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for Geography and Environmental Science

The Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide (2023)

16<sup>th</sup>

for Geography and Environmental Sciences

The Complete University Guide (2024)

**Top 100** 

in the world for Geography

in the QS World Ranking league table (2023) We offer you a suite of degree schemes and a diverse range of module choices wrapped up in a flexible approach to learning. This allows you to tailor your learning to your area of geographical interest, and ensures we maintain a vibrant learning culture with satisfied students and impressive career prospects.

#### Geography

Geography is a distinctive subject that links the natural and social sciences in a quest to solve issues of global significance. Study in our outstanding practical facilities, explore our beautiful surroundings, take part in international field trips and learn from world-renowned lecturers

#### **Human Geography**

Gain first-hand experience of the ways in which people interact with their environment and how they form communities, cultures and economies.

Study a diverse range of modules that are developed and taught by our world-class academics who are leading experts in human, environmental and political geography.

#### Physical Geography

Learn about processes operating within our natural environment and explore the physical world, whilst working in our outstanding practical facilities alongside world-renowned lecturers. Choose from a wide range of modules delivered across Lancaster Environment Centre

#### Joint degrees

Studying geography provides a global perspective on issues facing humanity. Link your degree with another discipline (economics or modern languages) to provide a global perspective on issues of economy, language and culture.

# Made for learning

#### Flexible and interdisciplinary

We believe that you will excel in your degree when exploring in-depth the areas of geography that you are particularly interested in. Your first year of study will give you the skills to succeed. From Year two onwards, you will begin to specialise, choosing to study the topics which fascinate you the most.

What's more, studying in a multidisciplinary department gives you the unique opportunity to expand the breadth of your degree by taking modules in Environmental Science or Ecology.

#### Practical study

You won't just learn in lecture theatres at Lancaster!
We place great emphasis on practical learning, whether that is in our new teaching labs or out in the field. Practical learning enables you to put theory into practice and understand the principles underpinning the topics you are studying, whilst also developing skills which will be of use throughout your degree and future career.

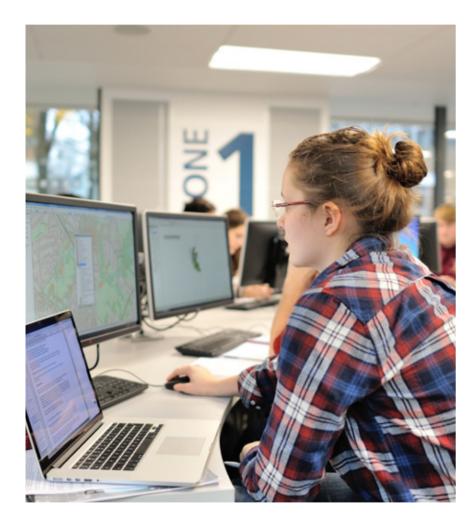
#### Industry links

We give you the opportunity to enhance your CV throughout your degree. This is crucial in order to stand out in the graduate jobs market.

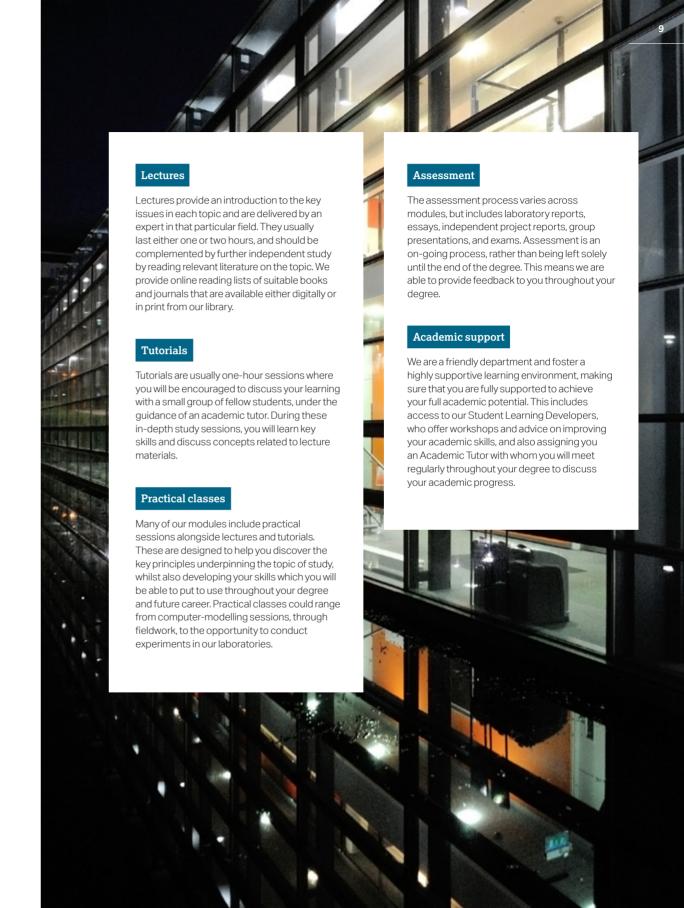
Our in-house Enterprise and Business Partnerships team engages with hundreds of different businesses giving you invaluable experience of working alongside these organisations, including during your dissertation project.



# Your **study**



Our academics are leaders in their fields and deliver enthusiastic and engaging teaching through a range of methods.



# Equipped for achievement



Lancaster Environment Centre is the University's largest department, with newly enhanced facilities, teaching rooms, laboratories and social spaces.



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# Learning on location

We take full advantage of our natural surroundings to create amazing fieldwork experiences, in addition to the opportunities to travel the world with residential and overseas field trips.

Fieldwork is a fascinating way to develop your practical skills. You'll gain hands-on experience of a wide range of environmental, ecological and geological situations that will place your studies in the context of real-world issues.





#### Blackpool Zoo

Learn about conservation efforts and how conservation priorities are determined in a visit to Blackpool Zoo in your first year.

#### Kingsdale

Develop your glaciology field skills during a first year trip to Kingsdale in the local Yorkshire Dales.

#### Heysham

Unravel the geological history of the area and learn geoscience techniques as part of a second year module at the Heysham coastline.

#### Museum of Science and Industry

Discover the links between fossil fuels and the Industrial Revolution and their impacts on our climate during a third year trip to the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester.

#### Manchester and Salford

Critically explore how the physical infrastructure of Salford and Manchester is experienced by different groups of people.

#### Lancaster Wastewater Treatment Works

Learn first-hand how and why wastewater is treated before being released into the environment during a third year trip to the local treatment works.



# Learning on location For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography

#### Switzerland

This is an intensive week-long residential field trip to south west Switzerland. You will select from one of six interconnected study themes to explore in depth, spanning: alpine climate and hydrology; glacial processes; alpine rivers; streams; soils; and ecosystems. Through the collection of significant amounts of field data on your chosen theme you will gain an in depth understanding of a particular thematic focus of alpine environments.

#### Italy

Visit Mount Etna, Europe's largest active volcano, and study the complex processes that take place both on the surface and beneath volcanoes. During this intensive week-long field trip, you will explore a number of physical volcanic processes, including lava flow emplacement, explosive events and the evolution of a basaltic volcano. In addition, you will also evaluate methods of managing volcanic hazards on heavily populated active volcanoes. This field trip is only available to students who have taken specified

pre-requisite modules.

#### Croatia

Visit Croatia with us and explore the Istrian Peninsula, an idyllic landscape of olive groves, forests, wineries and beaches. This environment is strongly governed by its geology, biodiversity and position between differing climates, whilst Istria is also the setting of dramatic socio-economic, political and environmental changes. During this trip, you will focus on the challenges of environmental management, particularly of water resources, in this unique landscape.

# The place for the researcher

Renowned experts, at the forefront of their fields, are shaping our understanding of the world. Their work feeds into our degree programmes, ensuring that your education is informed by cutting-edge thinking. During your degree you'll conduct your own independent research project where you'll benefit from the research experience of our internationally renowned staff and be exposed to the latest technology used in cutting-edge research laboratories.

### Colonial legacies and contemporary realities of sanitation work in South Asia

DDr Sally Cawood and Dr Pratik Mishra, members of the Political Ecologies cluster in LEC, are working on an ESRC-funded project on Hazardous Sanitation Labour in Bangladesh (2022-25). Using archival and participatory action research, the study seeks to better understand caste and colonial legacies of the occupation, why hazardous forms of waste work (such as manual cleaning of septic tanks and sewers) persist, and how workers - especially educated youth - seek to exit or improve the work. The study forms part of a wider agenda to highlight the working realities and priorities of sanitation workers who are consistently overlooked in policy and practice. As well as community and practitioner partners in Bangladesh, the research involves an international advisory network including academics, Dalit rights activists, and labour advocates, to foster learning and sharing across contexts. Initial findings from the archival research indicates that workers are largely absent or adversely incorporated into the historical record, via derogatory and de-humanising terms, and mentioned only fleetingly in relation to wider concerns over infrastructure and public health. Through this project, we hope to raise visibility of sanitation workers and the vital contributions they have made, and still make, to the formation and functioning of towns and cities around the world.

#### Restoring seabird-led nutrient cycles

Professor Nick Graham is Principal Researcher of a study into the eradication of rats from tropical islands. The Lancaster University-led study shows that critical cycles of seabird nutrients flowing to coral reefs are re-established within relatively short time periods after rats are removed – even around islands that have been infested for hundreds of years.

The findings offer encouragement that rat eradication can benefit coral reefs, because these nutrient flows can bolster the health of delicate coral reef ecosystems and may improve their chances of rebounding between climate disturbance events.

Seabirds are a critically important distributor of nutrients for island and marine environments. They feed on fish often in the open ocean far from islands, and then return to islands to roost – depositing nitrogen-rich nutrients on the island in the form of guano – or poo. Some of the guano is then leached off the islands by rain and into the surrounding seas where the nitrogen fertilises corals and other marine species such as algae and sponges, boosting the food-chain.

However, over the last several centuries people introduced rats to many tropical islands through settlement, sailing between islands and shipwrecks. Rats are a very damaging invasive species, consuming the seeds of many plants, and devastating bird populations as they eat eggs, chicks, and even adults of the smallest seabird species.

This study adds to the weight of evidence suggesting rat eradication can have substantial conservation benefits to tropical island and adjacent marine ecosystems. The nutrient cycles that returning seabirds bring can bolster coral and fish assemblages. With climate impacts severely impacting coral reefs, management actions to boost the ecosystem are incredibly important.

#### Wind direction can boost solar panel efficiency

Research led by Dr Alona Armstrong, has shown that a southerly wind can increase the electricity output of a solar park by up to 43%. The increased output is caused by the cooling effect of the wind on the photovoltaic panels counteracting the negative impact of the solar panels warming up. The work was conducted by LEC Master's student Damon Waterworth and established that, as expected, solar radiation has the greatest influence over electricity output with relative humidity also playing an important role. However, when isolated from the influence of other meteorological variables, wind direction can vary electricity output by 20% to 43%, with greater differences occurring when solar radiation and electricity output are higher. Understanding the effect of different weather conditions on the output of renewable energy technology allows more accurate predictions of electricity generation. This is increasingly important as the proportion of renewables in our energy mix increases. Until now however, there have been limited field studies that investigate the impact of different weather conditions on solar panels in the real world and the impact of wind speed and direction on solar panel efficiency has been entirely overlooked. Consequently, this research highlights the need to better understand wind impacts in the field and help inform management of the electricity grid. The research was undertaken at Westmill Solar Park (www.westmillsolar. coop/), Oxfordshire, using meteorology data collected by Dr Armstrong and electricity output data provided by Westmill Solar Cooperative Limited.





#### Environmental volunteering

Our Green Lancaster scheme provides you with plenty of opportunities to become more sustainable and promote positive environmental choices. The many nature reserves near to Lancaster offer volunteering opportunities. Within Lancaster Environment Centre, we also offer you volunteering opportunities, either with external partners specifically in the environment sector or as a research assistant in our own laboratories or research groups.

#### **Environmental Education and Nature-Based Pedagogy**

This hands-on module provides an exciting opportunity for you to put your geographical skills to work in a real school setting, thereby gaining valuable work experience. We organise for you to spend some time working with staff and pupils in local primary and secondary schools where you can help to deliver outdoor education alongside the Morecambe Bay Curriculum that is currently being designed with Eden Project North. Not only is this an excellent insight into a career in teaching, but you will also return from your placement as a confident communicator and well versed in the latest debates in nature-based pedagogy.

#### Eco-innovation

Eco-innovation is the development of new products, processes or services that support business growth with a positive environmental impact. This second year module will not only provide you with a knowledge of eco-innovation and how the concept relates to business opportunities, but you will also acquire the knowledge and skillset required to understand how organisations apply eco-innovation into their business planning. As a part of the module, you will learn how to create proposals for eco-innovation and prepare presentations for a panel of experts.

#### Placement year

Our placement year scheme provides you with support to secure a paid work placement during the third year of a four year degree scheme. You will experience twelve months working in the type of organisation that you might aspire to join when you graduate. The placement offers you the opportunity to work as a full-time employee of the organisation, with the same training and opportunities as other employees, whilst still receiving both academic and pastoral support from Lancaster University.

#### Internship opportunities

Our Faculty of Science and Technology internship programme gives you the opportunity to obtain high quality, relevant work experience that will help you stand out when applying for graduate jobs. They will help you to really accelerate your development of vital sector-specific and transferable skills. Full-time, 2-3-month summer internship opportunities are available from July to September. Part-time internships are available all year round at varying durations to fit around your academic requirements.

# Peter's placement story



I study BSc Physical Geography with Placement Year. Whilst the classic undergraduate degree is 3 years in duration, the placement course is 4 years long, with the first 2 years spent studying at Lancaster, the 3rd away on placement and the 4th back at Lancaster.

My placement was with Atkins, a global design and engineering company, and I was within the Water Management Consultancy team. I secured my placement through the Atkins application portal and it consisted of many stages such as a situational judgment test and an interview.

Due to the modules I had studied within LEC, I had a bank of skills and experience I was able to draw upon during the application stage, improving my application. The career service at Lancaster was also really supportive, helping at each stage and explaining what Atkins would be looking for in a candidate.

Whilst on placement, I worked in many areas of the Water Management Consultancy team. For example, I worked on Flood Risk Assessments, Water Quality Reports and Flood Economic Appraisals. I loved the variety of projects that I experienced as no day was the same, and I was constantly working with new people, and learning new skills.

I really enjoyed my placement, and I would highly recommend it. Not only does it give you the opportunity to utilise the skills you've gained during the first two years of your degree and use them whilst on placement, but it also provides you with new skills and experiences that you can take back with you when you complete your final year at university.



# Peter Elder



**BSc Physical Geography** 

Enhance your studies, boost your self-confidence and immerse yourself in the culture of another country as part of our exciting opportunities to study overseas.

#### Study abroad

Broaden your academic horizons by spending your third year studying abroad in either North America or Australasia. You'll study similar modules to those available in Lancaster whilst gaining an understanding of a different culture and society. For those studying the BA/BSc you will spend Year 3 overseas, returning to Lancaster to complete your degree in Year 4. For the MArts/Msci you will spend Year 2 overseas.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/study-abroad

#### Other opportunities abroad

There are other options for students who are not on the Study Abroad programme, e.g. shorter travel options during the summer holidays.

For more information, please visit

#### www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/global-experiences/

We are also developing a number of new opportunities for short study placements across Europe and beyond. These opportunities, which you would be able to sign up for, will be announced as they become available.

#### Student support

Studying on the other side of the world can be a daunting prospect. In addition to having a dedicated advisor, who will help you decide where to go and what to study, you'll also have the opportunity to network with students who have previously studied abroad and who are able to provide you with a wealth of practical tips. Additionally, our Global Experiences team is on hand to help you with application forms and the financial and legal aspects of studying overseas.

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# Grace's study abroad year



During my MSci Physical Geography degree at Lancaster, I had the opportunity to study abroad for a year at the University of Colorado, Boulder. It is a stunning university in the heart of the United States, nestled at the base of the Rocky Mountains.

This opportunity provided me with a variety of interesting but challenging modules (or 'classes' as they would say over the pond) to explore. One module that I found particularly engaging was Field Geology, in which I mapped spectacular expanses of the Rockies in weekly field trip excursions. Even the cold (-15° C at times) couldn't ruin the extraordinary views I was lucky enough to experience whilst taking this class!

Out of the classroom, I made incredible friends through the swim team and even more incredible memories. Such included weekend skiing trips, hiking the Flatirons, and attending incredible sports competitions (my favourite sports to watch being basketball and ice hockey).

Even though there were challenges (culture shock is not something to underestimate), and my time was cut short due to Covid-19, I learnt so much about myself and my capabilities. I would implore anyone looking for a life-changing experience during their degree to seize the adventure for themselves.



#### Fees and funding

Details about the costs of Study Abroad, which can be used as a guideline, can be found at: www.lancaster.ac.uk/study-abroad/costs/

# Grace Spong



MSci Physical Geography (Study Abroad)



## What was it about the course that made it the right one for you?

For me, it was definitely the variety of module options that I was offered throughout the degree scheme.

From covering the basics of cultural, developmental and economic geographies in first year to studying the environmental and economic impacts of energy or methods of eco-innovation in my second, I was always studying something new and something that I had chosen to study because I was truly interested in which I think is pivotal to a good degree scheme.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography

# Does your course encompass more physical geography, human geography, or a combination of both?

When I left school, I distinctly remember my geography teachers trying to sway me each way to study either physical or human geography as when I was at university "I would have to choose".

However, at Lancaster the interdisciplinary approach that is offered has meant that I don't have to choose which has been one of my favourite parts of the course so far. I have always loved human geography, but I have also always had an interest in some aspect of the physical side of the course.

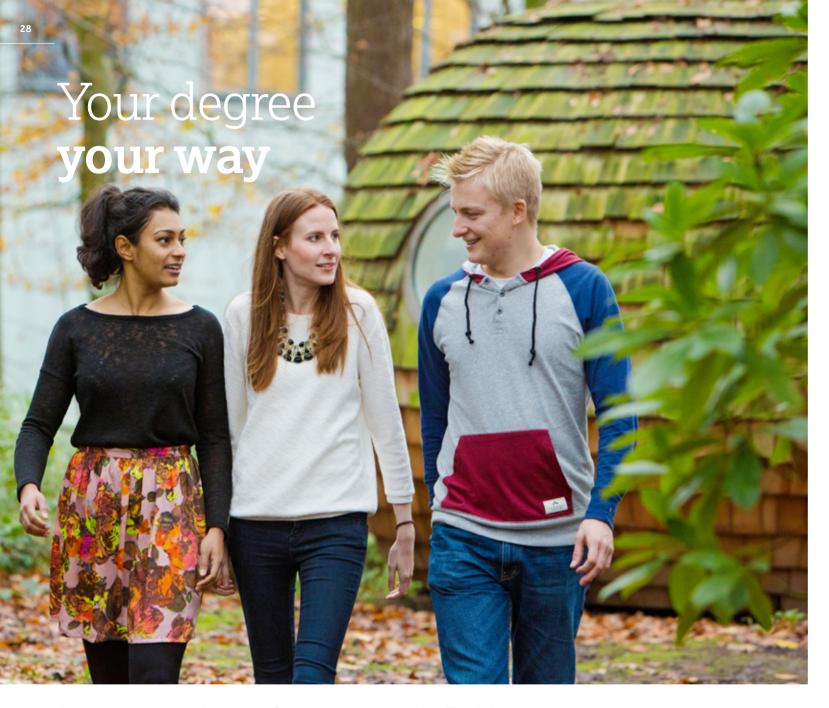
Studying Economic Geography in my second year alongside a module on geo-social spaces investigating the relationship between humans and the environment, on which I am now doing my dissertation, was only possible due to the interdisciplinary nature of the degree scheme at Lancaster!

# How is Lancaster equipping you with skills to ensure you are career-ready?

The variety of teaching and assessments have really helped me to develop my learning and prepare me for life after university. From presentations, group work, literature

review practice, interviews and even writing mock research proposals there are copious amounts of opportunities to hone skills you will rely on every day after university.

Also, the state-of-the-art labs we have here at Lancaster are excellent for people who want to go into further research in geography enabling them to learn skills in everything from water chemistry to the collection of biophysical data from trees!



At Lancaster, no two degrees in Geography are ever alike. That's because we offer flexibility in module choice across all three years, allowing you to tailor your degree to your learning interests and skills needs.

#### Year 1

In Year 1, you have the option to study the 'Double Part 1' in Geography comprising human and physical aspects of the discipline. This means you'll spend two thirds of first year taking geography modules, leaving one third available to choose a subject to study from another department (this is known as the 'minor subject').

If you prefer to specialise in Human or Physical Geography only, you can just select the Part 1 Human Geography or Part 1 Physical Geography modules respectively. This leaves two thirds of your degree to be obtained through studying 'minor subjects' from another department.

There is a wide range of subjects to choose from, and we offer personal advice to help you decide. Generally, human geographers normally choose arts or social sciences such as sociology, politics, history, psychology, economics or marketing. Physical geographers tend towards science subjects like environmental or biological sciences, mathematics or statistics, or information technology. This distinctive system offers a breadth of education that many employers appreciate.

In Year 1, you can expect around 15 total contact hours per week. Each official contact hour should be supplemented by 4–5 hours of independent study time.

#### Year 2

In Year 2, there is a compulsory core of modules covering key concepts and techniques in geography. You will also take a number of optional modules which let you tailor your degree to your particular interests. One module in another subject outside geography (either within or outside Lancaster Environment Centre), continued from the first year, can be taken in Year 2, but there are enough modules to allow you to study only geography. There are also a number of optional overseas field courses.

#### Year 3

In your final year, your dissertation provides an opportunity for you to perform original geographical research on a topic of your choice, guided by your supervisor. In addition, you choose six modules from a range of areas of geography (either within or outside Lancaster Environment Centre). These modules are taught by staff with research expertise in the topics covered. One module in another subject outside of geography, continued from the first or second years, may be taken in the third year, but again you can choose to study only geography.

# Geography

### BA, BSc Hons

#### **BA Hons Geography**

L700 (3 years)

#### **BA Hons Geography (Placement Year)**

L704 (4 years with Year 3 spent on placement)

#### BA Hons Geography (Study Abroad)

L70

(4 years with Year 3 spent overseas at a partner university)

#### **BSc Hons Geography**

F800 (3 years)

#### BSc Hons Geography (Placement Year)

F803 (4 years with Year 3 spent on placement)

#### **BSc Hons Geography (Study Abroad)**

E804

(4 years with Year 3 spent overseas at a partner university)

### Entry requirements for BA/BSc Hons Geography and BA/BSc Geography (Placement Year)

A level ABB
BTEC DDM<sup>1</sup>

#### International Baccalaureate

32 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6 or an alternative cognate subject

### Entry requirements for BA/BSc Hons Geography (Study Abroad)

A level AAB
BTEC DDD¹

#### International Baccalaureate

36 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6 or an alternative cognate subject

<sup>1</sup> Distinction required in a related subject but we may additionally require a supporting A level in Geography at grade B (grade A for Study Abroad variants), or an alternative cognate subject. Please contact the Admissions Office for further advice.

#### Required subjects

A level Geography is recommended, or alternatively one of the following subjects: Anthropology, Biology, Chemistry, Classics, Economics, English Literature, Environmental Studies, Geology, History, Mathematics, Philosophy, Physics, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, World Development.

GCSE Mathematics grade C or 4 GCSE English Language grade C or 4

#### Degree overview and structure

Geography is a distinctive subject: you will learn about the Earth's landscapes, species, places and environment in a broad discipline that merges natural and social sciences.

In first year you will study the 'Double Part 1' enabling a broad understanding of human and physical geography to be obtained. This comprises two thirds of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying another subject (known as the 'minor' subject) either from Lancaster Environment Centre, or from another department. This enables you to tailor your studies to your area of interest whilst keeping a broad outlook on your first year of learning.

Specialisation begins in second year, enabling you to choose topics that match your interests. Core modules will focus on practical work, giving you a range of analytical and research project skills, optional modules will include some exciting international field trips.

In the third year, you will undertake a dissertation project, guided by your academic supervisor, which offers a chance to perform original geographical research on a topic of your choice, whilst also being offered further module choices. Throughout your degree, considerable weight is placed upon enhancing your employability and such skills are greatly valued by potential employers.

#### Year 1

- + Double Part 1 Geography + one other subject
- + Placement Preparation (Placement Year students)

#### Year 2

#### Core modules

- + Being a Geographer: Issues, Ethics and Skills
- + Research Methods in Human Geography
- + Research Methods in Physical Geography
- + Spatial Analysis and Geographic Information Systems
- + Beyond LEC: Steps to career success

#### Optional modules

- + Atmospheric Science •
- + Catchment Hydrology •
- + Cultural Geography
- + Development, Geography and the Majority World
- + Economic Geography
- + Energy, Economy and Environment
- + Evolution◆
- + Geoscience in Practice +
- + Geosocial Spaces
- + Glacial and Fluvial Landscape Processes
- + Introduction to Eco-Innovation

#### + Investigating Mediterranean Environments †

- + People and the Sea
- + Political Geography
- + Populations to Ecosystems •
- + Principles of Biodiversity Conservation◆
- + Soil Science◆



#### Core modules

+ Dissertation

#### Optional modules

+ Africa: Geographies of Transformation

### + Alpine Environmental Processes t

- + The Causes and Consequences of Environmental Radioactivity
- + Cities and Globalization
- + Climate and Society
- + Coastal Processes
- + Coral Reef Ecology ♦
- + Environment, Politics and Society in Amazonia
- + Environmental Governance and the Biodiversity Crisis
- + Environmental Remote Sensing and Image Processing
- + Geographical Information Systems: Principles and Practice
- + Geographies of Health: understanding tackling inequity
- + Geological Hazards •
- + Glacial Systems
- + Global Change and the Earth System ◆
- + Global Change Biology: Challenges and Solutions ◆
- + Hydrogeology ◆

# + Hydrological Processes (Slapton) †

- + Introduction to Geophysical Techniques ◆
- + Issues in Conservation Biology •
- + Lakes, Rivers and Estuaries
- + Sustainable Agriculture
- + The Dynamic Earth lacktriangle

#### +Volcanic Processes Field Course †

- + Water Resources Management
- + Water, Society and the Istrian Landscape †

#### Year 4

Placement year and returning study abroad students study modules described in Year 3

- t = Field trip
- ◆ = Prerequisites required

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# **Human Geography**

#### **BA Hons**

#### **BA Hons Human Geography**

L720 (3 years)

#### **BA Hons Human Geography (Placement Year)**

L723 (4 years with Year 3 spent on placement)

#### **BA Hons Human Geography (Study Abroad)**

L724 (4 years with Year 3 spent overseas at a partner university)

### Requirements for BA Hons Human Geography and BA Hons Human Geography (Placement Year)

A level ABB
BTEC DDM<sup>1</sup>

#### International Baccalaureate

32 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6 or an alternative cognate subject

### Entry requirements for BA Hons Human Geography (Study Abroad)

A level AAB
BTEC DDD<sup>1</sup>

#### International Baccalaureate

35 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6 or an alternative cognate subject

<sup>1</sup> Distinction required in a related subject but we may additionally require a supporting A level in Geography at grade B (grade A for Study Abroad variants), or an alternative cognate subject. Please contact the Admissions Office for further advice.

#### Required subject

A level Geography is recommended, or alternatively one of the following subjects: Anthropology, Classics, Economics, English Literature, History, Philosophy, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, World Development.

GCSE English Language (C or 4), Mathematics (C or 4)

#### Degree overview and structure

With a unique blend of social sciences and geography, gain first-hand experience of the ways in which people interact with their environment and how they form communities, cultures and economies.

In first year you can choose to study either the 'Double Part 1' enabling a broad understanding of human, physical and environmental geography to be obtained, or you can choose to specialise immediately by just studying Part 1 Human Geography. This latter option is ideal for those of you who know for certain that human geography is your passion. If you choose to study the Double Part 1, this comprises two thirds of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying another subject from a different department (this is known as the 'minor' subject). If you study just the Part 1 Human Geography, this comprises only one third of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying two additional subjects from other departments. These additional 'minor' subjects provide the opportunity to explore other social sciences such as sociology or politics, or gain transferable skills in economics or marketing, for example,

In the second year, you will undertake a series of core modules that focus on human geography skills and concepts. Optional choices include a field trip to Spain and modules that address individual topics in culture and politics, as well as our Communicating Geography module in which you can help teach the subject in a local school, gaining valuable classroom experience.

In the third year you will undertake a dissertation project, guided by your academic supervisor, which offers a chance to perform original geographical research on a topic of your choice. While completing the dissertation, you will use the key research, analytical and academic writing skills you have learnt throughout your degree. In addition, you may select from a range of optional modules which cover topics such as food and agriculture, health, enterprise and global consumption, as well as field trips to New York, Croatia and the Brazilian Amazon. Those returning from their placement or Study Abroad year will spend fourth year completing the module structure for Year 3.

#### Year 1

- + Double Part 1 Geography + one other subject OR
- + Part 1 Human Geography + two other subjects
- + Placement Preparation (Placement Year students)

#### Year 2

#### Core modules

- + Research Methods in Human Geography
- + Being a Geographer: Issues, Ethics and Skills
- + Spatial Analysis and Geographical Information Systems
- + Beyond LEC: Steps to career success

#### **Optional modules**

- + Cultural Geography
- + Development, Geography and the Majority World
- + Economic Geography
- + Geosocial Spaces
- + Introduction to Eco-Innovation
- + People and the Sea
- + Political Geography

#### Year:

#### Core modules

+ Dissertation

#### **Optional modules**

- + Africa: Geographies of Transformation
- + Cities and Globalization
- + Climate and Society
- + Environment, Politics and Society in Amazonia
- + Environmental Governance and the Biodiversity Crisis
- + Geographical Information Systems: Principles and Practice
- + Geographies of Health: understanding tackling inequity
- + Water, Society and the Istrian Landscape †

#### Year 4

Placement year and returning study abroad students study modules described in Year 3

† = Field trip



# Emma Cresswell BA Human Geography and Politics

My degree has allowed me to explore the world from the comfort of the beautiful city of Lancaster. The University offered me a wide variety of module choices from Globalisation and Urban Landscapes to Political Geographies and International Organisations, allowing me to personalise my degree to areas that interest me most. Lancaster's flexible degree system meant that I could combine my Geography degree with Politics to enhance my knowledge of international relations and global political systems, complementing my Geography degree perfectly!



# **Physical Geography**

#### BSc and MSci Hons

**BSc Hons Physical Geography** F840 (3 years)

**BSc Hons Physical Geography (Placement Year)** F841 (4 years with Year 3 spent on placement)

**BSc Hons Physical Geography (Study Abroad)** F848 (4 years with Year 3 spent overseas at a partner university)

Entry requirements for BSc Hons Physical Geography & BSc Physical Geography (Placement Year)

A level ABB
BTEC DDM<sup>1</sup>

#### International Baccalaureate

32 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6. or an alternative cognate subject

### Entry requirements for BSc Hons Physical Geography (Study Abroad)

A level AAB
BTEC DDD¹

#### International Baccalaureate

36 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6 or an alternative cognate subject

<sup>1</sup> Distinction required in a related subject but we may additionally require a supporting A level in Geography at grade B (grade A for Study Abroad variants), or an alternative cognate subject. Please contact the Admissions Office for further advice

#### Required subjects

A level Geography is recommended or alternatively one of the following subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Environmental Studies, Mathematics, Physics

GCSE English Language (C or 4), Mathematics (C or 4)

We also offer Physical Geography as an MSci degree. See website for details.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography

#### Degree overview and structure

Physical geography considers the processes and patterns occurring within our natural environment, including the atmosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere and geosphere. You will discover how the environment has changed in the past, the controls on environmental processes in the present, and how we can predict changes in the future.

Lancaster proves to be an exceptional location for studying a degree in physical geography. You will gain a wealth of hands-on experience with field trips to places such as the Yorkshire Dales, Cumbrian coast and Lake District, as well as international locations such as Switzerland, the Mediterranean and Croatia.

In first year you can choose to study either the 'Double Part 1' enabling a broad understanding of human, physical and environmental geography or you can choose to specialise by just studying Part 1 Physical Geography. This latter option is ideal for those of you who know for certain that physical geography is your passion. If you choose to study the Double Part 1, this comprises two thirds of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying another subject (known as the 'minor' subject). If you study just the Part 1 Physical Geography, this comprises only one third of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying two additional subjects (one from Lancaster Environment Centre, and the other from wider afield in the University). The additional (otherwise known as 'minor') subjects provide the opportunity to broaden your understanding of environmental processes, whilst providing flexibility of subject choice.

In the second year, you will learn a variety of physical geography skills and concepts in preparation for your final year of study. Optional module choices include a field trip to Spain, where you will study environmental problems in Mediterranean environments, and modules that address individual topics, for example Fluvial processes and glaciology.

In the third year you will undertake a dissertation project, guided by your academic supervisor. This offers a chance to perform original geographical research on a topic of your choice. While completing the dissertation, you will use the key research, analytical and academic writing skills you have learnt throughout your degree. In addition, you will be offered further optional module choices including exciting fieldwork opportunities in Croatia and Switzerland. Those returning from their placement and Study Abroad year will spend fourth year completing the module structure for Year 3.

#### Year 1

- + Double Part 1 Geography + one other subject OR
- + Part 1 Physical Geography + two other subjects
- + Placement Preparation (Placement Year students)

#### Year 2

#### Core modules

- + Research methods in Physical Geography
- + Being a Geographer: Issues, Ethics and Skills
- + Research Project Skills
- + Spatial Analysis and Geographical Information Systems
- + Beyond LEC: Steps to career success

#### Optional modules

- + Atmospheric Science •
- + Catchment Hydrology •
- + Energy, Economy and Environment
- + Evolution ♦
- + Geoscience in Practice •
- + Introduction to Eco-Innovation

#### + Investigating Mediterranean Environments †

- + Populations to Ecosystems •
- + Principles of Biodiversity Conservation ◆
- + Soil Science

#### Year 3

#### Core modules

+ Dissertation

#### **Optional modules**

- + Alpine Environmental Processes †
- + Causes and Consequences of Environmental Radioactivity
- + Coastal Processes
- + Coral Reef Ecology◆
- + Environmental Remote Sensing and Image Processing
- + Geological Hazards ◆
- + Glacial Systems
- + Global Change and the Earth System ♦
- + Global Change Biology: Challenges and Solutions ◆
- + Hydrogeology ◆

#### + Hydrological Processes (Slapton) †

- + Introduction to Geophysical Techniques ◆
- + Issues in Conservation Biology •
- $+\, \mathsf{Lakes}, \mathsf{Rivers}\, \mathsf{and}\, \mathsf{Estuaries}$
- + Sustainable Agriculture
- + The Dynamic Earth ◆
- + Volcanic Processes †
- + Water Resources Management •

#### Year 4

Placement year and returning Study Abroad students study modules described in Year 3

#### † = Field trip

◆ = Prerequisites required



# Ethan Davies **BSc Hons Physical Geography**

Geography at Lancaster University is extremely personalised and unique, in the sense that you have great freedom in choosing optional modules that interest you. You also get a balanced mix of optional modules and compulsory modules, which I found to have been really enjoyable and helps develop your geographical skills. I also really enjoyed undertaking a minor in first year, which further broadened out the module choices you could select. The diversity of modules available enables you to pursue your interests, which could help lead you on towards your career after university.



# Geography and **Economics**

**BA Hons** 

#### BA Hons Geography and Economics

LL71 (3 years)

### Entry requirements for BA Hons Economics and Geography

A level ABB
BTEC DDM<sup>1</sup>

#### International Baccalaureate

32 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6 or an alternative cognate subject.

<sup>1</sup> Distinction required in a related subject but we may additionally require a supporting A level in Geography at grade B, or an alternative cognate subject. Please contact the Admissions Office for further advice.

#### Required subjects

A level Geography is recommended or alternatively one of the following subjects: Anthropology, Classics, Economics, English Literature, History, Philosophy, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, World Development.

GCSE English Language (C or 4), Mathematics (B or 6)



#### Degree overview and structure

Take advantage of the complementary aspects of economics and geography with this combined degree programme and benefit from expert teaching in both subjects.

In economics you will explore the production and distribution of resources at local, national and international levels and address important contemporary topics like public policy, banking, global poverty, climate change and regional and urban growth. In geography you will consider the spatial and environmental impacts of such topics including natural resource management, environmental conservation planning, sustainable development, urban neighbourhood dynamics, transport policy and geopolitics.

You'll be taught jointly by academic staff in the quadrupleaccredited Lancaster University Management School and the award-winning Lancaster Environment Centre.

In first year you can choose to study either 'Double Part 1' Geography, enabling a broad understanding of human, physical and environmental geography to be obtained, or you can choose to specialise by just studying Part 1 Human Geography. If you choose to study the Double Part 1, this comprises two thirds of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying modules from economics. If you study just the Part 1 Human Geography module, this comprises only one third of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying modules from economics and one additional subject from another department. The additional (otherwise known as 'minor') subject provides the opportunity to broaden your disciplinary understanding whilst providing flexibility of subject choice.

Through studying economics and geography, you will acquire an incisive perspective and analytical skills that are greatly valued by employers in many fields, including corporate planning, economic consultancy, the financial sector and the civil service.

#### Year 1

- + Double Part 1 Geography and Economics OR
- + Part 1 Human Geography, Economics and one other subject

#### Year 2

#### Core modules

- + Being a Geographer, Issue, Ethics and Skills
- + Spatial Analysis and Geographical Information Systems
- + Career and Employabilty II

#### Optional geography modules

- + Cultural Geography
- + Development, Geography and the Majority World
- + Economic Geography
- + Geosocial Spaces
- + Introduction to Eco-Innovation
- + People and the Sea
- + Political Geography
- + Research Skills in Human Geography

#### Optional modules in economics

(please see website for more modules and details)

- + Applied Economics
- + Macroeconomic Analysis
- + Microeconomic Analysis
- + Introduction to Econometrics
- + Game Theory

#### Year 3

#### Core modules

+ Geography Joint Majors Extended Essay

#### **Optional modules**

- + Africa: Geographies of Transformation
- + Cities and Globalization
- + Climate and Society
- + Environment, Politics and Society in Amazonia
- + Environmental Governance and the Biodiversity Crisis
- + Geographical Information Systems: Principles and Practice
- + Geographies of Health: understanding tackling inequity
- + Water, Society and the Istrian Landscape †

#### $Optional\,modules\,in\,economics$

(please see website for more modules and details)

- + Labour Economics
- + Development Economics
- + Monetary Macroeconomics
- + Industrial Organisation
- + International Business

† = Field trip



Year 1

Year 2

Core modules

and Skills

#### + Double Part 1 Geography and the language OR

+ Part 1 Human Geography and the language + one other subject

+ Beyond LEC: Steps to career success

+ Being a Geographer, Issue, Ethics

+ Spatial Analysis and Geographical

+ Development, Geography and the the

+ Research Skills in Human Geography

+ Modern Languages, including oral and

written skills and understanding cultures

(please see website for more details)

+ Introduction to Eco-Innovation

Information Systems

Optional modules

Majority World

+ Geosocial Spaces

+ People and the Sea

+ Political Geography

Additional modules in...

+ Cultural Geography

Extended Essay

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- + Africa: Geographies of Transformation
- + Cities and Globalization
- + Climate and Society
- + Environment, Politics and Society in Amazonia
- + Environmental Governance and the Biodiversity Crisis
- + Geographical Information Systems: Principles and Practice
- + Geographies of Health: understanding tackling inequity World
- + Water, Society and the Istrian Landscape †

+ Modern Languages (please see website for more details)

## **BA Hons French Studies and Geography**

Modern Languages and Geography

**BA Hons German Studies and Geography** LR72 (4 years with Year 3 spent abroad)

LR71 (4 years with Year 3 spent abroad)

#### **BA Spanish Studies and Geography**

LR74 (4 years with Year 3 spent abroad)

#### **Entry requirements for BA Hons French/German/ Spanish Studies and Geography**

A level ABB BTEC DDM<sup>1</sup>

**BA Hons** 

#### International Baccalaureate

32 points overall with 16 points from the best three Higher Level subjects including Geography at HL grade 6, or an alternative cognate subject, and appropriate evidence of language learning ability.

<sup>1</sup> Distinction required in a related subject but we may additionally require a supporting A level in Geography at grade B, or alternative cognate subject. We further require appropriate evidence of language ability. Please contact the Admissions Office for further advice.

A level Geography is recommended or alternatively one of the following subjects: Anthropology. Classics, Economics, English Literature, History, Philosophy, Psychology, Religious Studies, Sociology, World Development.

A level French/German/Spanish, or if this is to be studied from beginners' level, AS grade B or A level grade B in another foreign language, or GCSE grade A or 7 in a foreign language. Native language speakers will not be accepted onto the corresponding degree scheme.

GCSE English Language (C or 4), Mathematics (C or 4)

#### Degree overview and structure

These exciting programmes will allow you to gain a detailed understanding of geography, while giving you the skills and knowledge to engage with the discipline overseas in a French, German or Spanish speaking country.

For more information, please visit www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography

In first year you can choose to study either 'Double Part 1' Geography, enabling a broad understanding of human, physical and environmental geography, or you can choose to specialise by just studying Part 1 Human Geography. If you choose to study the Double Part 1, this comprises two thirds of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying modules from the Modern Languages Department. If you study just the Part 1 Human Geography module, this comprises only one third of your study, with the remaining time being spent studying modules from Modern Languages and one additional subject from another department. The additional (otherwise known as 'minor') subject provides the opportunity to broaden your disciplinary understanding whilst providing flexibility of subject choice.

Specialisation begins in second year, enabling you to choose topics that match your particular interests. Additionally, you will also take a specialist module that will prepare you for your international placement year. You will spend your third year studying or working overseas - either of which provides you with the opportunity to analyse the social, cultural, political and economic issues related to the area, complementing both your language and geography studies. In recent years students who opted to work during their year overseas have found diverse roles using their language skills, such as:

French - Administrative and Commercial Assistant, JCM Conseil Immobilier, Tahiti

German - Transport Logistics Coordinator, LKW Walther, Vienna, Austria

Spanish - Public Relations Intern, Marco de Comunicación, Madrid, Spain

Returning to Lancaster for your fourth year, you will undertake an extended essay, guided by your academic supervisor. This offers you a chance to investigate, in-depth, a topic of your choice related to both aspects of your joint degree. Throughout your degree, considerable weight is placed upon enhancing your employability and such skills are greatly valued by potential employers. Additionally by the end of your fourth year of language study, you will have achieved A level of fluency comparable to C1/C2 of the Common European Framework for Languages.

#### Georgina Letts **BA Spanish Studies and Geography**

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Lancaster University as it has allowed me to grow as an individual and develop interests in specific geographical topics, such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and Cities and Cultural Geography. LEC offers an extensive range of module choices and I felt my secondyear modules were excellent, especially the one on Cultural Geography. I also particularly enjoyed the module on Spatial Analysis and GIS, which ignited a passion for cartography and analysing maps. I am looking forward to my third-year modules of GIS, Cities and Globalization and Geographies of Health. After my undergraduate degree I am hoping to pursue a career in teaching and the University has helped me obtain work experience in this sector.



+ Year abroad

Year 4

Year 3

#### Core modules

+ Geography Joint Honours



#### Additional modules in...

t = Field trip

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# Hello Future

Ever wonder what sort of career you can progress into with a geography degree? A geography degree doesn't just equip you with subject-specific knowledge but also a combination of transferrable skills, including problem-solving and critical thinking, making geographers some of the most employable graduates. For example you could go on to inspire the next generation of geographers through teaching, advise businesses and organisations on how to reduce their environmental impact as an environmental consultant or shape the towns and cities we live in as a transport planner.

Our recent graduates have moved into a diverse range of roles, across a variety of different sectors.

# Examples of the types of career paths that our recent graduates have followed include:

Civil Service (Fast Track)
Climate Change Engagement
Officer

Corporate Social Responsibility Officer

Data Analytics Associate Energy Specialist

Environment Officer

Ethical Trade Officer Flood Risk Analyst GIS Officer

Graduate Engineer

Graduate Hydrological Modeller Graduate Transport Planner

Kielder Osprey Assistant

Land Management Consultant Low Carbon Sector Adviser

Marketing Executive Permitting

Officer

PGCE (Secondary)

**PhD Research** 

**Process Capability Graduate** 

**Project Co-ordinator** 

**Recruitment Consultant** 

**Software Developer** 

**Sustainability Consultant** 

**Sustainable Finance Associate** 

**Urban Planning Officer** 

Waste Management Consultant

Water Quality Scientist

# Career development

# Whatever your career aspirations may be, or even if you're still not quite sure, we're here to support you to reach your goals.

You will undertake a module in employability skills, giving you excellent preparation for applying to graduate-level jobs and graduate schemes, and our dedicated Careers Service are here to assist you every step of the way. From helping you identify the types of career you'd like to explore to ensuring you are well prepared for interviews and assessment centres, they are able to offer you tailored and personalised support. What's more, they provide lifelong careers support to our graduates so, if you need us, we will always be here to help.

We offer you a wealth of opportunities during your studies at Lancaster to enhance your employability and help you develop the skills to succeed in the workplace.

#### Internships

Relevant work experience is crucial to achieving a good graduate job, and through our internship programme, you'll have the opportunity to apply your knowledge to real-world situations whilst developing transferable skills.

#### Dissertation with external partner

Our in-house enterprise team engages with hundreds of businesses and organisations, giving you the unique opportunity to research environmental solutions to real-world problems.\*

#### Volunteering

Lancaster has a thriving volunteer culture and our Students' Union provides opportunities to work with schools, charities or other local organisations. This is a great way to enhance your CV whilst making a positive difference in the local community.



# Ben Teague Planning Officer for Cheshire West and Chester Council

(BA Hons Geography)

I remember coming away from my first open day at Lancaster amazed at how welcoming and friendly all the staff and students were, and the real sense of community that existed within LEC. On top of the collegiate system, choice of accommodation and the vast array of clubs

and societies on offer at Lancaster, the course had the flexibility to allow me to study areas of geography I was really interested in.

Modules such as Cities and Globalization and Urban Infrastructure in a Changing World allowed me to develop the skills and knowledge relevant to succeed in my current profession as a town planner whilst others such as Political Geography and People and the Sea allowed me to study

me to develop the skills and knowledge relevant to succeed in my current profession as a town planner whilst others such as Political Geography and People and the Sea allowed me to study geographical topics I had a passion for. I even got the chance to visit New York City as part of a field trip!

Even outside of academia, Lancaster has so much to offer. I was part of the Sailing Team and travelled the length and breadth of the country competing against other universities. I was also actively involved in the Lancaster Environment Centre Society (LECSoc) who organise a variety of fantastic social and events throughout the year, the highlight of which is the LEC Summer Ball.

Looking back on my time at Lancaster, I can safely say I enjoyed every second of it. Not only did Lancaster give me the opportunity to study with world-leading academics, but it also allowed me to make friends for life, realise my potential and become more confident within myself.

# Come and **meet us**

#### Open days

Join us at one of our open days to experience what life as a student at Lancaster is like. You will have the opportunity to see what facilities are available and explore our beautiful 560 acre campus including our award-winning accommodation, newly refurbished library, the Students' Union and sports facilities. You can also visit Lancaster Environment Centre where you have the opportunity to chat with current staff and students about studying geography.

#### **Campus tours**

We organise regular campus tours to give you a flavour of life at Lancaster. The tour is designed to acquaint you with our friendly campus, showing you our award-winning student accommodation, social venues, library and a lot more.

You can book onto open days and campus tours at:

www.lancaster.ac.uk/visitus

#### Offer holder events

We will be offering both online and in-person events. If you are offered a place on one of our degrees you will automatically be invited to attend one of our offer holder events in January to April. It's not compulsory, but we highly recommend you take part to get a feel for our community. At these events, you will have the opportunity to hear all about the University and department, watch live demonstrations and speak with academics and current students. Offer holder events are designed to give you a real taste of what it is like to be a student with us at Lancaster. You will receive further information about these events over the next few months.

#### Visiting us

Lancaster is very well served by road, rail and air networks and is nearby to major cities such as Manchester and Liverpool. More information about visiting the University can be found at:

www.lancaster.ac.uk/travel

#### Disclaimer

The information provided in this brochure relates primarily to 2024/25 entry to the University and every effort has been taken to ensure the information is correct at the time of printing in June 2023. The University will use all reasonable effort to deliver the course as described but the University reserves the right to make changes after going to print. You are advised to consult our website at

www.lancaster.ac.uk/study for up-to-date information before you submit your application.

Further legal information may be found at www.lancaster.ac.uk/compliance/legalnotice

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Many of the photographs in this brochure were taken during fieldwork or on campus. Thanks to our students and staff who took these photographs and appear in them. Additional photos appear courtesy of Shutterstock and Pexels.





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www.lancaster.ac.uk/geography



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