An Inspiring Department

Welcome to the Department of Geography at Loughborough University. It is a great place to study and comprises a lively community of over 500 students and 50 academic, research and support staff.

Our students benefit from the wide-ranging, world-renowned expertise of our academic staff all of whom are committed to high-quality, research-informed teaching ensuring the very best learning experience. This is highlighted by the fact that we are 4th in the UK for student satisfaction in Geography with 97% of students satisfied overall with their course (NSS 2013).

We pride ourselves in supporting our students to fulfil their potential and to graduate as confident, capable, adaptable individuals ready for the real world. As testament to this, 97%* of our students are in employment or further study within six months of graduating.

I hope that you take the opportunity to explore what we have to offer and I know that you will find studying with us a fantastic experience. The remainder of this brochure contains more detail about specific courses but for the most up to date information about both our teaching and research, please visit our website at www.lboro.ac.uk/geography.

Professor Helen Rendell
Head of Department
Why Loughborough University?

Choosing where to study is one of the hardest decisions you’ll make in life. Loughborough University makes it easier by offering a mix of excellent facilities and opportunities – all on a superb 438-acre single-site campus. Bringing together 17,000 students and staff from over 100 different countries, there is a strong sense of community and a real buzz about the University that has seen us voted England’s Best Student Experience six years in a row.

At the centre of it all
Based in the heart of the English countryside, but with easy access to the rest of the UK, Loughborough University enjoys a well-established reputation for world-class research, innovative teaching and industry relevance.

Our great all-round student experience develops well-rounded graduates. Our degree courses cultivate presentation and team-working skills as well as creative problem-solving abilities – skills sought by employers.

Home from home
Almost 6,000 of our students live in University halls of residence on (or very close to) campus and we offer the widest range of accommodation to suit all budgets and catering preferences. Undergraduates who confirm Loughborough as their first choice before the end of July are guaranteed a place in our halls.

For further information: www.lboro.ac.uk/accommodation

Research that matters
The most recent Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) confirmed Loughborough as one of the country’s Top 20 research universities. With many academics involved in cutting-edge research addressing problems in social, economic and industrial practice, their work directly informs the learning experience.

For more information visit: www.lboro.ac.uk/research

An international experience
Loughborough has a proud history of welcoming students from around the world and today is home to 2,500 international students who contribute to our diverse and lively community. We offer a range of tailored support services, including bespoke English language courses and a one-week residential orientation course before the start of the academic year.

For more information visit: www.lboro.ac.uk/international

A unique Students’ Union
The University has the only independently owned Students’ Union in the country – run by the students for the students. A key player in the Loughborough experience, the Union offers entertainment in the form of bars, live comedy, performing arts and cinema. There are more than 100 clubs and societies, covering everything from creative writing, computing and cocktails, to Shakespeare and salsa. It also provides opportunities in volunteering and charity fund-raising. Indeed, the fund-raising arm of the Union – Loughborough Rag – is one of the most successful in the UK, regularly raising £1m a year for a variety of charitable causes.

For more information visit: www.lsu.co.uk

Extensive study resources and support
Loughborough has a strong tradition of providing excellent student support – from state-of-the-art IT facilities available around the clock, to award-winning mathematics support and library services. In addition, we provide advice on personal wellbeing, health, finance and legal matters, support for students with disabilities and additional needs, and of course careers advice. The Careers and Employability Centre can help you plan your career, offering careers fairs and drop-in sessions which could put your CV in the hands of your future employer.

For more information visit: www.lboro.ac.uk/careers

Sport for all
Of course, Loughborough is renowned worldwide for sporting excellence and counts Sebastian Coe, Paula Radcliffe and Steve Backley among its famous sporting alumni. However, the focus is on providing sporting opportunities for all levels: from elite athlete to enthusiastic beginner. Our sports facilities are first class and include tennis, squash and badminton courts, sports pitches, all-weather play areas, the National Cricket Centre, the athletics stadium and a 50-metre swimming pool.

For more information visit: www.lboro.ac.uk/sport
Outstanding Facilities

Our state of the art geography teaching and research laboratories are staffed by dedicated award-winning technicians who also maintain equipment – ranging from micro-climate instrumentation to video cameras. These facilities are available to all our students for their individual research projects.

The Map Room contains a comprehensive set of Ordnance Survey medium scale mapping covering the UK, workstations set up specifically for mapping and spatial analysis, stereoscopes, scanners and digitizing equipment. There is an archive collection of non-UK maps available and increasingly material is also available in digital formats. There is a separate suite of networked computers reserved exclusively for the use of students enrolled on geography courses. During your degree you will have the opportunity to learn to use specialist geographical information systems software, such as ArcGIS, which is also used by potential employers such as planners, environmental consultants and utilities companies.

Portable equipment such as dictaphones and transcribers is available for students to conduct interviews or record focus group discussions. Those undertaking ethnographic surveys may use our digital cameras and video equipment. We also have sets of field instruments to use for projects focusing on microclimate, soil conditions, water quality and landforms that are used in practical classes and by students for individual research projects.

We have recently invested over £1 million expanding and refurbishing our laboratories to allow the development of specialist skills. Our Environmental Diagnostics Laboratories can be used for the analysis of water, soil and sediments. Purpose built experimental laboratories are used to demonstrate fluvial and aeolian processes during teaching sessions and for individual student projects. Students can measure sediments ranging in size from the largest boulder to the smallest dust particle using state-of-the-art equipment. Microscopes are used extensively for teaching and research, and there is a teaching laboratory where students learn to identify and classify small organisms and sediments. The research microscope laboratory includes specialised digital cameras and computer software to enable samples to be captured as images, measured, analysed and stored in a database, or compared with reference collections. Other facilities include two meteorological stations on campus and several local fieldstations.
Your Learning Experience

All of our academic staff teach undergraduate students and use their research experience to create groundbreaking programmes of study. You can choose from amongst a fascinating range of topics (e.g. Arctic Science to Zionism in Palestine/Israel), teaching styles (e.g. lectures, practicals, fieldtrips) and types of assessment (e.g. essays, maps, video documentaries, website design).

The methods of learning and teaching we use vary from large lecture-based classes, to individual one-to-one sessions with an academic supervisor where you discuss your personal research project. Although there may be over 200 students in a lecture, lecturers will expect every individual to actively participate in the session. This could involve discussing a short video, or an academic paper, or using interactive handouts or social media to contribute suggestions and feedback.

Students on all Geography courses at Loughborough have a personal tutor from the day they arrive. During first year, you will meet with your tutor and their other tutees (usually a group of 5 or 6 students) regularly to discuss topics you have encountered in lectures, or to develop and practice study skills such as writing essays. You will also meet your tutor individually at least twice per year throughout your degree to discuss your progress and aspirations.

Most students will experience learning and teaching in other contexts such as seminar discussions (typically 20 students) or practicals. Practical classes might include analysing data using a computer, conducting chemical tests on soils, identifying organisms using a microscope, or learning how to sketch and edit a video documentary.

Finally, why not explore the world with us? Field work is an essential experience for all our geography students and contributes to both effective learning and personal development as well as creating some memorable experiences in unique locations. During first year most students will take part in local field work which might be in Loughborough town or in the surrounding countryside, and every student goes on the first year Peak District residential fieldcourse. This is your opportunity to get out and about collecting your own geographical data, to learn field-based skills and the importance of precision and accuracy in data collection and analysis. In later years we offer a range of residential fieldtrips. Destinations are chosen to provide appropriate academic opportunities and diverse experiences and vary from year to year. See pages 18-19 for more information on Field Work.

Assessment

As our methods of learning and teaching vary, so too do the modes of assessment that we use to monitor your progress through the degree. Many of our modules have an examination component and we use different types of exams, including short or unseen questions, multiple-choice questions, data interpretation or extended essays. On average around 50% of assessment of modules is by examination, however this precise figure will be different for every individual student depending on their programme of study, year of study and the optional modules chosen. The amount of coursework increases from year to year and for some of our students over 80% of their final year assessment is by coursework. Coursework assignments include essays, data-based reports, posters and oral presentations.

For some modules there is the opportunity to design a website or produce a video documentary to make your argument. The majority of assessed work is completed by students as individuals, however students are also expected to work in groups or as teams and may be required to complete group assignments.

The final year undergraduate dissertation (compulsory for single honours Geography, optional for all other courses) is the most significant single piece of work that our students will do. This is your opportunity to explore in detail a specific area of research questions tailored to your particular geographical interests. So if the impact of start-up businesses on geographies of the local economy, or the seasonal dynamics of coastal salt marshes has captured your imagination then you can spend up to one third of your final year studying this. The dissertation is a guided independent research project and you will have regular meetings with an academic advisor to discuss and get feedback on your plans and progress. Many students develop specialist skills and knowledge during their dissertation that increase their employability.

The lecturers are at the forefront of their research area, meaning we are always learning up-to-date critical information.

The reason I chose to study Geography at Loughborough rather than elsewhere was because the lecturers are at the forefront of their research area, meaning we are always learning up-to-date critical information and they are passionate and knowledgeable in their fields. The tutors in the Department are fantastic and usually have an open door policy so you can seek their help whenever you need. The support and knowledge they provide is outstanding. They are very friendly and by your final year you make great bonds with the lecturers, especially your personal tutor.

Philippa Fordham, BSc Geography
Frank Warwick, BSc Geography

Loughborough is like a big family. There is not one day where I’ve doubted my decision of coming here. Next I could be learning about social exclusion. I would recommend covering. One day I could be learning about geomorphology and the Earth System. What I like the most about my course is the wide variety of topics ‘Geography opens up many different doors in many different sectors.” What I like the most about my course is the wide variety of topics covered. One day I could be learning about geomorphology and the next I could be learning about social exclusion. I would recommend Loughborough to anyone. I have been here for nearly 3 years now and there is not one day where I’ve doubted my decision of coming here. Loughborough is like a big family.

Frank Warwick, BSc Geography

Kate Stone, BSc Geography

‘One of the great things about studying Geography at Loughborough is the variety of assessment and engagement with other students. Although the independent aspect of the course is important, there is also the opportunity to undertake group work. Also, there are a number of opportunities to attend fieldtrips. I went to Switzerland on the Alpine Studies module, which was a great experience.’

Kate Stone, BSc Geography

Geography is the integrated study of landscapes, peoples, places and environments and is therefore a vital subject through which to increase understanding of our rapidly changing planet. Through the interlinked strands of human and physical geography the discipline bridges the social sciences and natural sciences.

Single honours Geography students at Loughborough University study both of these strands in first year ensuring they have a sound understanding of how social and physical processes vary within the context of places and regions. In later years it is possible to specialise in one or more of the four main themes of the degree we offer: globalisation, geographies of identity, earth surface processes and environmental systems. This degree is an education for life and for living and we prepare you for the world of work by embedding employability skills throughout our curriculum.

About the course

The Geography degree is suitable for students with a wide range of backgrounds and interests. Throughout the degree, students take mainly geography modules, but there is the opportunity to take modules offered by other departments in the second and final years. In the first year you will study both human and physical geography as well as developing some important skills such as handling numerical data and collecting and analysing field data. In Geographies of Global Economic Change and Geographies of Identity you will focus on a range of critical and topical issues such as global geopolitics and the geographies of class, race and gender. Earth System Science introduces the fundamental principles of the physical environment and Environmental Hazards explores ways in which human-environment interactions can be mitigated and managed. During the first year Practising Geography Residential Fieldcourses we take all our students to the Peak District for a few days. This is a great opportunity to get to know your peer group, as well as staff, and to work on some interesting human and physical geography projects in and around the National Park.

In the second year students can develop their understanding of specific aspects of geography in more detail by choosing from a list of core modules (Globalisation, Geographies of Social Difference, Earth Surface Processes and Landforms, Environmental Systems and Resource Management) and complementary optional modules such as Exploring the Ice-Ages, Global Migration or one of our residential fieldcourses. Students enrolled on the four-year sandwich programme can either spend a year on work placement or studying overseas (see page 21). A major part of the final year is devoted to completing a dissertation on a geographical subject of your choice. This is a challenging independent research project that students develop on a one-to-one basis with a member of the teaching staff. In addition to the dissertation, students can specialise in human or physical geography choosing from options such as Globalised Urbanisation, Asian Processes and Landforms or overseas residential fieldcourses.

Placement Year ✔ Study Abroad ✔ Additional Award ✔

Year 1

Compulsory modules:
- Cartography and Digital Mapping
- Earth System Science
- Environmental Hazards: from mitigation to management
- Geographies of Global Economic Change
- Geographies of Identity
- Global Environmental Change at Local Scale
- Practising Geography Residential Fieldcourse
- Quantitative Methods in Geography
- Geography Tutorials

Year 2

Compulsory modules:
- Geographical Research: Design and Practice
- Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems
- Environmental Hazards: from mitigation to management
- Geographies of Global Economic Change
- Geographies of Identity
- Global Environmental Change at Local Scale
- Practising Geography Residential Fieldcourse
- Quantitative Methods in Geography
- Geography Tutorials

Final Year

Compulsory modules:
- Dissertation

Optional modules (not listed):
- Asian Processes and Landforms
- Alpine Studies Fieldcourse
- Brazilian Amazon: people and politics
- Marine Geohazards: risks and response
- Environmental Hazards: from mitigation to management
- Quantitative Methods in Geography
- Geographies of Global Economic Change
- Geographies of Identity
- Global Environmental Change at Local Scale
- Practising Geography Residential Fieldcourse
- Quantitative Methods in Geography
- Geography Tutorials

Entry requirements

A-Level: ABB including Geography
IB: 34 points including 5 at Hl in Geography
BTEC Level 3 Diploma: only accepted in combination with GCE A-Levels including Geography at grade B
SAQA: AB including Geography, plus Higher at majority B grades

Entry requirements correct at the time of print. Please check our website for the latest version and other qualifications.

In the UK for Student Satisfaction in Geography (National Student Survey 2013)

Geography (NATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY 2013)

Nationally:
- 4th
- Practising Geography Residential Fieldcourse
- 4th
- Placement Year
- 4th
- Study Abroad
- 4th
- Additional Award
- 4th

Ucas Code: B800

Entry requirements:

A-Level: ABB including Geography
IB: 34 points including 5 at Hl in Geography
BTEC Level 3 Diploma: only accepted in combination with GCE A-Levels including Geography at grade B
SAQA: AB including Geography, plus Higher at majority B grades

Entry requirements correct at the time of print. Please check our website for the latest version and other qualifications.

Placement Year ✔ Study Abroad ✔ Additional Award ✔

Year 1

Compulsory modules:
- Cartography and Digital Mapping
- Earth System Science
- Environmental Hazards: from mitigation to management
- Geographies of Global Economic Change
- Geographies of Identity
- Global Environmental Change at Local Scale
- Practising Geography Residential Fieldcourse
- Quantitative Methods in Geography
- Geography Tutorials

Year 2

Compulsory modules:
- Geographical Research: Design and Practice
- Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems
- Environmental Hazards: from mitigation to management
- Geographies of Global Economic Change
- Geographies of Identity
- Global Environmental Change at Local Scale
- Practising Geography Residential Fieldcourse
- Quantitative Methods in Geography
- Geography Tutorials

Final Year

Compulsory modules:
- Dissertation

Optional modules:
- Asian Processes and Landforms
- Alpine Studies Fieldcourse
- Brazilian Amazon: people and politics
- Marine Geohazards: risks and response
- Environmental Hazards: from mitigation to management
- Quantitative Methods in Geography
- Geographies of Global Economic Change
- Geographies of Identity
- Global Environmental Change at Local Scale
- Practising Geography Residential Fieldcourse
- Quantitative Methods in Geography
- Geography Tutorials

Entry requirements correct at the time of print. Please check our website for the latest version and other qualifications.

Contact details for all courses

T: +44 (0)1509 222794  |  E: geography.ug@lboro.ac.uk  |  www.lboro.ac.uk/geography
This is a combined honours degree and will appeal to students who are looking to develop a higher level of understanding in geography whilst also gaining some experience in the field of economics.

The course is run jointly by Geography and the School of Business and Economics. Each year, students spend two-thirds of their time studying geography and the remaining time studying economics.

About the course
This degree is suitable for students with a wide range of backgrounds – you do not need to have studied Economics at A-level but we do ask for at least two appropriate A2 subjects (General Studies not accepted). In the first year you will study both human and physical geography as well as developing some important skills such as handling numerical data and collecting and analysing field data. In Geographies of Global Economic Change and Geographies of Identity you will focus on a range of critical and topical issues such as global geopolitics and the geographies of class, race and gender. Earth System Science introduces the fundamental principles of the physical environment and Environmental Hazards explores ways in which human-environment interactions can be mitigated and managed. Principles of Macroeconomics and Principles of Microeconomics get you started in economics. In the second year, students choose from a selection of core and optional geography modules according to their developing interests – perhaps Globalisation or Sustainable Urban Geographies.

In economics your understanding of Macroeconomics and Microeconomics will be strengthened and developed through a range of optional modules available in both second and final years. These include topics such as International Economic Relations, Economics of the Welfare State and Energy and the Environment.

Students enrolled on the four-year sandwich programme can either spend a year on work placement or studying overseas (see page 21). Finalists can explore links between the two subjects in more detail by writing a Dissertation or an Independent Geographical Essay. Other geography options that are available include overseas residential fieldcourses in a variety of locations and a range of other options in both human and physical geography such as Globalised Urbanisation or Aeolian Processes and Landforms.

The staff are always hugely helpful and supportive. There is always someone in the Department to help you out and most of the lecturers hold an open door policy. It is also really helpful to have a departmental careers guide to help with jobs specifically relevant to your degree.

I enjoy the flexibility and choice that I have in my course. I was able to choose all of my individual modules in second and third year to ensure that I was studying what I really wanted to study, which is vital to being successful in your degree. Loughborough is a place for opportunities. There is something here for everyone, and everyone is invited to give new things a try. It’s big enough to provide something for everyone, but little families are formed creating a really tight knit, supportive community.

Fleur Southwood, BSc Geography with Economics

International Economic Relations
These include topics such as

- Microeconomics
- Principles of Macroeconomics
- Principles of Microeconomics

Quantitative Methods in Geography
Geography Tutorials

Year 1

- Compulsory modules:
  - Economics of the Financial System
  - Economics of the Welfare State
  - Energy and the Environment
  - Geographical Research: Design and Practice
  - Geographies of Globalisation
  - Geographies of Sustainable Urban Geographies

- Optional modules:
  - Earth System Science
  - Environmental Hazards
  - Globalised Urbanisation
  - Aeolian Processes and Landforms
  - Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems
  - Forest Ecology
  - Ecological Response
  - Geographies of Home
  - Geographies of Children and Youth
  - Geographies of Transnational Mobility and Diaspora
  - GIS Modelling and Flood Risk Management
  - Global Cities Fieldcourse
  - International Economic Relations
  - Introduction to Econometrics
  - Introduction to Finance
  - Lake System Dynamics
  - Physical Geography Fieldcourse
  - Remote Sensing
  - Geographical Research: Design and Practice

Year 2

- Compulsory modules:
  - Economics of the Financial System
  - Economics of the Welfare State
  - Energy and the Environment
  - Geographical Research: Design and Practice
  - Geographies of Globalisation
  - Geographies of Sustainable Urban Geographies

- Optional modules:
  - Earth System Science
  - Environmental Hazards
  - Globalised Urbanisation
  - Aeolian Processes and Landforms
  - Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems
  - Forest Ecology
  - Ecological Response
  - Geographies of Home
  - Geographies of Children and Youth
  - Geographies of Transnational Mobility and Diaspora
  - GIS Modelling and Flood Risk Management
  - Global Cities Fieldcourse
  - International Economic Relations
  - Introduction to Econometrics
  - Introduction to Finance
  - Mediterranean Rural Spaces Fieldcourse
  - Quaternary Environments
  - Economic Relations
  - Introduction to Econometrics
  - Introduction to Finance
  - Lake System Dynamics
  - Physical Geography Fieldcourse
  - Remote Sensing
  - Geographical Research: Design and Practice

Final Year

- Optional modules:
  - Aeolian Processes and Landforms
  - Alpine Studies Fieldcourse
  - Central American Dependency and Development
  - Climate and Society: Conservation principles and practice
  - Dissertation
  - Independent Geographical Essay
  - Economics of the Financial System
  - Economics of the Welfare State
  - Energy and the Environment
  - Geographical Research: Design and Practice
  - Geographies of Globalisation
  - Geographies of Sustainable Urban Geographies

- Additional modules:
  - Mediterranean Rural Spaces Fieldcourse
  - Quaternary Environments
  - Economic Relations
  - Introduction to Econometrics
  - Introduction to Finance
  - Lake System Dynamics
  - Physical Geography Fieldcourse
  - Remote Sensing
  - Geographical Research: Design and Practice

Placement Year

- Study Abroad
- Additional Award

Entry requirements

- A-levels: A*/A/A or AAB
- IB: 34-36 points including 5 at HL in Geography
- BTEC Level 3 Diploma: only accepted in combination with GCE A-levels including Geography at grade B
- SQAA: All including Geography, plus Higher at majority B grades

UCAS code

- LL17

Entry requirements

- A-levels: A*/A/A or AAB
- IB: 34-36 points including 5 at HL in Geography
- BTEC Level 3 Diploma: only accepted in combination with GCE A-levels including Geography at grade B
- SQAA: All including Geography, plus Higher at majority B grades

UCAS code

- LL17

Entry requirements

- A-levels: A*/A/A or AAB
- IB: 34-36 points including 5 at HL in Geography
- BTEC Level 3 Diploma: only accepted in combination with GCE A-levels including Geography at grade B
- SQAA: All including Geography, plus Higher at majority B grades

UCAS code

- LL17

Entry requirements

- A-levels: A*/A/A or AAB
- IB: 34-36 points including 5 at HL in Geography
- BTEC Level 3 Diploma: only accepted in combination with GCE A-levels including Geography at grade B
- SQAA: All including Geography, plus Higher at majority B grades

University prospectuses may be unavailable.

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Fleur Southwood, BSc Geography with Economics
I chose Geography and Management as it covers such a broad spectrum of topics, and the nature of both specialisms is so current and changeable.

I would recommend Loughborough without hesitation, I have had an incredible experience from the word go, both academically and socially.

Fiona Maynard, Geography and Management
Geography and Sport Management  BSc

This multi-disciplinary degree will appeal to students who are looking not only to extend their geographical knowledge and understanding but also to gain an insight into sport management.

The course is run jointly by Geography, the School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences and the School of Business and Economics.

About the course

Applicants must have studied Geography at A2 level and will build on this, taking a selection of geography modules in their first year, including aspects of both human and physical geography. First-year sport management modules consider the diversity of leisure activities and the opportunities for participation that are made available to consumers, as well as introducing some of the computer applications that are relevant to various mathematical, representation and management needs. Your two modules focus on sport marketing, accounting, and human resource management. Second year students also choose from a selection of geography modules according to their interests.

Students enrolled on the four-year sandwich programme can either spend a year on work placement or studying overseas (see page 21). In the final year students select from a wide range of modules. In geography these include an overseas fieldcourse, a dissertation or an Independent Geographical Essay and a range of other modules. In sport management there are modules exploring sport and leisure policy, strategic management, sports planning and promotion and many other topics.

“My degree offered a combination of my favourite two subjects and a flexible choice of modules, enabling me to tailor my degree to my personal interests.

The thing I enjoy most is the balance between study, sport and extracurricular activities, giving you more than just a degree, but an experience which you will remember for the rest of your life.

I have organised my professional work placement at IBM in London. This will provide me with relevant business experience and will combine with my academic study to help me gain employment once I graduate.”

Olly Hennessy, BSc Geography and Sport Management

Entry requirements

A-Level: BBB-ABB including Geography
IB: 34-36 points including 5 at HL in Geography
BTEC Level 3 Diploma: only accepted in combination with GCE A Levels including Geography at grade B
SQA: AH including Geography, plus Highers at majority B grades

Additional: Sporting / coaching interest required
Entry requirements correct at the time of print. Please check our website for the latest version and other qualifications.

Placement Year ✓ Study Abroad ✓ Additional Award ✓

Year 1

Compulsory modules:
• Earth System Science • Environmental Hazards: from mitigation to management • Geographies of Global Economic Change • Geographies of Identity • Geographies of Power and Place • Geographical Research: Design and Practice • Geographies of Social Difference • Global Migration

Optional modules: Introduction to Sociology of Sport; Olympic Studies; Environment of Leisure Management; The Leisure market

Year 2

Compulsory modules:
• The Marketing Mix for Sport and Leisure • Principles of Marketing for Sport and Leisure

Optional modules: Accounting for Business; Accounting for Managers; Geographies of Culture, Media and Representation; Earth Surface Processes and Landforms; Environmental Systems and Resource Management; Exploring the Ice Ages; Forest Ecology; Foundations of Sports Law; Geographical Research: Design and Practice; Geographies of Social Difference; Global Migration; Globalization: Human Geography Fieldcourse; Human Resource Management; Lake System Dynamics; Making Sense of Modern Sport; Managing Sport Organisations; Physical Activity; Somatic Behaviour and Health; Physical Geography Fieldcourse; Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems; River Ecology; Sport Policy and Politics in Culturally Diverse Societies; Sport, Ideologies and Values; Sustainable Urban Geographies

Final Year

Compulsory modules:
• Sport Policy Analysis

Optional modules: Advanced Sport Marketing; Asian Processes and Landforms; African Studies Fieldcourse; Central America: dependency and development; Climate and Society; Conservation: principles and practice; Dissertation (5,000 words); Independent Geographical Essay; Entrepreneurship and Innovation; Entrepreneurship and Small Business Planning; Environmental Change and Ecological Responses; Fundamentals of Geographic Management; Geographies of Children and Youth; Geographies of Home; Geographies of Transnational Mobility and Diaspora; GIS Modelling and Flood Risk Management; Global Cities Fieldcourse; Physical Activity and Health of Children; Marketing Communications; Mediterranean Rural Spaces Fieldcourse; Quaternary Environments; Regional Geography of the UK; River Dynamics and the Environment; Snow, Ice, Environment and Landscape; Sport and Social Theory; Sport, Gender and Place; Sport, the Body and Deviance; Sports Economics; Sports Governance; Globalized Urban Geographies

NB: While some module listings are indicative only - in any one year some modules may be unavailable.

Contact details for all courses T +44 (0)1509 222794 | E geographyug@lboro.ac.uk | www.lboro.ac.uk/geography

"The support provided by the Department is incredible.”

Every student has a personal tutor, helping them with academic matters, and the University offers an extensive range of pastoral care.

Olly Hennessy, Geography and Sport Management
Geography and Sports Science  BSc

This degree attracts many students to Loughborough because it allows them both to build upon their existing geographical skills and also to develop a theoretical and practical understanding of sports sciences.

The course is run jointly by Geography and the School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences. Students spend equal amounts of time studying each subject.

About the course

Applicants must have studied Geography at A2 level and will build on this, taking a selection of geography modules in their first year, including aspects of both human and physical geography. First-year sports science modules introduce topics such as physical activity and health, sport, sociology and psychology. Practical skills are developed in Teaching and Coaching during which students study the knowledge, skills and understanding underpinning selected sports.

In the second year, students choose from a selection of geography and sports science modules according to their interests, either developing existing interests or tackling new aspects of the two disciplines.

Students enrolled on the four-year sandwich programme can either spend a year on work placement or studying overseas (see page 21). Finalists can choose from a wide range of modules in geography, these include the opportunity to do an in-depth research project or an extended essay, an overseas fieldcourse and there is free choice from the list of other modules.

In sports science there are modules exploring equity and inclusion in physical activity, exercise psychology and sport and social theory and sport and exercise pedagogy.

‘The teaching quality is great and really varied in style – you will have lecturers who use a lot of imagery, those who tell a story, and those who engage the students throughout the whole lecture. I really appreciate the seminars in the sociology modules of sports science, as they give a chance for opinions to be shared and doubts to be raised.

Most of my lecturers in Geography are really open to you dropping in to their office to discuss your work. I had particularly great support from the department when I took a leave of absence to pursue an internship – they very much support you in what you think is best for you.’

Safaa Usmani, BSc Geography and Sports Science

The field trips in Geography are great!

They are the best way for me to really engage in a subject we are learning, as I learn best through experience. I also appreciate the equal balance between geography and sports science modules and the amount of topics that connect the two.

Safaa Usmani, Geography and Sports Science

Entry requirements

A-Level: AII including Geography
IB: 34-36 points including 5 at HL in Geography
BTEC Level 3 Diploma: only accepted in combination with GCE A Levels including Geography at grade B
SQA AH: AII including Geography, plus Highers at majority B grades

Additional: Sporting interest required. Evidence of excellence in sporting activities is an important part of the selection process

Duration: 3 years full-time

UCAS code: FC86

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-compulsory modules:
- Earth System Science • Environmental Hazards: from mitigation to management • Foundations of Sport and Exercise Psychology • Geographies of Global Economic Change • Geographies of Identity • Introduction to Sociology of Sport • Introduction to Physical Activity and Health • Practising Geography Residential Fieldcourse • Sport, Exercise and Health Pedagogies • Teaching and Coaching • Geography Tutorials

- optional modules: Physical Activity, Sedentary Behaviour and Health • Earth Surface Processes and Landforms • Environmental Systems and Resource Management: Exploring the Ice Ages • Forest Ecology • Geographical Research: Design and Practice • Geographies of Culture, Media and Representation • Geographies of Social Difference • Global Migration • Globalisation • Human Geography Fieldcourse • Lake System Dynamics • Making Sense of Modern Sport • Physical Geography Fieldcourse • Psychosocial Factors in Competitive Sport • Psychological Issues and Strategies in Sport • Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems • River Ecology • Sport and Exercise Pedagogy • Sport, Media and Values • Structural Environmentalism • Sustainable Urban Geographies • Teaching and Coaching

Year 1

Compulsory modules:
- Earth System Science • Environmental Hazards: from mitigation to management • Foundations of Sport and Exercise Psychology • Geographies of Global Economic Change • Geographies of Identity • Introduction to Sociology of Sport • Introduction to Physical Activity and Health • Practising Geography Residential Fieldcourse • Sport, Exercise and Health Pedagogies • Teaching and Coaching • Geography Tutorials

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Year 2

- optional modules: Physical Activity, Sedentary Behaviour and Health • Earth Surface Processes and Landforms • Environmental Systems and Resource Management: Exploring the Ice Ages • Forest Ecology • Geographical Research: Design and Practice • Geographies of Culture, Media and Representation • Geographies of Social Difference • Global Migration • Globalisation • Human Geography Fieldcourse • Lake System Dynamics • Making Sense of Modern Sport • Physical Geography Fieldcourse • Psychosocial Factors in Competitive Sport • Psychological Issues and Strategies in Sport • Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems • River Ecology • Sport and Exercise Pedagogy • Sport, Media and Values • Structural Environmentalism • Sustainable Urban Geographies • Teaching and Coaching

Final Year

- optional modules: Physical Activity, Sedentary Behaviour and Health • Earth Surface Processes and Landforms • Environmental Systems and Resource Management: Exploring the Ice Ages • Forest Ecology • Geographical Research: Design and Practice • Geographies of Culture, Media and Representation • Geographies of Social Difference • Global Migration • Globalisation • Human Geography Fieldcourse • Lake System Dynamics • Making Sense of Modern Sport • Physical Geography Fieldcourse • Psychosocial Factors in Competitive Sport • Psychological Issues and Strategies in Sport • Remote Sensing and Geographical Information Systems • River Ecology • Sport and Exercise Pedagogy • Sport, Media and Values • Structural Environmentalism • Sustainable Urban Geographies • Teaching and Coaching

NB Module listings are indicative only – in any one year some modules may be unavailable.
Geography is known throughout the University as the most sociable department. The field courses and various trips across the three years help to build friendships and social bonds which last throughout your degree.

Alex Capewell, BSc Geography

Field Work

Explore the world with us! We offer an exciting range of residential fieldtrips to students on all undergraduate degrees in Geography with locations as diverse as Crete, New York, Paris or Switzerland.

All of our first year students participate in the Practising Geography Residential Fieldtrip. This a fun-packed and busy few days of varied fieldwork in the Peak District. Everyone has a go at collecting their own human geography and physical geography data to learn about field-based research. In the second and final years of each degree programme, we offer optional residential fieldcourses to a variety of locations. In recent years, these have included field trips to New York, Paris and Switzerland.

Examples of current fieldtrips:

North Wales - Physical Geography
The second year Physical Geography Fieldcourse uses North Wales as a base. Here students undertake projects studying coastal systems, glacial history, river habitats and in-stream ecology. Field skills developed include the extraction and analysis of peat cores, vegetation surveys, geomorphological mapping and the characterisation of sediments.

Paris - Human Geography
The second year Human Geography Fieldcourse visits Paris where students spend their time examining the status of Paris as a world city and explore a number of key sites that stand at the intersection of global flows of capital and culture. Ethnographic approaches are also used to investigate different representations of Paris and to consider how these rely on particular ways of seeing, imagining and experiencing the city.

Arolla, Switzerland - Physical Geography
The final year Alpine Studies Fieldcourse takes students to the Arolla Valley in Switzerland. Here students develop their understanding of the geomorphological, hydrological and biogeographical processes that shape glaciated environments using techniques including dendrochronology, lichenometry, hazard mapping and sediment analysis.

Crete, Greece - Human Geography
The final year Mediterranean Rural Spaces Fieldcourse allows students to explore rural change and development on Crete, the largest island in Greece. Students travel around the central part of the island, in the Prefecture of Heraklion, and use filming equipment to create short documentaries as part of their assessment. They also write a field journal whilst there and an academic essay when they return. The Fieldcourse thus provides students with useful and creative research skills in human geography and allows them to see a side of Crete that few will have experienced before.

New York - Human Geography
The final year New York Fieldtrip gives students an opportunity to acquire an in-depth understanding of the processes underlying contemporary global city development. Students explore the city from different perspectives to understand the economic, social and political changes that have shaped New York’s past and present geographies.

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Study Abroad

Students on all courses have the opportunity to spend a year studying geography at an overseas university between the second and final years of their degree. It is a great chance to study in a different cultural context, as well as to broaden your horizons, travel and learn a new language.

Why study overseas?

The job market is an international one - not only will you be competing with UK graduates, but also with highly qualified graduates from other countries. The ability to communicate in another language is highly desirable; and demonstrating that you have lived, studied and worked in another environment enables you to compete more effectively - you’ll stand out and employers will notice you. A year studying abroad will improve your ability to:

- easily establish relations with people from different cultural backgrounds
- adapt well to new environments
- be flexible
- respond positively to challenges
- network effectively
- have an international perspective
- increase your independence.

How do I apply?

Students are made aware of forthcoming opportunities at the beginning of their second year of study at Loughborough – you will have the chance to talk to students who have just returned from a year studying overseas and find out more about the different universities available. Applications need to be made before Christmas in your second year, and you should know whether or not you have a place by Easter. A limited number of places, usually two, is available at each partner institution.

What will I study?

Typically, you will study a range of modules at the equivalent of second or final year level. The academic staff at Loughborough have approved modules at all the partner institutions so that you will have the relevant background knowledge. We also ensure that the geography you study overseas will fit with the ethos of the Loughborough programmes.

What will I study in?

Classes at most of our partner universities are taught in English. You will, however, be strongly encouraged to take language classes appropriate to the country in which you are studying so that you can make more of off-campus activities and chat with your fellow students in their native language. Partner universities that do not teach in English are the University of Valencia, Autonomous University of Madrid, University of Limoges and the University of Heidelberg where all study is in Spanish, French or German respectively. We recommend at least an A-Level or equivalent in the appropriate language if you intend to study at these institutions.

What does it cost?

Students on an Erasmus Exchange (Europe) for a full year pay reduced fees for that year to Loughborough University but are not liable for tuition fees at their chosen overseas University where an Erasmus agreement exists. Travel grants, contributing towards the additional costs of travel and towards differences in living costs are available for students participating in an Erasmus exchange.

Students on an international exchange (non-EU) for a full year pay reduced tuition fees for that year to Loughborough University (but not to the overseas institution). Travel grants are not available for non-EU exchanges. All students remain eligible for a full student loan during the period abroad.

Where can I study?

Europe: University of Lund, Sweden; University of Valencia, Spain; Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain; University of Limoges, France; University of Heidelberg, Germany; Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary.

Beyond Europe: Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Australia; University of Technology, Sydney, Australia; Kansai University, Japan; National University of Singapore; Purdue University, Indiana USA; University of New Mexico, Oklahoma State University.

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"Living, studying and travelling in a completely new environment and diverse culture has had immeasurable benefits for my personal development. This once in a lifetime opportunity enabled me to truly discover who I am and the direction of my life.”

Timothy Hayes, NUS Singapore

"My year abroad had a massive impact on me. Meeting so many people has made me really accepting of new cultures and given me loads of new contacts both socially and academically for my new career.”

Fiona Almond, University of Lund (Sweden)

"Inspiring Learning"
"Studying Geography at Loughborough University gave me a wide breadth and depth of skills that I use today in my role as Lifeguard Manager for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI)."

I regularly use specific parts of my degree (for example Aeolian Process and Landforms to aid beach risk assessments) and also some of the skills such as report writing, presentations, and group working. The tutors at Loughborough were an excellent point of contact for both academic studying and also welfare support whilst studying at the University, and are willing to ‘go the extra mile’ to ensure learning and understanding. Since graduating in 2008, I am still in regular contact with two of my tutors who continue to provide support and guidance, especially with regards to career development and personal development planning.

During the summer vacation periods while I was at University I worked as an RNLI Lifeguard on the beaches of Dorset. Once I completed my degree I took part in a management development programme (similar to a graduate scheme) and starting working in operational management at the RNLI. Having a degree from Loughborough University helped me gain a place on the management development programme, but I would also suggest that the additional extra-curricular opportunities at Loughborough helped me to develop my CV and build skills that were of equally high value.

In my current role I work as a Lifeguard Manager to deliver seasonal lifeguard services in the South East of the UK on behalf of Local Authorities and private landowners. I line manage a team of Lifeguard Supervisors and oversee the recruitment, training, and management of 300 seasonal lifeguards. As part of my role I also run two area support centres (which act as a maintenance hub for our operational equipment) and deliver wider prevention strategies that aid the local community by changing attitudes and behaviours. I work very closely with Lifeboat Station Volunteers and Flood Rescue teams to ensure that the RNLI provides a seamless rescue service from beach to open sea.

Rory Smith
Lifeguard Manager for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution

Geographers use these skills in a wide range of careers. 97%* of our graduates go straight into employment, or further study such as graduate teacher training. Some have taken up posts as cartographers and surveyors for local councils; others have entered graduate training schemes set within the utilities industries or by other major companies.

Employees of our graduates include Natural England, the Royal Geographical Society, the Highways Agency, the Home Office and the Armed Forces. Around 80% of all data collected in Britain today has some geographic reference, such as postcode or National Grid map references, and there can be no better graduates to use and interpret this wealth of geographical information than geographers.

Inspiring Graduates
Loughborough University and the Department of Geography have an excellent record in terms of academic development and career progression. A major contributing factor to this is the skills that our students develop during their degree including:

- critical enquiry
- problem identification and evaluation
- communication (written, oral and visual)
- data gathering and information retrieval
- problem solving and decision-making
- teamwork and leadership.

Graduate roles and destinations include:

- Isotope Apprentice, Natural Environment Research Council
- Procurement & Supply Chain Graduate, BP
- Pipeline Coordinators, Cammell Laird
- Junior Catastrophe Analyist, Hardy's Underwriting Ltd.
- Flood Modelling Assistant, JBA Consulting
- Sales Manager, Riverside Environmental
- Police Community Support Officer, Thames Valley Police
- Graduate Programme Leadership, Rolls Royce
- Auditor, Ordnance Survey
- Royal Marines Young Officer, Royal Marines
- Researcher, BBC
- Sampling & Data Collection Officer, Environment Agency
- Transport Planner, West Sussex County Council
- Officer Cadet, Royal Air Force
- Research Consultant, SQW Consulting
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Inspiring Winners

Graduate roles and destinations include:

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* of those available for work or study six months after graduation DLHE 2013
Admissions

Applications for undergraduate courses must be made online through the Universities and College Admissions Service (UCAS). This applies to all UK, EU and international students.

Loughborough’s institution name is LBRO, and our institution code is L79. We do not use campus codes. The course code will depend on the degree to which you are applying.

Here is your guide to the application process:
1. Attend an Open Day prior to starting your final year at college/school – you can find out when these are by looking at our prospectus or on our website.
2. Apply for your place through UCAS with the help of your school, college, or a careers organisation, such as Connexions.
3. Your application will then be reviewed by our admissions tutors.
4. Applications normally take up to a month to be processed.
5. You will receive notification via UCAS and a letter as to whether you have been given an unconditional offer, conditional offer or have been unsuccessful in your application.
6. If you receive an offer you will be invited to a departmental Visit Day to learn more about the Geography Department.
7. Make your choice of where you want to study via UCAS. If you make Loughborough your firm choice before the end of July you will be guaranteed a place in one of our halls of residence.
8. Final admissions decisions are made when examination results are announced. If you namely miss the conditions of your offer we may still be able to accept you either for your original course or for an alternative but related programme if we have places available. We will let you know the decision as soon as possible.

Admissions advice

Potential applicants often ask us for advice and guidance about completing their UCAS forms, so here are a few tips and suggestions:

- The personal statement should be exactly that – personal. There is no single right way or formula; we look for a genuine expression of your motivation, enthusiasm and suitability to study Geography with us (on its own or with another subject).
- Make sure you engage with both subjects if you are applying for a joint or combined programme. What fascinates you about this particular subject mix? Why are you well-placed to study it?
- Discuss how your academic studies and extra-curricular activities link to the proposed course of study. Give detailed examples.
- Tell us about other extra-curricular interests (hobbies, clubs you belong to, work experience) that make you a well-rounded person. Think about your potential contribution to the wider University community.
- Take presentation seriously; structure your text using paragraphs and avoid clichés. Double-check your statement for correct spelling and grammar.

For the most up to date requirement information, please visit: www.lboro.ac.uk/undergraduate

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How to find us

Loughborough is at the heart of England in the county of Leicestershire and being centrally placed it is well served by road, rail and air.

Main line road and rail networks link Loughborough directly with the rest of the country and London is one and a half hours away by train, Birmingham one hour and Manchester and Leeds around two hours.

Loughborough’s nearest motorway link is the M1; the campus is just two miles from Junction 23. The University is clearly signed on all the other main approach roads to Loughborough.

There are regular scheduled flights from UK, European and international destinations to East Midlands Airport, only 7 miles away.

Sat Nav users should use this postcode: LE11 3TT

For full details of how to find us by car or public transport visit www.lboro.ac.uk/about/findus.html

Get in Touch

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Open Days

Coming to one of our Open Days is the best way of sampling the Loughborough Experience for yourself. It gives you the chance to meet lecturers and students from the courses you are interested in, attend talks on subjects and department tours, take a guided tour of our campus, view Halls of Residence and check out the Students’ Union.

Full details of upcoming Open Day dates and how to register can be found at: www.lboro.ac.uk/opendays

‘I would tell anyone considering Loughborough to come to an Open Day. The atmosphere got me excited to study here.’

Robyn Potter, Undergraduate student
inspired beginnings, outstanding futures.

#InspiringWinners