplines in one degree.

Take advantage of our excellent employer links

Through our accredited programmes we have strong links with professional bodies. Our MPlan programme is accredited by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and we also offer accreditation through the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA). We also work with the Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA) and have close working relationships with Local Planning Authorities, planning consultancies, developers and a wide range of other organisations throughout the North West, nationally and internationally. These links ensure that we tailor our programmes to the needs of the profession, but also that our students are able to develop their employability and build relationships that will be extremely valuable in their future careers.

Explore planning practice around the world and in the UK

At Liverpool you will benefit from an internationally focused curriculum that brings together theory and practice from around the world, including Europe, North America, India and China. You will also meet practitioners and undertake real life place-based projects in each year of study, many of which are client-led and are used to inform future development within the region. Field classes are also an integral part of each year and enable you to gain first-hand experience of planning issues and policies in the UK and internationally.

From a planning perspective, it is great to study this programme in Liverpool as the city is constantly changing and various regeneration schemes provide the perfect backdrop to my studies. The best part is how the programme has been structured to cater for those entering the planning sector through its practical approach, on projects such as creating our own fictional neighbourhood plans, which are akin to the nature of the work that we will do in jobs within the planning sector.

Akwesi Osei
Town and Regional Planning MPlan
Our Chinese connection
China’s cities are growing more quickly than anywhere else in history, which makes it a fascinating case study in urban and environmental planning, and provides an excellent opportunity for us to share our knowledge with Chinese planning students participating in an exchange with Liverpool. Thanks to our links with Xi’an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (XJTLU), our sister institution in Suzhou, China, our students and staff gain from the opportunity to share experiences and learn directly about planning in a different context and culture.

Study abroad 🌍
As part of your planning degree programme you may have the opportunity to study abroad, for example at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the US, and the University of Waterloo, Canada. Studying abroad has huge personal and academic benefits, as well as giving you a head start in the graduate job market. For more information visit www.liverpool.ac.uk/goabroad

Year in China 🇨🇳
The Year in China is the University of Liverpool’s exciting flagship programme enabling undergraduate students from a huge range of departments, including planning, the opportunity to spend one year at our sister university XJTLU, following the BA China Studies degree classes. See www.liverpool.ac.uk/yearinchina for more information.

How you 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.

A number of the School’s degree programmes involve laboratory and field work. The field work 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.

Good to know:
52
Year One undergraduates in 2016

93%
of students agree that staff are good at explaining things (NSS 2016)

90%+
are employed or in further study within six months of graduating (Destination of Leavers from Higher Education 2015/16)

Offers study abroad opportunities

Offers a Year in China
Our research in context

Academics in planning at Liverpool are working on a range of projects and our two research centres, the Centre for Sustainable and Resilient Cities and the Environmental Assessment and Management Centre provide support to our various research activities.

These are some of our recent research projects.

**Urban Transformation**
Urbanisation is happening in many cities at an unprecedented rate, meanwhile other cities and urban regions are experiencing deindustrialisation. Both periods in city development can lead to various planning problems and issues. At Liverpool, we are at the forefront of research seeking to understand these changes and how planning may contribute to tackling them. Using the explanatory power of behavioural economics and game theory we are researching self-organised urban governance and financial instruments (such as community land trusts) in neighbourhood planning in the UK. Our research seeks to understand how new forms of local urban planning and decision making are impacting on our cities.

**Marine Spatial Planning**
At Liverpool, we are leading in research which seeks to move the knowledge of terrestrial planning into our marine environment. The SIMCelt project aims to support the implementation of maritime spatial planning, which all coastal EU member states will need to carry out for their offshore waters. The project focuses on the Celtic Sea area shared by Ireland, the UK and France, and draws together government agencies with responsibility for marine planning and research institutions in the three nations.

**Global Gateway and Corridor Regions**
The Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor, the Seine Gateway (Le Havre to Paris) and the Atlantic Gateway between Liverpool and Manchester are all examples of so called gateway or corridor regions. Researchers here in planning at Liverpool are leading interdisciplinary discussions to explore how the planning and development of such regions is being driven by large-scale actions from both the public and private sectors. We are working with industry partners Peel Holdings to learn more about how the Atlantic Gateway is driving regional development here in the North West.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<tr>
<td>9.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Town and country planning: an introduction lecture</td>
<td>Town and country planning: seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00</td>
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<td>Environmental assessment and management research seminar</td>
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<td>Private study</td>
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<td>University of Liverpool sports and societies events</td>
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<td>University of Liverpool sports and society events</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.00</td>
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<td>Study skills and GIS tutorial</td>
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<td>Private study</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>Project group work in the library for town and country planning</td>
<td>University of Liverpool sports and societies events</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>Study skills and GIS tutorial</td>
<td>Study skills and GIS tutorial</td>
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<td>University of Liverpool sports and society events</td>
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<tr>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>Private reading/study for urban and environmental economics</td>
<td>Private reading/study for urban and environmental economics</td>
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<td>Private study</td>
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<td>Private study for ecology and conservation</td>
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<td>18.00</td>
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<td>Student guild activity</td>
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<td>19.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
We have graduates who are working in the UK and across the world in what is becoming an increasingly global profession. Many of our graduates have senior positions in private practice, central and local government, and academic institutions, and 11 former Presidents of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) were graduates from the department.

We take the employability of our graduates seriously and have taken care to build into our degree programmes the development of transferable skills as well as making sure our graduates develop the necessary professional skills to begin their careers.

**Career paths taken by our recent graduates**
- Planning and environmental consultancy
- Strategic and local development planning
- Development management
- Social housing
- Transport planning
- Urban regeneration
- Economic development
- Urban designers
- GIS and data science specialists
- Academic research.

**Recent employers of our graduates**
- Consultancy: Atkins, Arup, Indigo, Savills
- Local Authority: Islington Borough Council, Lancashire County Council
- Non-governmental organisations: Liverpool Vision, Campaign for the Protection of Rural England, RSPB
- Advocacy: Housing Associations, Social Enterprise, Economic Development.

**Work experience opportunities**
Throughout our undergraduate programmes students are provided with opportunities to engage and learn from practitioners. We make use of local and international expertise to lead project work and field classes to aid students’ career decision-making. Students are also encouraged to undertake internships or placements with planning agencies throughout their programmes and our staff can help this process using their extensive network of contacts in practice.

The MPlan programme includes an assessed work placement as part of the fourth year of study. Here students obtain a minimum of three week’s work experience with a planning related agency. Some students have undertaken their placement in Merseyside, elsewhere in the UK or overseas, for example in Denmark, Poland, and Hong Kong.
A passion for learning: postgraduate studies
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 Marine Planning and Management (RTPI accredited), MSc Environmental Assessment and Management (IEMA accredited), MA Town and Regional Planning, MSc Urban Regeneration and Management, and MA Research Methodology. Many of our postgraduate programmes can also be preparation for further PhD study.

Make yourself employable
Planning graduates leave Liverpool with a broad range of skills. Throughout their time in the Department our students develop analytical and critical thinking and excellent communication skills which are vital to work successfully in the planning profession. We aim to develop a range of key skills in our graduates, including:

- An awareness and appreciation of the current planning profession
- Knowledge of the theoretical underpinnings of planning
- An understanding of the legal framework within which planning operates
- The development of sound practice skills in the methods and techniques of planning
- The development of research, teamwork and other professional skills of relevance to planning practice
- The development of skills in analysis, synthesis, reasoned argument and communication
- An awareness and appreciation of planning practice in other countries.

I started as a student on the Town and Regional Planning MPlan and was originally interested in regeneration. However as I progressed through the course I became more interested in environmental management. I wanted to continue doing research after I finished my degree and I was lucky enough to receive an Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) 1 + 3 funding award to do a PhD. For my PhD topic I chose to study coastal management and marine spatial planning. This was a relatively new concept at the time but has become an increasingly important part of the Department’s research and teaching activities. Since completing my PhD I’ve worked on two ESPON (www.espon.eu) funded projects. The European Seas and Territorial Development, Opportunities and Risks (ESaTDOR) project looking at maritime policy and spatial planning in Europe’s coastal areas, and North Sea STAR, looking at energy policy and how big European energy targets are being met in the North Sea Region. More recently I have been working on the Celtic Seas Partnership project (www.celticseaspartnership.eu), which brings stakeholders together to help implement the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

Dr Lynne McGowan
Degrees

Environment and Planning BA (Hons) K4L7 3 years
Geography and Planning BA (Hons) L7K4 3 years
Urban Regeneration and Planning BA (Hons) K430 3 years
Town and Regional Planning MPlan K400 4 years

Degrees offered with other departments
Environmental Science BSc (Hons) F750 3 years

See www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses for current entry requirements.

Environment and Planning BA (Hons) UCAS code: K4L7
Programme length: 3 years

This degree gives students a full understanding of the main environmental challenges of the 21st century and provides our students with the skills base to help address them. Students gain a rounded understanding of the factors and forces that are shaping the environment and the role that planning can play in reconciling 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 geography, sociology and architecture. This programme provides accreditation from the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA).

Programme in detail
The first two years of study introduce students to the nature and extent of planning issues and the circumstances in which they arise, and provide a broad understanding of how planning powers, agencies and policies are contributing to efforts to overcome contemporary planning problems. Students are encouraged 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 in both Years One and Two.

In Year Two students begin to develop their specialism in environmental planning, being introduced to the interactions of environmental policy and practice, and the management of environmental issues.

In Year Three students take four modules relating to their specialism ‘Spatial Planning and Environmental Change’. This specialism can be further developed by selecting relevant optional modules and/or completing a dissertation on a related topic.

Key modules
Year One
Core modules
● Contemporary town planning
● Ecology and conservation
● Neighbourhood planning
● Town and country planning: an introduction
● Understanding place
● Urban and environmental economics.

Selected optional modules
● Human geography through Merseyside
● Living with environmental change
● New horizons in human geography
● Social change and social policy in contemporary society.

For up-to-date entry requirements and full module details see www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses
Year Two
Core modules
- Cities and regions
- Environmental sustainability
- GIS for planners
- People and place (research skills)
- Rural planning field class
- Strategic plan making
- Urban morphology and place-making.

Selected optional modules
- An introduction to environmental history
- Comparing welfare states
- Political economies of globalisation
- Population and societies
- Urban sociology.

Year Three
Core modules
- Environmental assessment (EIA and SEA)
- Environmental planning and management project.

Selected optional modules
- Climate change – a critical review
- Dissertation
- Geographic data science
- Green infrastructure
- International planning studies
- Marine planning, theory and practice
- Maritime geographies
- Planning and property development
- Planning in China
- Planning law and governance
- Politics of the environment
- Social control, order and the city
- Urban environmental design (plus project module).

See pages 14-20 for module descriptions.

Geography and Planning BA (Hons)
UCAS code: L7K4
Programme length: 3 years

Students gain an in-depth understanding of the theoretical and practical aspects of both geography and planning. Consideration across the two complimentary disciplines includes the study of 21st century challenges, the ways that rural and urban areas adapt to economic, social and environmental change as well as other geographic and spatial issues. An interdisciplinary approach to study provides learning opportunities that draw upon the expertise of academics in both planning and geography as well as sociology and architecture.

Programme in detail
Our combined Geography and Planning BA programme is a dual honours degree which draws equally from both disciplines – with some flexibility to enable the inclusion of optional sociology modules. The first two years of study introduce students to planning issues and the circumstances in which they arise, as well as phenomena such as globalisation, population change and sustainability.

Students gain a broad overview of how planning can contribute to overcoming contemporary planning problems and an understanding of core geographic theories and skills. Students are encouraged 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 in both Years One and Two.

In their final year students have the flexibility to choose topics which interest them from a wide range of modules, maintaining the equal spread between geography and planning. Students also complete a dissertation on a topic of their choice.
**Key modules**

**Year One**

**Core modules**
- Contemporary town planning
- Living with environmental change
- New horizons in human geography
- Research frontiers in human geography
- Town and country planning: an introduction
- Understanding place
- Urban and environmental economics.

**Selected optional modules**
- Ecology and conservation
- Human geography through Merseyside
- Neighbourhood planning
- Social change and social policy in contemporary society.

**Year Two**

**Core modules**
- Field class (various locations)
- Principles and theory in geography
- Statistics for social scientists
- Strategic plan making
- Urban morphology and place-making.

**Selected optional modules**
- Cities and regions
- Environmental sustainability
- GIS for planners
- Political economies of globalisation.

**Year Three**

**Core Modules**
- Dissertation.

**Selected optional modules**
- Climate change – a critical review
- Environmental assessment (EIA and SEA)
- Field class (various locations)
- Geographic Information Systems
- Green infrastructure
- International planning studies
- Planning and property development
- Planning law and governance
- Politics of the environment
- Post-colonial geographies
- Understanding social exclusion
- Urban and regional regeneration
- Urban design and regeneration project.

See pages 14-20 for module descriptions.

**Urban Regeneration and Planning BA (Hons)**

**UCAS code: K430**

**Programme length: 3 years**

Students gain a rounded understanding of the factors and forces that are shaping urban areas and the role that planning can play in reconciling conflicting interests. Attention is focused on approaches adapted to the regeneration of urban areas. An interdisciplinary approach to study provides learning opportunities that draw upon the expertise of academics in planning as well as academics in geography, sociology and architecture.

**Programme in detail**

The first two years of study introduce students to the nature and extent of planning issues and the circumstances in which they arise, and provide a broad understanding of how planning powers, agencies and policies are contributing to efforts to overcome contemporary planning problems. Students are encouraged 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 in both Years One and Two.

In Year Two students begin to develop their specialism in urban regeneration through modules which introduce how cities develop and function, and how regeneration can be tackled.

In their final year students take four modules relating to their specialism ‘Transforming Cities and Regions’. This specialism can be further developed by selecting relevant optional modules and/or completing a dissertation on a related topic.

For up-to-date entry requirements and full module details see [www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses](http://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses)
Key modules

Year One
Core modules
- Contemporary town planning
- Ecology and conservation
- Neighbourhood planning
- Town and country planning: an introduction
- Understanding place
- Urban and environmental economics.

Selected optional modules
- Human geography through Merseyside
- Living with environmental change
- New horizons in human geography
- Social change and social policy in contemporary society.

Year Two
Core modules
- Cities and regions
- Environmental sustainability
- GIS for planners
- People and place (research skills)
- Rural planning field class
- Strategic plan making
- Urban morphology and place-making.

Selected optional modules
- An introduction to environmental history
- Comparing welfare states
- Political economies of globalisation
- Population and societies
- Urban sociology.

Year Three
Core modules
- Urban and regional regeneration
- Urban and regional regeneration project.

Selected optional modules
- Dissertation
- Geographic data science
- Geographies of resistance
- Green infrastructure
- International planning studies
- Planning and property development
- Planning in China
- Planning law and governance
- Race, community and identity
- Social control, order and the city
- The cultural economy of cities
- Understanding social exclusion
- Urban design and regeneration project.

See pages 14-20 for module descriptions.

Town and Regional Planning MPlan
UCAS code: K400
Programme length: 4 years

The Town and Regional Planning MPlan programme is designed for those who wish to pursue a professional career in urban, regional and environmental planning in the UK or abroad. The programme enables students to complete the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) recognised requirement.

In addition to the studies in common with the other planning programmes offered, MPlan students develop their own interests further through the choice of a specialism, gain a valuable understanding of professional planning practice in the UK and internationally, and complete a dissertation.

Programme in detail
The first two years of the MPlan are similar to the Environment and Planning (K4L7), Urban Regeneration and Planning (K430) BA (Hons) programmes. In Year Three MPlan students develop their specialism in either ‘spatial planning and environmental change’ or ‘transforming cities and regions’. The final year of the MPlan focuses on further developing students’ knowledge and skills in professional planning practice and translating their knowledge to the work place.

Continued over...
In Year Three, in common with the BA students, MPlan students must choose at least four modules relating to either ‘spatial planning and environmental change’ or ‘transforming cities and regions’. However, MPlan students are also required to pursue additional professionally oriented core modules: planning law and governance, planning and property development and international planning studies. The latter includes an overseas field class, typically to a city or region in France, Belgium, the Netherlands or Germany.

Year Four focuses on contemporary professional planning practice, and includes: a major project in the module spatial planning in action; coverage of planning theory and ethical questions in planning practice in the module theory, power and ethics; a work placement that can be undertaken in the summer vacation between Years Three and Four; and a final dissertation investigating a planning topic of your choice.

### Key modules

#### Year One

**Core modules**
- Contemporary town planning
- Ecology and conservation
- Neighbourhood planning
- Town and country planning: an introduction
- Understanding place
- Urban and environmental economics.

**Selected optional modules**
- Human geography through Merseyside
- Living with environmental change
- New horizons in human geography
- Social change and social policy in contemporary society.

#### Year Two

**Core modules**
- Cities and regions
- Environmental sustainability
- GIS for planners
- People and place (research skills)
- Rural planning field class
- Strategic plan making
- Urban morphology and place-making.

**Selected optional modules**
- An introduction to environmental history
- Comparing welfare states
- Political economies of globalisation
- Population and societies
- Urban sociology.

For up-to-date entry requirements and full module details see [www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses](http://www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses)
Year Three
Core modules
- Environmental assessment (EIA and SEA) and Environmental planning and management project

OR
- Urban and regional regeneration and Urban and regional regeneration project

PLUS
- International planning studies
- Planning and property development
- Planning law and governance.

Selected optional modules
- Climate change – a critical review
- Geographic data science
- Geographies of resistance
- Green infrastructure
- Planning in China
- Politics of the environment
- Race, community and identity
- The cultural economy of cities
- Understanding social exclusion
- Urban design and regeneration project
- Urban environmental design (plus project module).

Year Four
Core modules
- Development management: planning in practice
- Dissertation
- Planning practice placement
- Spatial planning in action
- Theory, power and ethics.

See pages 14-20 for module descriptions.

Degrees offered with other departments

Environmental Science BSc (Hons)
UCAS code: F750
Programme length: 3 years

Our Environmental Science degree provides a wide breadth of study opportunities from across the School of Environmental Sciences. Our degree is designed to give you an understanding of both natural and human induced environmental problems. All of our modules centre on real world issues and application, such as food security, climate change, energy security, pollution and natural hazards.

In addition to bespoke environmental science classes, our degree allows you to choose from a range of modules in biology, ecology, physical geography, and earth, climate and ocean sciences, so that you can shape your degree to suit your particular areas of interest and career pathway.

Focusing on applied skills that are relevant to careers in environmental science, you will gain expertise in monitoring, modelling and managing the environment.

From your first week to your final year, field classes and laboratory practicals are an integral part of your learning, and provide a firm grounding in the latest techniques and technologies in environmental science. You will learn through a combination of individual and group work, including practicals in our purpose built (£23 million) Central Teaching Laboratories.

In addition to making the most of Liverpool’s coastal location, you will have the opportunity to undertake fieldwork in locations such as Snowdonia, Pembrokeshire, Peak District, and in Portugal, Iceland and California.

For more information, download the Environmental Sciences brochure from www.liverpool.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/publications
Core and selected optional modules overview

**Year One**

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<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contemporary town planning</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module asks students to analyse the current fabric of an area in the city of Liverpool and through a structured process of site surveys, thematic analysis and design work propose alternative futures. The module aims to extend your understanding of the form and operation of planning systems at the local level; to provide practical experience of data gathering, analysis and policy formulation for planning purposes; and to develop skills in group working, written, visual and oral presentation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecology and conservation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>The module uses key themes in ecology and conservation to introduce students to the complex and multifaceted nature of environmental issues and ecological science, particularly stressing the interrelationships between their biophysical and human dimensions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human geography through Merseyside</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces students to key areas of human geography inquiry practised at the University of Liverpool through engagement in intensive day-long practical exercises.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living with environmental change</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces students to the grand challenges facing society and what is being done to address them. Living with environmental change is a key interdisciplinary research theme currently being addressed worldwide – from tackling climate change and carbon emissions to promoting sustainable resource use and energy efficiency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbourhood planning</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>The module introduces students to the nuances of planning at a local scale. The module provides students with opportunities to use these skills to participate in small scale neighbourhood planning exercises and projects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New horizons in human geography</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces you to new aspects of geographical thought and to raise awareness of the complexity of poverty, development and crime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research frontiers in human geography</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides students with an introduction to cutting edge debates in contemporary human geography.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social change and social policy in contemporary society</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores processes of social continuity and change over time in various areas of social life from a sociological perspective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town and country planning: an introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module provides an introduction to the history, theory and practice of town and country planning in Britain. Upon completion of the module students will be able to discuss the development of planning policy and practice in the UK, be familiar with the current structures of town planning and be able to debate the links between planning theory and practice.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Understanding place</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Develop the understanding of how places function and how this is applied to Liverpool and other cities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban and environmental economics</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>The module provides an introduction to some key micro- and macro-economic concepts and principles relevant to urban and environmental policies.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Core and selected optional modules overview

**Year Two**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An introduction to environmental history</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces students to the rapidly developing field of environmental history, and forms a basis for more advanced environmental courses in Year Three.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cities and regions</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>How our cities and regions develop is a complex process. In this module students will explore how urban areas grow, diversify and become regions. Through a discussion of social, economic and environmental factors, the module teaches students to think about the consequence of growth and discusses how policy mandates are developed to address change.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparing welfare states</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explains Esping-Andersen’s typology of welfare regimes, “the three worlds of welfare capitalism.” Compares and contrasts welfare settlements in liberal, conservative and social democratic regimes with reference to the examples of the US, Germany and Sweden.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental sustainability</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Students taking this module will be introduced to current thinking in relation to sustainable development and locate environmental sustainability within this broader framework of ideas. They will also develop an understanding of the role of the public and private sectors in promoting environmentally sustainable development in an urban setting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIS for planners</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides core competence in basic GIS with a focus on applications of these techniques in the applied context of planning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People and place (research skills)</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Develops students understanding of the relationships between people and places. To continue to develop the skills needed by students and practitioners of planning, including working in a group and carrying out independent research.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Core and selected optional modules overview

#### Year Two (continued)

<table>
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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Political economies of globalisation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces students to the study of globalisation. It will be of interest to those who wish to learn how capitalism is transformed, and what challenges this transformation entails for the functioning of national and local economies, states and societies. Specifically, the course examines the changes globalisation has brought in political life and how globalisation has been contested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population and societies</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides a general introduction to the field of population geography, in which a basic demographic understanding of population change is placed within a spatial framework, allowing exploration of the nature and causes of national, societal and cultural differences in these changes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles and theory in geography</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Develop a critical and reflexive sense of the nature of geography, the theories and conceptual frameworks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural planning field class</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides an introduction and understanding of the dynamics of change in the countryside and provides an examination of the role of key actors and agencies. The module will examine and critically evaluate policy initiatives for both the human and natural environments and interrelationships and tensions between the two.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics for social scientists</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Equips students with knowledge on how to conduct research using quantitative methods and understand the importance of statistics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic plan making</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module provides an introduction to the methods and techniques that are used in the preparation and implementation of strategic plans and policies. The module will enable students to examine the planning process and techniques associated with making plans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban morphology and place-making</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>The design and functionality of our urban environment is paramount to their liveability. In this module students are introduced to the history, theories and practice of urban design as the principal means of creating and protecting the quality of 'place' in the urban fabric. It teaches the basic techniques and skills required to achieve an understanding the character and quality of places, including the key components of urban form and the main theories behind place-making.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban sociology</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides an introduction to classical and contemporary social scientific approaches to the study of urban life.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Core and selected optional modules overview

**Year Three**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Climate change – a critical review</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides students with the knowledge to evaluate likely outcomes of climate change and climate variability over the next 100 years, to understand policy decisions at different levels, to obtain a critical understanding of climate predictions, and to understand the importance of reference to past and present climates.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Develop and practise academic skills in identifying a research topic, formulating a research design, managing the extended research process and achieving milestones, and drawing relevant policy conclusions from the research findings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental assessment (EIA and SEA)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module provides for a comprehensive overview of the theory and practice of strategic environmental assessment of policies, plans and programmes and of environmental impact assessment of projects. On completion of the modules students will have a clear understanding of EIA and SEA requirements and practices and know how to collect, analyse and report environmental information and data in EIA and SEA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental planning and management project</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module is based upon the execution of a mini-project that is carried out by small groups of students. The individual projects aim to develop skills of analysis, interpretation and policy prescription. It is well grounded in the Department's own research activities and draws upon established links with a number of local authorities and their public bodies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field class (various locations)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>To design and carry out an urban based field project appropriate for a short duration field course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographic data science</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Students develop core competences in geographic data science (GDS).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographic information systems</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Enables students to develop a theoretical knowledge of GIS and to develop a practical ability to apply GIS in the handling and analysis of spatial data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographies of resistance</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module surveys how geographers and others have theorised protest, and other strategies for change through a range of theoretical approaches and case studies.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Core and selected optional modules overview

#### Year Three (continued)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Green infrastructure</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces the field of green infrastructure and green space planning by addressing its principles, values and utility within urban planning. Drawing on a wide range of case study material the module examines the influence of landscape ecology and the politics of planning on urban development to question how, where and why we use green infrastructure to meet quality of life and place agendas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>International planning studies</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Working from a global perspective this module requires students to critically examine the process and function of planning in a number of countries. This is achieved by providing an understanding of the purposes, principles and methods of comparative planning study. Students will also develop an awareness of the ‘context-dependent’ nature of planning as an activity embedded in different national, cultural, political and spatial settings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marine planning, theory and practice</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Enables students to develop a theoretical, practical and critical understanding of the notion of marine planning as it is developing internationally, in its wider context of marine management and policy making.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maritime geographies</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Students develop a critical understanding of how maritime worlds have shaped global geographies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Planning and property development</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module is concerned with the processes through which the built environment is used, produced, managed and renewed. Its objectives are to introduce methods of property valuation, property market dynamics and the processes of urban and rural development (including regeneration, estate management and conservation).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Planning in China</strong></td>
<td>Summer vacation</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides an understanding of the factors that are contributing to the pace of change in China and gain insights into how the planning system works in China to manage the process of change.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Planning law and governance</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This module extends students’ knowledge of the governance, institutional and political contexts in which spatial planning operates within the UK and to examine the relationships between planners as professional and technical experts, clients, civil society and citizens. It also introduces current town and country planning legislation in England and Wales and to provide an overview of the law relating to the management of development in practice.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Politics of the environment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Critically evaluates the political responses to the growing impact that environmental issues and the concept of sustainability are having on decision making at all levels of governance (international, national and local).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-colonial geographies</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores the relevance of postcolonial ideas to understanding the contemporary world. The module will, in its early stages, develop key ideas about postcolonial thought in more depth which students may have encountered in modules in Years One and Two.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race, community and identity</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores the impact of colonialism on patterns of migration to Britain in the post war period and the creation of greater ethnic diversity. Examines the changing nature of racism as an ideology by exploring and contextualising scientific and institutional forms of racisms and 'newer' manifestations through Islamophobia and the conflictual relationship between the state and minority ethnic communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social control, order and the city</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Explores the main theoretical arguments and debates around social control and surveillance practices. Examines the relationship between the urban state power and the development of surveillance practices and social control.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The cultural economy of cities</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Introduces key theories and concepts regarding the interaction between cultural and economic forces within the city.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Understanding social exclusion</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>To gain an understanding of several core areas of social inequalities, and how these interrelate, including gender and sexuality; employment, class and poverty; age and ageing; housing; health and disability; ethnicity and migrant status; and education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban environmental design (plus project module)</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>The module is designed so that students should have: an appreciation of the nature and structure of urban space; a working knowledge of design theories regarding urban environments; an understanding of the methods commonly used by urban designers and the ability to evaluate the ‘quality’ of urban design for themselves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban and regional regeneration</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This modules tasks students to understand the theory and practice of urban regeneration and provides them with the ability to develop planning policy responses in different situations. To achieve this students will need to examine, and be able to discuss, alternative theoretic approaches to solving problems of urban renaissance and be able to critically evaluate examples of urban policies and plans associated with urban renaissance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban and regional regeneration project</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>This modules draws on the theoretical underpinnings of urban and regional regeneration and provides students with an opportunity to gain practical experience in the field of urban regeneration, developing their capacity to research and synthesise data from a variety of sources and to formulate policy responses in relation to a specific aspect of urban regeneration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban design and regeneration project</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Students will, by means of a realistic design brief through the process of analysing a large site, carry out necessary contextual studies and then prepare an urban design framework, an indicative site master plan and develop a smaller part of the site in more detail.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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## Core and selected optional modules overview

### Year Four

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Module description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development management: planning in practice</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>The module aims to extend student’s understanding of the practice, process and administration of the planning system and of the role of planners in it. It also enables students to develop the critical skills needed by planners to operate effectively – including the ability to negotiate, communicate and relate legislation and contemporary priorities to plan making, regulation and development within and beyond spatial planning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>1 and 2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>The dissertation is an independent piece of research undertaken by the student under the guidance of an academic supervisor. The research project is student led and will involve the development of a literature review, conceptual/methodological framework and the collection analysis of primary data.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning practice placement</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>The aim of the module is to integrate the taught elements of the MPlan with real world experience in planning practice. The placement provides students the opportunity to work for a client agency in order to gain first-hand experience of planning related work. During the placement, students will work under the guidance of a nominated client supervisor. It is expected that the work completed by students will contribute to the work of the respective client agencies and may involve a single project or contributions to a range of smaller projects and tasks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spatial planning in action</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>The purpose of this module is to engage students in a client related spatial plan making exercise. More specifically it aims to provide an opportunity for students to apply planning concepts and techniques in a practical context and provide students with the ability to identify, collect and synthesise a variety of relevant information from a variety of sources in relation to a spatial planning task. Students will also apply their knowledge to the evaluation of spatial planning options and develop objectives and strategies which are realistic and implementable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theory, power and ethics</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>The aim of this module is to provide the context and conception of planning as a professional activity. It examines the institutional perspective on planning activities in relation to politics and markets, and explores different strands of theories on the nature and purposes of planning. There are a number of specific objectives including providing a theoretical grounding on the nature and purposes of planning activities and planning practice. It also introduces planning as a political, administrative and technical process, and relates theories about planning to more general social theories of the state, society and professional ethics.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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