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Why study geography at Leeds?

Geography is one of the most relevant and fascinating subjects you could choose to study. It tackles some of the most pressing social, economic, political and environmental challenges facing the world today.

At its heart, geography is about exploring our world, which makes it unique in its breadth. With physical geographers studying glaciers, climate change and ecosystems, and human geographers studying cities, migration and development, geography brings together the latest ideas and techniques to be found in both the sciences and social sciences.

AN OUTSTANDING REPUTATION

The University of Leeds is home to one of the largest and most innovative geography departments in the UK. Our department is currently ranked 8th in the 60 worldwide university rankings, reflecting the outstanding international reputation of the School’s research. As a student here you will benefit from membership of a School which combines the highest academic standards in learning and teaching with a friendly and supportive environment.

AT THE FOREFRONT OF RESEARCH

Our research is truly global. We work in some of the remotest places on earth, including the Arctic, the Antarctic and the depths of the tropical rainforests. Closer to home we tackle the challenges created by urban development, cultural change and the environmental impacts of today’s consumer society. Because of the importance of the research questions we ask, our findings also have a wider impact and influence the policy of governments, businesses and international organisations.

THE RIGHT COURSE FOR YOU

You can choose from a range of degree courses to reflect your own personal interests; opting to focus chiefly on physical geography with our BSc Geography degree or, if you are more drawn to human geography, then our BA Geography degree is the one for you. We also offer two specialist combined courses: BSc Geography-Geology and BA Geography with Transport Planning. Alternatively, you can select from a range of joint honours courses, including BSc Geography and Mathematics, allowing you to combine geographical study with another subject of your choice.

GIVING YOU THE BEST EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS

We set you up for your future career. We embed employability throughout your degree programme: through the transferable skills inherent in all our modules; careers talks by our alumni and modules dedicated to developing you as a highly employable graduate. The work experience opportunities we offer are endless and if you opt to do a year in industry you are virtually guaranteed a graduate job with that company when you finish your studies!

Leeds – the right choice

The University of Leeds is located in the heart of a major city experiencing many of the challenges of contemporary urban life. The city is underpinned by a rich history and surrounded by amazing natural landscapes, so Leeds is not only a fantastic place to live and study but also provides countless opportunities for ‘doing’ geography.

A DYNAMIC AND SUPPORTIVE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

We are a large and diverse School, with over 40 academic staff and 700 students. We pride ourselves on our excellent relations between students and staff. The Student: Staff Forum plays an important part in shaping the School’s thinking about learning and teaching. We are also committed to providing you with first-rate resources and academic and pastoral support to ensure that you have the best possible experience as a Leeds student.

EXTENDING YOUR EXPERIENCE

All of our programmes are designed to give you the option of undertaking a year-long industrial placement between Years 2 and 3. Alternatively, you might opt to immerse yourself in a different culture by studying overseas for a year. Either way you will gain valuable new skills that will enrich your CV, giving you a head start in today’s competitive job market.

ENRICHING YOUR LEARNING

At Leeds, research is at the heart of our degree programmes. We attract the highest-calibre staff, people who are working at the forefront of research into our changing world. This means that your classes will be based on research that is happening now, and will be taught by the people doing the research. All our degrees also include practical and project work that enables you to develop your own skills as a researcher, asking and answering important questions about the way our world works. So whether you want to understand why we delve into the past to predict the future for climate change, or how cities are reshaped by international flows of people, money and ideas, geography at Leeds will provide you with the knowledge and skills to answer these questions.

SUPPORTING YOUR DEVELOPMENT

At Leeds we prepare you for your future. We want you to be able to recognise the value of everything you have done throughout your time here and be able to articulate this clearly and confidently; this is the concept behind Leeds for Life. Personal tutoring is at the heart of Leeds for Life. Structured one-to-one meetings with your personal tutor throughout your degree will support your professional and academic development and help you to become a confident, articulate Leeds graduate.

Leeds hosts one of the most successful geography departments in the UK. Building on our reputation, in December 2014 we are relocating to brand new state of the art facilities.

David Bell, Head of School of Geography
Fieldwork

One of geography’s most dynamic aspects is the emphasis it places on ‘real world’ learning. To really appreciate geography you have to see for yourself how river ecosystems work, or why cities develop as they do, so fieldwork is hugely important and also one of the most enjoyable aspects of geographical study.

Fieldwork is an integral part of all our geography degrees. You will gain valuable practical experience and real benefits including:

- an opportunity to practice the skills you have learnt in class in real life situations
- first-hand experience of collecting and analysing data
- an opportunity to develop individual research skills – vital for final year research projects
- development of project planning and teamwork skills valued by employers
- an opportunity to get to know your lecturers and fellow students even better

You undertake one-day and residential field classes to a wide range of exciting destinations, both local and international.

Some field courses are compulsory, whilst others may be optional depending on your degree choice. Either way we ensure that fieldwork is affordable. All compulsory fieldwork in Years 1 and 2 is funded by the School and we also provide funding to help cover the costs of some optional field classes.

As a BA Geography student you will undertake local fieldwork in Year 1 and then have the opportunity to join optional fieldtrips in both Years 2 and 3. Second year trips go to Belgrade (Serbia), Montpellier (France) and Helsinki (Finland). We have two new fieldtrips for final year students: Mumbai, one of the most multicultural and diverse cities in South Asia and Miami, one of the most dynamic urban areas in the US. You also have the option of our extremely popular fieldtrip to Athens (Greece).

BSc Geographers focus on local fieldwork in Year 1, including a residential course in Malham. In Year 2 you will choose one of three compulsory fieldtrips: the Austrian Alps, Mallorca, Spain or the Cevennes region of France. In your final year you will have the chance to join our optional fieldtrip to New Zealand and get first-hand experience of conducting field-based research in an exotic and challenging environment.

As a geography student, university has been an amazing experience. My favourite aspects have definitely been the annual residential field trips. From digging snow pits in Austria to travelling to the other side of the world for a field trip in New Zealand!

Emily Smith, BSc Geography
Study Abroad – explore the world

Study abroad provision at the University of Leeds is amongst the best in the UK. Spending a year living and studying in another country is a fantastic opportunity to develop new skills and broaden your horizons.

International study provides you with new insights into your discipline, and the opportunity to make lifelong friends and immerse yourself in another culture. You cannot apply directly to the international degree through UCAS, but we will give you plenty of information about the options available once you are in Leeds.

WHERE CAN YOU GO?
We have partnerships with some of the world’s top universities who reserve places especially for our geography students. You can opt to study at the National University of Singapore, consistently ranked amongst the top universities in the world, or if you want to study closer to home you can take advantage of our partnership with the University of Utrecht, one of Europe’s leading research universities. We also offer partnerships with leading universities in Australia, Canada, France and Hong Kong.

For BSc Geography-Geology students who have a particular interest in the Earth Sciences, alternative study destinations in Europe, North America, Australia or New Zealand may be available.

The University Study Abroad Office also offers a wide choice of destinations. For more information visit:
http://studyabroad.leeds.ac.uk/

SUPPORTING YOUR STUDY ABROAD
Study abroad takes place between Levels 2 and 3 of your degree and is for one academic year. Before departure we ensure that you are fully briefed about what to expect and we help you to select an appropriate range of classes to make the most of your international year. We'll keep in touch with you whilst you’re away and we also organise events to welcome you back, to smooth your return to study at Leeds. We assess the year abroad on a pass/fail basis, so it doesn’t directly influence your degree class. But graduating with an international degree will certainly enhance your CV and employability.

For more information, see our separate study abroad flyer or visit:
www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/abroad

I thoroughly enjoyed my year abroad. I met some fantastic people, had some great times and grew up as a person. I returned to Leeds invigorated and ready to finish my degree. I would recommend it to everyone, even if it puts you slightly out of your comfort zone you will return glad that you made the leap.

Nick Bradish, BA Geography International, University of Adelaide

1. University of Queensland / 2. The Chinese University of Hong Kong / 3. The National University of Singapore / 4. The University of Adelaide
Spencer Williams
BSc Geography (Industrial)
Year in Industry with PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)

Spending over three years of my life reading geography at the University of Leeds has been an incredible experience. Looking back the time has flown by and I’ve achieved a lot! My biggest achievement has to be securing a graduate job with PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in London after a successful year in industry with them, something that wouldn’t have been possible without the support of the School of Geography.

During this placement year with PwC I was training to be a Chartered Accountant and passing 8 out of 15 ACA exams in the year out was a bit of a shock to the system coming from a geography background! But the support I had from the School of Geography whilst on placement, and then while re-integrating myself into my final year, has been fantastic and really helped me achieve what I wanted to achieve.

We offer a wealth of opportunities to give you a head-start in the job market. A year spent working in industry or undertaking a shorter-term placement will help you become a confident and highly employable graduate.

A YEAR IN INDUSTRY
A year’s work placement – whether with a commercial company, an environmental group or a government agency – is a fantastic way of finding out more about both your own strengths and the realities of working life. Experience shows that a placement can dramatically improve your subsequent career prospects – all of our students who followed this route in recent years went straight into graduate employment, often with their placement company.

We encourage students to be pro-active in looking for a suitable work placement and we support you in your search through our established links with respected companies. Most placements are based in the UK. However you might like to think about international experience and if you find a placement within the EU you will be eligible for Erasmus funding to top up your earnings.

SUPPORTING YOUR WORK PLACEMENT
Before departure we ensure that you are fully briefed about what to expect and that your placement host has effective systems in place to enable you to get the most out of your work experience. We’ll keep in touch with you whilst you’re away and we also organise events to welcome you back, to smooth your return to study at Leeds. We assess the year in industry on a pass/fail basis, so it doesn’t directly influence your degree class. But graduating with an industrial degree will certainly enhance your CV, and your employability.

RECENT PLACEMENTS INCLUDE:
• Operations Analyst, Goldman Sachs
• Conservation officer, Green Resources
• Assistant Ecologist, Access Ecology
• Management Consultancy, Accenture
• Operational Researcher, NHS
• Risk Analyst, Lloyds Banking Group
• Assistant to CEO, Unilever
• Assistant Buyer, Mars

For more in depth student profiles and information see our separate year in industry and employability leaflets, or visit www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/study/employability/yearinindustry

A placement year and work experience

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE OPTIONS
If a year-long work placement is not the right option for you, there are other work experience opportunities available to you. All our degrees include a careers skills module in year 2 and an optional work placement module in year 3. You can also opt to take modules taught elsewhere in the University which explore business practice, or which focus on enterprise and innovation. The Leeds for Life initiative also provides access to a host of co-curricular and volunteering opportunities.

For those of you thinking of a career in teaching, the year 3 placement module includes a ‘teaching’ strand, so you get hands-on experience in the classroom. We also offer a ‘research placement’ scheme for students interested in getting to grips with academic research.

For more in depth student profiles and information see our separate year in industry and employability leaflets, or visit www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/study/employability/yearinindustry

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20% of students opt to do a year in industry

www.geog.leeds.ac.uk | 9
BA Human Geography

Our BA Geography is a human geography course and explores how people interact with the world around them. So if you’re interested in how globalisation is shaping the world, social justice, studying urban development, population growth, or how ethnicity, class and gender impact on the world we live in, then this is the degree for you.

Studying BA Geography really allows you to think about the kind of world you would like to live in, and provides you with the skills to have a say in how future society develops. The content of our human geography degree programme draws on our research expertise in a broad range of topics, including international development, sustainability, population trends and the changing nature of urban and regional economies and policies.

We structure your learning around four key themes. In your first year you will study a broad overview of all of these topics, and then as you progress through your second and third year, you have the opportunity to specialise according to your strengths and interests.

THEMES
• Urban living – what are the key processes that give cities their form?
• Global populations – what are people’s experiences of both mobility and immobility?
• Justice and difference – how do experiences of belonging and exclusion shape people’s identities?
• Sustainable futures – how do we interact with nature and how does this affect the future of our planet?

FIELDWORK
In your first year you use Leeds as your ‘laboratory’, carrying out group work around the city you live in. In the second year we have optional European fieldtrips, currently to Montpellier, Helsinki and Belgrade. In the third year we have optional fieldtrips to Athens, Mumbai and Miami. These fieldtrips are extremely popular, enabling you to apply your learning in a particular real-world context.

CAREER PATHS
A BA Geography degree equips you with skills for a multitude of careers including:
• Accountancy and banking
• Marketing and recruitment
• Retail planning
• Regional and overseas development
• Campaigning and charity work
• IT and business consultancy

FURTHER INFORMATION
We also offer four-year international and industrial versions of these degrees. (See P. E-R)

For further details visit: www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/ba
BSc Physical Geography

Our BSc Geography is a physical geography course and focuses on connections between different parts of the global system to explain how processes work at the Earth’s surface. If you want to explore how our Earth system operates, then BSc Geography is the degree for you.

We look into what processes have taken place to shape our world’s dramatic landscapes, the dynamics of the atmosphere and biosphere, and how you can have a say in how we manage our future environment.

We structure your learning around four key themes. In Year 1 you will gain a broad overview of all of these topics, and then as you progress through your second and third year, you have the opportunity to specialise according to your strengths and interests.

We teach you to understand and explore the science behind the world. Through a combination of lectures, independent study, hands-on lab work and field courses, you will engage with important developments in the study of climate change, human impacts on the biosphere and the geomorphological processes which shape physical landscapes.

THEMES
- Dynamic landscapes – how are weathering and erosion influenced by climate, biological processes, geological processes and human activity?
- The living planet – how are humans modifying relationships between soils, plants, animals and their physical environment?
- Environmental change – how has climate changed in the past and how can we use this to predict changes in the future?
- Sustainable futures – how do we interact with nature and how does this affect the future of our planet?

FIELDWORK
There are plenty of opportunities to apply your learning in practice. Fieldtrips in year 1 are mainly held locally in Yorkshire, at sites such as Malham. In year 2 there is a choice of the Cevennes region of France, the Austrian Alps or Puerto Pollensa in Mallorca for your compulsory fieldtrip. Our optional year 3 trip is to New Zealand. Individual modules often also involve locally-based fieldwork.

CAREER PATHS
A BSc Geography degree equips you with skills for a multitude of careers in environmental management such as:
- Flood risk analysis
- Conservation
- Hydrology
- Environmental planning

Our students also secure graduate roles in sectors such as:
- Banking and finance
- IT and business consultancy
- Marketing and recruitment

FURTHER INFORMATION
We also offer four-year international and industrial versions of these degrees. (See P. 6-9)

For further details visit: www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/ba

Emily Smith
BSc Geography

Photo taken outside Clothworkers Court

University has been an amazing experience. The School of Geography has provided me with exciting and rewarding opportunities that have not only developed my enthusiasm for geography, but also developed my self-confidence and adaptability to new environments.

The wide variety of modules allows you to tailor your degree to your personal strengths. I am interested in the dynamic landscape, so I chose any modules that included rivers or glaciers! I really enjoyed the Earth Surface Processes module in second year as the main reports were based on field trips which provided an exciting and memorable experience to ground an understanding of the topic. In third year, my favourite module was definitely the New Zealand module as I was given the independence to conduct my own research on a topic which really interested me. The friendliness of staff and lecturers has also contributed to my positive university experiences thanks to the support available from open door services to prompt and constructive feedback.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Leeds. The city never fails to disappoint: from the vibrant nightlife to the cultural art galleries, there are plenty of hidden gems to discover during your undergraduate experience. I have also just found out that I have got a job as a trainee recruitment consultant and I couldn’t be happier!
BA Geography with Transport Planning

Ever wondered why Britain’s roads are so congested and why it’s impossible to get a seat on the train? Would you like to explore how transport professionals achieve their objectives? How transport contributes to quality of life, but also causes a range of problems for society that has taken it to the top of the political agenda in recent decades?

This is a degree with a distinctive vocational element in which you study human geography alongside modules taught by the University’s internationally famous Institute for Transport Studies (ITS). The transport research expertise at Leeds has few rivals and you will be taught by staff who regularly advise government on policy issues. Graduates from this degree have gone on to high-level jobs in the transport planning sector, and with its unique focus on the interactions between transport, space and place, this degree provides specialist knowledge and skills that are in high demand worldwide.

In year 1 you will study the same themes as other BA geographers, but will complement this with specialist study in transport planning. As you progress through years 2 and 3, you have the opportunity to specialise according to your strengths and interests in both human geography and transport planning. Specialist modules in transport include global challenges in transport, transport and society, transport policy in action, transport economics, transport and the environment, and travel activity and social analysis.

Geography Themes
• Urban living – what major processes give cities their form? How are cities changing?
• Global populations – what are people’s experiences of both mobility and immobility?
• Justice and difference – how do experiences of belonging and exclusion shape people’s identities?
• Sustainable futures – how do we interact with nature and how does this affect the future of our planet?

Fieldwork
In year 1 you use Leeds as your ‘laboratory’, carrying out group work around the city you live in. In year 2 we have an optional fieldtrip to Helsinki, which enables you to apply the ideas you’ve learnt in a particular real-world context. In year 3 we have optional geography fieldtrips to Athens, Mumbai and Miami. Individual modules may also involve small-scale fieldwork.

Career Paths
A BA Geography and Transport planning degree equips you with skills for a multitude of careers in the transport planning sector including:
• Transport modelling
• Transport analysis and economics
• Sustainable transport
You will also graduate with the skills to equip you in roles such as:
• Accountancy and banking
• Marketing
• Retail planning

Further Information
We also offer four-year international and industrial versions of this degree. (See P. 6-9)

For further details visit: www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/geotrans

Charlotte Nimmo
BA Geography with Transport Planning
Photo taken on the steps of the Parkinson Building

I chose Leeds because it is the best university in the country for transport-related study, and the only one to offer my exact course. I also really liked the atmosphere on campus and in the city when I visited for Open Days, and it has an excellent reputation as a university city.

I really like the mixture of subjects we study in the geography modules, and the current issues we cover in transport lectures and seminars. It makes everything that’s happening in the transport world today much easier to understand, and enables me to see how different policies work in theory and practice.

My aspirations have changed since being at Leeds, originally I thought I was going to go into local authority planning as soon as I left university, but talking to my friends and tutor has made me see all the different things I can do with transport and geography combined. Leeds has lots of opportunities for industry placements in different sectors, and I will be very prepared for them with the support from my tutor in transport studies and the staff in the School of Geography.
BSc Geography-Geology

Do you want to understand the importance of major fossil groups to the evolution of life on Earth? Do you want to know how different geological structures have formed over time?

If you are a geographer with a strong science background and an interest in the internal structure and composition of the Earth, then this could be the degree for you. We have specially designed this programme so that physical geography and geology are integrated and complementary to allow you to develop a broad range of knowledge and skills in earth science.

In year 1 you will study the same themes as other physical geographers, but will complement this with specialist study in geology. Specialist geology modules cover all the essential earth science disciplines: the origins of rocks and minerals; the evolution of life on Earth; plate tectonics; earthquakes; volcanism; the structural deformation of rocks; geological mapping and fieldwork and the use of geological natural resources such as petroleum and minerals.

GEOGRAPHY THEMES
- Dynamic landscapes – how are weathering and erosion influenced by climate, biological processes, tectonic (geological) processes and human activity?
- The living planet – how are humans modifying relationships between soils, plants, animals and their physical environment?
- Environmental change – how has climate changed in the past and how can we look at this to predict changes in the future?
- Sustainable futures – how do we interact with nature and how does this affect the future of our planet?

FIELDWORK
In year 1 you go on two residential field trips, one to Malham Tarn in the Yorkshire Dales with the BSc Geography students and the other to South Wales (Pembrokeshire) to learn the basic skills of a field geologist. At the end of year 1 you will visit the North of Scotland to develop your geological mapping skills.

In year 2 you can choose between a geography fieldtrip to the Cevennes region in France, the Austrian Alps and Mallorca, Spain. You also get to visit Ireland with the geology students to study sedimentary rocks.

In year 3 we offer an optional fieldtrip in geography to New Zealand, and in geology to Cyprus, Northern Ireland or the Yorkshire coast. In addition, many of our optional year 2 and 3 modules have day fieldtrips associated with them.

CAREER PATHS
A BSc Geography-Geology degree equips you with skills for a multitude of careers including the following sectors:
- Environmental consultancy
- Oil and mineral industries
- Local government administration
- Engineering
- Conservation
- Public utilities

FURTHER INFORMATION
We also offer four-year international and industrial versions of these degrees. (See P. 6-9)

For further details visit:
www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/courses/geotrans

Amy King
BSc Geography-Geology (International)

If I could sum up the University of Leeds in just a few words, it would be that it was a place where you can achieve whatever goals you have the ability to imagine.

In my academic career as a geography-geologist, I have always had a huge choice of modules which has made my learning experience varied and interesting. With the choices available, and the constant guidance of supportive tutors, I have managed to find my specialties and understand what I want to do in the future, not bad for someone who came to university without a clue as to what I wanted to do.

Modules that have been particular highlights of my study have been those involving field trips and independent research projects. Devising my own research question, planning and completing fieldwork, organising lab time, and processing the results, has been a steep and exciting learning curve and I have got to travel throughout England, Ireland and Wales and in to Cyprus and Austria, studying some of the best geological localities in the world!

As I finish my final few weeks here in Leeds, I know that I have become a successful and well-rounded person with so many possibilities for the future. Despite being sad to leave, I am looking forward to the future that the last few years has set me up for.
Joint Honours Degrees

As well as the four single honours geography programmes we offer, there are also opportunities for you to study BA and BSc Geography joint honours programmes. These programmes allow you to study two subjects at degree level, and offer you the flexibility to major more in one subject than the other, which is ideal if you have yet to decide where your particular strengths or interests lie.

The programmes offered are listed below, grouped by parent department.

School of Geography
- BSc Geography and Mathematics (See P. 21)

School of History
- BA Geography and History

School of Modern Languages
- BA Geography and Spanish

School of Sociology and Social Policy
- BA Geography and Sociology

Leeds University Business School
- BA Economics and Geography
- BA Geography and Management
- BSc Geography and Management

FURTHER INFORMATION
For further information about these courses, please visit: www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/joint-honours-degrees

BSc Geography and Mathematics

Geography and mathematics are complementary disciplines and this joint honours programme develops a blend of intellectual, analytic, computational and discursive skills, which will distinguish you as having the flexibility and capability that employers increasingly value.

As well as the numerous career opportunities open to well qualified science graduates, there are many fast growing niche fields, such as environmental consultancy and civic planning, with strong demand for highly numerate graduates with technical geography expertise.

The programme is taught by the School of Geography (parent school) and School of Mathematics, meeting the needs of students with varied mathematical and scientific backgrounds, and with different aspirations. Your time will be divided roughly equally between modules from geography and mathematics.

In year 1 in the geography half of the programme you will develop essential skills in presenting and analysing geographical data, gain an understanding of the different research approaches used by physical geographers and have the opportunity to choose from a range of optional modules focusing on our living planet and environmental change.

In mathematics you will study key topics, including calculus, differential equations and linear algebra, and you will also study probability and statistics.

In years 2 and 3, you have increasing flexibility to choose from a wide range of advanced modules in geography, mathematics and statistics, including topics such as environmental statistics.

THE JOINT HONOURS PROGRAMME AIMS TO:
• introduce you to the major branches of mathematics and geography
• enable you to appreciate the coherence and logical structure of mathematics, and its applicability to geography
• impart an awareness of the values of research and scholarship in mathematics and geography
• prepare you to work in fields where specific and broadly based advanced mathematical knowledge is required.

FURTHER INFORMATION
We also offer four-year international and industrial versions of these degrees. (See P. 6-9)

For specific information about course modules, please visit: www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/joint-honours-degrees
How you study

As a student at Leeds you will benefit from a wide range of teaching methods and first rate facilities to support your learning. We combine lectures with different forms of interactive, small-group teaching to ensure that you graduate with the right mix of knowledge and skills for a successful career, whatever you choose.

We recognise that studying at university is different from school or college, so we ensure that you benefit from a structured support system, with a personal tutor who will offer help and advice about your approach to studying and how to become adept at independent learning. We regularly refresh our teaching methods in light of student feedback to make sure they meet your needs.

LECTURES
Lectures are part of a student’s staple diet. We have modern lecture theatres equipped with the latest audio-visual and computer-based teaching aids, meaning that lectures are often highly interactive.

FIELDWORK AND LABORATORY WORK
A lot of geography is hands-on, getting out in the field and putting your analytical and team-working skills into practice in a fascinating real world context. Whether this involves exploring cities in human geography or researching glaciers in physical geography, these skills will be invaluable to your future employability. To help prepare you for field-based investigation and for your own project and dissertation work, our teaching also includes classes which focus on developing skills in gathering, analysing and presenting information. Some of these involve computer-based practical work, and physical geographers also spend time in laboratory classes.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS
Here you will come together in groups of about 20 to discuss and debate what you have heard in lectures – this is an ideal forum to explore understanding and share ideas.

TUTORIALS
Your tutor will be your guide throughout your academic study. Small group tutorials encourage active participation and understanding and are a perfect place to practice skills such as oral presentations.

SELF-DIRECTED STUDY
Independent study is crucial to your success at university and to your future employment. From Year 1 we work with you to foster skills in analysing and accessing information and encourage you to question ideas and develop new insights. We know from experience that this approach to learning is not only interesting and involving, but also develops the ability to think logically and show initiative that top employers require. We have excellent library and computer facilities to help you study independently and the University Study Skills Centre offers advice, classes and workshops to help you achieve your maximum academic potential. Visit library.leeds.ac.uk/skills for more information.

VIRTUAL LEARNING
Face-to-face teaching is supported by virtual learning. We put lots of additional materials online to help you with your studies, such as lecture slides, assessment guidelines and module handbooks. We regularly integrate innovative online tools such as blogs, wikis, self-assessment exercises and discussion boards into our teaching.

ASSESSMENT
We use a variety of assessment methods to test and improve your learning. These include essays, practical work, posters and oral presentations, projects, including the largest piece of independent project work of your university career, your dissertation and exams. We carefully plan the way we assess your work to make sure it is appropriate to the subject area you’re studying, and gives you the opportunity to demonstrate the full range of your abilities and skills, skills that you will need now and in the future.
We take your future very seriously and know that employability is uppermost in many students’ minds. If you choose to study geography at Leeds you will be joining a university which is one of the top ten institutions most targeted by leading UK graduate recruiters. And, as geography graduates, your own employment opportunities couldn’t be more exciting and wide-ranging.

So whether your future career plans lie in environmental management, journalism, the financial sector or nature conservation, our degree programmes are structured to ensure that you develop the key transferable skills sought after by graduate recruiters:

- Team working – we place a lot of emphasis on group work so you learn how to work successfully as a team to deliver projects to deadline
- Commercial awareness – through work placement opportunities and employer presentations
- Report-writing skills – through individual and group-based writing tasks, including the research dissertation
- Fluency in oral communication and presentation – fostered through academic presentations and small-group discussions in tutorials and seminars
- Competence in numerical analysis – research skills modules help you to become adept in the use of statistics and other analytical techniques
- IT skills – competence in using a range of professional software packages, including highly-valued skills in the use of statistical and spatial data analysis (GIS) software
- Investigative skills – obtaining and evaluating information, developed through our emphasis on research-based learning

EMPLOYER TALKS AND CAREERS FAIR
We include external contributions in as many modules as possible to help you understand the connections between your academic studies and the world of work. We also host employer talks, many of which are given by our own graduates. In addition we organise an annual careers fair specifically for geography students which is attended by leading companies representing both physical and human geography career paths.

UNIVERSITY CAREERS CENTRE
Our Careers Centre has recently been highly commended at the National Council of Work Experience Awards. It is one of the largest in the country with experienced advisers and strong relationships with graduate recruiters. It offers long-term support to all Leeds’ students, before and after graduation. We also have dedicated geography careers consultants who offer group sessions and individual consultations to advise you on all aspects of career planning, work experience and internships, voluntary work, CV and interview skills, and postgraduate study.

For more information see our separate employability leaflet or to find out what the careers centre has to offer, please visit: www.careerweb.leeds.ac.uk

Samantha Brear
BA Geography
E911 Coordinator and Emergency Management Program Specialist, Iowa

I graduated with a BA in Geography having completed a dissertation on Hurricane Ivan that hit the Cayman Islands in 2004. This led to several research trips to the islands, my own personal experience of a hurricane and their effects, and an ongoing interest in emergency management related to this type of major weather event.

Encouraged by my lecturers in Leeds and particularly enjoying courses on natural disasters I planned out a career path in the disaster management field starting with volunteering with the Red Cross in Los Angeles. I went on to complete a masters in Emergency Management and secured a post as an Emergency Management Planning Specialist at county level in Des Moines, Iowa and I’m responsible for managing all the 911 dispatch centres in the county.

My geography degree at Leeds has set me in good stead for my specialty work in emergency management planning. The professors that taught and encouraged me at the School of geography had a profound impact on my career and where I am today.
Life at Leeds

Leeds is one of the most popular university destinations in the UK with a large student population, making it a thriving, lively place to live and learn. Students love Leeds – come here and it won’t be long before you’re calling Leeds home.

CAMPUS LIFE
Situated close to the heart of the city, the University of Leeds is a single campus so there is a real community feel here and you will find our accommodation, teaching facilities, Students’ Union and student services all within easy reach.

As a student you will have access to a range of excellent university facilities, including one of the best academic libraries in the UK with over 2.8m books and 4.5m electronic resources online.

AN AWARD-WINNING STUDENTS’ UNION
Leeds University Union is not only one of the best in the country, it’s also the most active. With over 30,000 members the Union is a vibrant organisation providing a hub of activity where students can meet, make friends, get advice and get involved.

STATE-OF-THE-ART SPORTS FACILITIES
Whatever your level of fitness or interest in sports, there are plenty of fantastic opportunities and sports facilities to experience. The Edge is our recently-opened flagship indoor facility. This £12m gym and pool provides state-of-the-art fitness, sport and well-being opportunities, all located on campus. All our students living in University halls of residence automatically receive an Edge Club membership.

GUARANTEED ACCOMMODATION
We have an impressive range of catered and self-catered accommodation located on campus and close to the city centre. As an undergraduate student at Leeds you have a guaranteed single place in University accommodation for your first year. Applications must be received before the 1st July 2014.

LEEDS – THE CITY
Leeds offers the best of both worlds, combining the buzz of a cosmopolitan city with easy access to the surrounding beautiful countryside. As the ‘capital’ of the Yorkshire and Humberside region, Leeds is a major centre for shopping, arts, sport, leisure, entertainment and nightlife. In fact, students enjoy their time here so much that 1 in 4 graduates decides to stay.

A CULTURAL CITY
Leeds has a thriving arts and cultural scene offering the best in theatre, film, dance, comedy and visual arts. The city is host to Opera North and venues such as the West Yorkshire Playhouse and Grand Theatre. There are also world-class exhibitions at the Leeds Art Gallery, City Museum and Royal Armouries Museum.

A SPORTING CITY
The city has a proud sporting tradition and is home to famous teams such as Leeds United Football Club, the Yorkshire County Cricket Club, the Leeds Rhinos and Carnegie rugby clubs.

AN ACCESSIBLE CITY
Leeds enjoys excellent transport links by road and rail to the UK’s major cities, including London which is just two hours away by train. We are ideally located to reach Scotland, the Lake District, York, Newcastle and beyond for weekend getaways. Leeds Bradford airport is just a few miles from the city centre and provides regular flights to the major European cities and cultural centres – so nowhere is ever too far away.

For more information visit www.visitleeds.co.uk

“Having access to over 250 different societies and one of the best Student Unions in the country means that there is always so much to get involved with outside of studying. The Give It A Go programme gives you the chance to try out completely new things and make friends whilst doing so – I have since tried everything from meditation to gymnastics! My role as a fundraiser for the Leeds RAG Fashion Show, sponsored by Harvey Nichols, definitely remains one of my university highlights. As a city, Leeds itself is also brilliant. Being a student here means you get the best of both worlds as you experience campus life so close to the city centre, and can access the countryside really easily too.

Martha Schofield, BA Geography (Industrial)
How to apply

All full time undergraduate applications must be made online through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) www.ucas.com by 15th January.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
We welcome applications from students with a wide range of level 3 qualifications. Our A Level and International Baccalaureate standard offers are outlined below. Information about qualifications we accept and our full admissions policy can be viewed online, along with a list of the maths/science subjects we accept for our Geography-Geology degree. Please note; we do not accept General Studies or Critical Thinking as part of the entry requirements for any of our programmes.

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<th>ACCESS TO LEEDS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Geography BA</td>
<td>L700</td>
<td>AAA including Geography</td>
<td>ABB including an A in Geography</td>
<td>35 overall, 18 at Higher Level including 6 in Geography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geography BSc</td>
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<td>AAB including Geography</td>
<td>BBB including Geography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geography with Transport Planning BA</td>
<td>L7N9</td>
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<td>Geography-Geology BSc</td>
<td>FT68</td>
<td>AAB including Geography plus a Maths or Science subject. (Grade A to come from one of the specified subjects)</td>
<td>BBB including Geography plus a Maths or Science subject</td>
<td>35 overall, 17 at Higher Level including 6 in Geography and 6 in a Maths or Science subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography and Mathematics BSc</td>
<td>FG81</td>
<td>AAB from three A-levels including A in Geography and A in Maths</td>
<td>BBB including a Geography plus Maths</td>
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OPEN DAYS
The University holds Open Days in June, September and October each year. These events are an ideal opportunity to find out more about our courses, student life in Leeds and to visit the University and the School. In addition, all applicants offered a place on one of our courses will be invited to one of our Post-applicant Open Days which may include a short, informal interview with a member of teaching staff. We encourage you to visit the School to find out more about our degrees first-hand from staff and students and to ask any questions you may have. Find out more at www.leeds.ac.uk/visitus

FEES AND STUDENT SUPPORT
For full information on fees and student finance please visit www.leeds.ac.uk/yourfinances

ACCESS TO LEEDS
The University of Leeds recognises that not all applicants are equally able to demonstrate their talents and potential through academic grades alone. Access to Leeds (A2L) is an alternative admissions scheme which gives special consideration to students who have the potential to excel at the University, but whose personal and educational circumstances may have affected their ability to succeed in pre-university examinations. More details of the Access to Leeds programme are available at www.leeds.ac.uk/A2L

MATURE STUDENTS
We welcome mature applicants, who receive individual consideration, taking account of existing academic qualifications, relevant work experience and personal motivation for study.

For further advice and guidance on making an application contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office email geo-ug-enq@leeds.ac.uk

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
The School of Geography has a long tradition of welcoming students from a wide variety of countries around the globe. All our students benefit from the large and diverse community of cultures studying and working within a Russell Group University. Find out more at www.leeds.ac.uk/international

FURTHER INFORMATION
For further information on our admissions process, including the application and selection process, please download a copy of our admissions policy, available on our website www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/admissions/entry

If you need any further help or advice on applying please contact our admissions office geo-ug-enq@leeds.ac.uk
The University endeavours to ensure that the information contained in this brochure is accurate at the date of publication and does not accept liability for any inaccuracies contained within it. Where circumstances change outside the reasonable control of the University, we reserve the right to change or cancel parts of, or entire programmes of study or services at any time without liability, even after students have registered at the University. The University’s contract with its students does not confer third party benefits for the purposes of the Contract (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.