UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

BSc (Hons)

Geography

UCAS code F800

Entry requirements	Study mode	Duration
A level: ABB	Full-time	3 years

Apply by: **29 January 2025**
Starts on: **22 September 2025**

About this course

Geography offers unique insights into many of the most pressing issues facing the world in the 21st century, such as climate change, living with environmental change, sustainability, hazards, pollution, and natural resource management. Our Geography BSc (Hons) course helps you develop expert knowledge and skills to interrogate the range of different approaches to, and perspectives on, these issues, as well as the ability to understand how they interact.

The University of Liverpool is home to one of the longest established Geography departments in the world, with courses on offer since 1886. Our expertise in physical geography spans climate change (past, present and future), rivers and flooding, glaciology and ice sheets, coastal dynamics and management, vegetation change, sustainability, natural hazards and living with environmental change.

The Geography BSc (Hons) programme explores important questions about whether our planet's natural resources can sustain an increasing population, how physical earth systems respond to human activity and changing climate, how we manage our resources, and how we live with environmental change. If you are passionate about environmental issues and addressing problems on a local and global scale, this is the programme for you.

Introduction

Many people who take the Geography BSc (Hons) programme choose physical geography modules, which are more scientifically based. However, the full range of human geography modules is also open to you and the flexibility of the degree allows you to shape your own programme of study. This means that you can either specialise in physical geography or study both physical and human geography as part of a BSc degree.

You can also take up to two 15 credit modules per year from other subjects so you can maintain an interest in another discipline as part of your BSc Geography degree. We will guide you in your module choice to ensure that you choose modules that complement each other and follow a pathway that will help you to gain skills and knowledge relevant to your future career.

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

- Specialise in physical or human geography, or both
- Accredited by the Royal Geographical Society with IBG
- Fieldwork opportunities, internationally and closer to home
- A vibrant city to study, with dynamic marine and coastal environment
- Socio-cultural, political, and physical landscape evident within the city region
- Award-winning learning environment.

Accreditation

This programme is accredited by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG)

Accreditation in detail

Royal Geographical Society

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

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Course content

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

Year one

In order to give a strong foundation to your degree, all students take core modules in year one, which introduce you to the breadth of the subject and give you a grounding in the key concepts and skills which are integral to the rest of the course. You then get a choice of optional modules from within physical or human geography, or from other disciplines including geology, oceanography, ecology, earth sciences, life sciences, modern languages, sociology, psychology, and planning amongst many others.

Notice

Students will take the following compulsory modules and select from the optional modules detailed below.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
EXPERIMENTS IN PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY (ENVS120)	15
PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY FIELD CLASS (UK) (ENVS163)	15
LIVING WITH ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE (ENVS119)	15
STUDY SKILLS AND GIS (ENVS100)	30
THEORY AND LABORATORY EXPERIMENTS IN EARTH SURFACES PROCESSES (ENVS165)	15

Optional modules	Credits
CLIMATE, ATMOSPHERE AND OCEANS (ENVS111)	15
ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION (ENVS157)	15
HUMAN GEOGRAPHY THROUGH MERSEYSIDE (ENVS162)	15
SEDIMENTARY ROCKS AND FOSSILS (ENVS118)	15
MARINE ECOSYSTEMS: DIVERSITY, PROCESSES AND THREATS (ENVS122)	15
ESSENTIAL MATHS (ENVS117)	15
NEW HORIZONS IN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS116)	15
RESEARCH FRONTIERS IN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS161)	15
GLOBAL CHALLENGES: DEVELOPMENT, INEQUALITY, ALTERNATIVES (ENVS144)	15
INTRODUCTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND MITIGATION (ENVS189)	15

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

Year two

In year two, skills development is a central part of the course, including a week-long field class to Lorca, Spain. You can then choose additional modules from a range of physical geography specialisms, including Climatology, Catchment hydrology, Geomorphology: ice, sea and air, and Soils, slopes and the environment, along with human geography modules and those from other disciplines.

Notice

Students will take the following compulsory modules and select from the optional modules detailed below.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK COURSE (ENVS228)	15
PRINCIPLES AND THEORY IN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS249)	15
RESEARCH SKILLS (GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS203)	15

Optional modules	Credits
AN INTRODUCTION TO ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY (ENVS223)	15
CATCHMENT HYDROLOGY (ENVS217)	15
CHANGING ENVIRONMENTS (ENVS214)	15
CLIMATOLOGY (ENVS231)	15
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (ENVS218)	15
GEOMORPHOLOGY: ICE, SEA AND AIR (ENVS252)	15
GIS FOR HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ENVS257)	15
KEY SKILLS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DATA ANALYSIS (ENVS202)	15
MARINE ECOPHYSIOLOGY, ECOLOGY AND EXPLOITATION (ENVS251)	15
POLITICAL ECONOMIES OF GLOBALISATION (ENVS264)	15
POPULATION AND SOCIETIES (ENVS221)	15
RURAL GEOGRAPHIES (ENVS227)	15

Optional modules	Credits
SOCIAL AND CULTURAL GEOGRAPHIES (ENVS275)	15
EXPLORING THE SOCIAL WORLD (ENVS225)	15
MARINE POLLUTION (ENVS232)	15
OCEANOGRAPHY, PLANKTON AND CLIMATE (ENVS245)	15
SOILS, SLOPES AND THE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS238)	15

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

Year three

In year three, you will complete a dissertation, which brings together the skills and techniques you have learned in the degree to produce an independent piece of academic research. There are also opportunities for overseas field study.

Notice

Students will select compulsory dissertation or work-based dissertation modules (30 credits) in addition to six (four if taking the optional field class module) of the optional modules detailed below.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
DISSERTATION (GEOGRAPHY & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS321)	30

Optional modules	Credits
CLIMATE CHANGE - A CRITICAL REVIEW (ENVS389)	15

Optional modules	Credits
COASTAL ENVIRONMENTS: SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL CHANGE (ENVS376)	15
BODIES, SPACE AND POWER (ENVS344)	15
FLUVIAL ENVIRONMENTS (ENVS372)	15
GEOGRAPHIC DATA SCIENCE (ENVS363)	15
BUILDING BETTER WORLDS (ENVS387)	15
GLOBAL CARBON CYCLE (ENVS335)	15
HUMAN-ENVIRONMENTAL INTERACTIONS (ENVS315)	15
NATURAL HAZARDS AND SOCIETY (ENVS319)	15
OCEAN DYNAMICS (ENVS332)	15
POSTCOLONIAL GEOGRAPHIES (ENVS334)	15
SURVIVING THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS310)	15
TEACHING GEOGRAPHY (ENVS308)	15
INTRODUCTION TO QUATERNARY MICROPALAEONTOLOGY (ENVS342)	15
CARBON, NUTRIENTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION (ENVS381)	15
GLACIOLOGY PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE (ENVS330)	15
CONTEMPORARY POPULATION DYNAMICS (ENVS311)	15
SOCIAL AND SPATIAL INEQUALITIES (ENVS357)	15

Optional modules	Credits
POLAND: POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL GEOGRAPHIES SINCE 1939 (ENVS313)	15
WORK-BASED DISSERTATION (GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE) (ENVS323)	30
FIELD CLASS (ALGARVE, PORTUGAL) (ENVS380)	30
FIELDWORK: LIVERPOOL & ITS REGION (ENVS365)	15
CONSERVING THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT (ENVS361)	15

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

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

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

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

A number of the School's degree programmes involve laboratory and fieldwork. The fieldwork is carried out in various locations, ranging from inner city to coastal and mountainous environments. We consider applications from prospective students with

disabilities on the same basis as all other students, and reasonable adjustments will be considered to address barriers to access.

How you're assessed

Assessments are designed around developing skills and styles of communication that will be relevant to future employers. So, in addition to exams and essays, you will also undertake assessments that include computer-based exercises, oral presentations, policy briefs, field projects, and research reports. Single Honours Geography students complete a compulsory 10,000-word dissertation in their final year on a topic of their choice. This is your opportunity to develop skills as an independent academic researcher, supported on a one-to-one basis by an expert in the field.

Liverpool Hallmarks

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

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

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

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

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

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

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Careers and employability

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

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

You can explore the following work experience opportunities:

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

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

Work experience opportunities

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

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Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year - £9,535
Year in industry fee - £1,905
Year abroad fee - £1,430 (applies to year in China)

International fees

Full-time place, per year - £29,100
Year in industry fee - £1,905
Year abroad fee - £14,550 (applies to year in China)

The tuition fees shown are correct for 2025/26 entry. Please note that the year abroad fee also applies to the year in China.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support. Learn more about paying for your studies.

Additional costs

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This includes the cost of your dissertation/project, and optional field classes in year three.

Students should expect to cover the following costs.

Year three optional field class:

Year three optional field class:

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

Project/dissertation costs:

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

Find out more about additional study costs.

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Entry requirements

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

A levels

ABB including Geography A level or an A level in another science subject.

Narrowly missed the entry requirements on results day? If you've studied these subjects, we may take them into account:

If Geography not taken, one science subject to at least AS level grade B is acceptable.

Acceptable Science Subjects: Geography, Geology, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics, Further Maths, Environmental Science (NOT Environmental Studies), Applied Science, Computer Science.

For applicants from England: Where a science has been taken at A level (Chemistry, Biology, Geology or Physics), a pass in the Science practical of each subject will be required

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 are not currently accepted.

GCSE

4/C in English and 4/C in Mathematics

Subject requirements

For applicants studying A levels with English exam boards: Where a science has been taken at A level (Chemistry, Biology, Geology or Physics), a pass in the Science practical of each subject will be required.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma

D*DD in a relevant subject.

International Baccalaureate

33 points, with no score less than 4.

Irish Leaving Certificate

H1, H2, H2, H2, H3, H3

Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher

Not accepted without Advanced Highers at grades ABB.

Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced

Accepted at grade B, including 2 A levels at AB.

Access

45 Level 3 credits in graded units 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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