

# Geography @ UK unis - quick facts

## Top 20\*

1 Cambridge	A*AA	11 Leeds	AAA
2 Durham	A*AA	12 Newcastle	AAB
3 Oxford	A*AA	13 Loughborough	AAB
4 St Andrews	AAA	14 UCL	AAA
5 Bristol	AAA/AAB	15 Manchester	AAB
6 Glasgow	AAB	16 Nottingham	AAB
7 LSE	AAA	17 Aberystwyth	BBB
8 Lancaster	AAB	18 Southampton	AAB
9 Exeter	AAA	19 Stirling	BBB
10 Birmingham	AAB	20 Aberdeen	BBB

\* Complete University Guide April 2020

## Must haves

Geography is usually required but is not compulsory at all universities. Physical geography courses, usually BSc, prefer at least one or two sciences. Human geography courses, usually BA, favour complementary subjects like economics, maths, history, politics, English or modern languages.

## Other degrees to consider

Geology, meteorology, geophysics, environmental geoscience, sociology, anthropology or a joint degree with a social science.

## Example course modules

In the first year, most geography courses cover both physical and human aspects. After that you specialise. In physical geography, you might cover climatology, biogeography and soils, earth systems, global climate systems. In human geography you might cover global worlds, global challenges, environment & society, urbanisation, culture & modernity, historical cultural geographies.

**Contact hours per week:** 10-15, average 12. (Average all subjects 14.)

## Career prospects

Like a lot of sciences, around one in five graduates in physical geography go on to further study, mainly for one-year masters courses. In the world of work, graduates often go into environment and heritage work, but also to general jobs in areas like marketing, business analysis and management, as these are well-rounded degrees that help graduates get a range of useful skills. On the human and social geography side, there is a shortage of social science graduates with really good maths skills, and graduates from these disciplines who have them are in demand from modern industry. An ability to combine good data handling skills with good communication and social skills will really help start your career, and that's something a geography degree with a good stats component can really bring to the jobs market.

**Average starting salary:** £22,000