



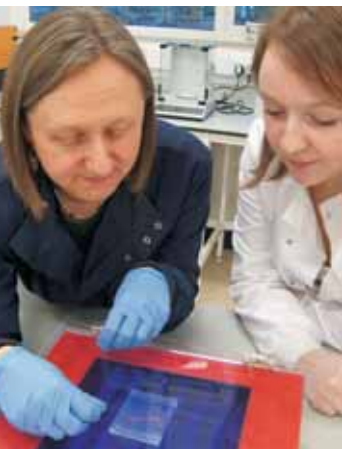
Biology and Geography BSc (Honours): CF18



In order to fully understand the functioning of our environment, and to be able to apply such understanding in conservation, landscape management and environmental policy, it is vital that we appreciate the dynamic interactions between life on Earth and physical processes. These subjects transcend the traditional divisions between scientific disciplines, and our Biology and Geography joint degree provides students with the opportunity for genuinely interdisciplinary study at degree level.



The important issues covered include the biological and environmental impacts of climate change, the influence of the environment at the physiological and community levels, and the process of environmental management.



The degree provides you with a progressive understanding and knowledge of these areas. You also gain career-relevant skills, particularly numeracy and IT capabilities, and build a capacity for lifelong learning. You will develop communication skills through oral presentations and writing of different types of material including essays, reports and websites. By working across two broad disciplines, you will soon become capable of synthesizing information from a wide variety of sources, and you will develop important laboratory and field skills. The course is taught by staff in the Lancaster Environment Centre, plus external lecturers from the Environment Agency, Natural England, the RSPB and the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology.



Entry requirements. Typically AAB at A-level for entry from the sixth form with at least two science subjects including Geography and one other from Biol/Chem/Comp/EnvSci/Maths/Phys, or equivalent 2 A- plus 2 AS-levels. Applicants with other types of qualification should enquire for details.

Specialist facilities. Biology and Geography are at the heart of Lancaster University's research and teaching priorities and the Lancaster Environment Centre is home to over 160 researchers in these areas. Our high level of European and UK research funding and activity allows Biology and Geography students access to the most up-to-date facilities, providing the opportunity to participate in cutting edge research in the field or the laboratory. Research interests include biodiversity and ecosystem function, behavioural ecology, soil ecology, food security and sustainable agriculture, geographical information systems, remote sensing, hydrodynamics, geomorphology, sedimentology, and coastal processes.

Careers information. Lancaster Biology and Geography graduates have a very good employment record. The majority of graduates go on to work in jobs related to their degree, including employment with nature conservation organisations, government agencies, industries such as water or power, and environmental consultancies, as well as research. Others enter jobs which require the skills developed through their degree, within sectors such as finance, manufacturing, marketing, leisure and travel.

Tracey Conterio

"I really enjoyed the atmosphere at Lancaster. All the staff are open and friendly which has made me feel like an important member of the academic community. Studying Biology and Geography has allowed me to continue to develop my interests in the two subjects along side each other looking at topics from different angles requiring their own distinctive approaches. My studies have covered a range of areas addressing many of the challenges of life today and providing me with all the skills I'll need to address issues such as globalization, technological change, and the environment in my future career."



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The Lancaster
Environment Centre

First Year

In the first year, students take Part I of their degree, which consists of three units. Two 5-module units of Biology and Physical Geography are compulsory, with the remaining unit being made up of a mixture of compulsory and optional modules chosen from Biology, Environmental Science or Geography. Assessment is through course work, end of module tests and summer examinations.

Unit 1: Environmental Biology

- Evolutionary Biology
- Variety of Life
- Aquatic Ecology
- Life in a Changing Environment
- Biodiversity & Conservation

Unit 2: Physical Geography

- Environmental Processes
- Geosphere-Biosphere
- Geographical Skills
- Geography Tutorials
- Human-Environmental Interactions

Unit 3:

- Environmental Issues for the 21st Century
- Interdisciplinary Skills
- Plus:*
- Choice of 3 modules from Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geography.

Second Year

Students take two specialist subject modules in each subject area during the Michaelmas and Lent terms, along with courses in data analysis and research skills. Modules are assessed through course work, end of module tests and examinations. Exams take place during the summer term. In the final term of the second year, students begin a dissertation module, which involves an original piece of research, undertaken either in LEC or via a work placement.

Compulsory modules

- Geography Techniques
- Data Collection & Analysis
- Research Design & Delivery
- Environmental Biology Dissertation

Biology Theme

Select two modules from:

- Populations to Ecosystems
- Principles of Biodiversity Conservation
- Evolution
- Environmental Physiology
- Cell Biology
- Biochemistry
- Genetics
- Medical Microbiology

Geography Theme

Select two modules from:

- Earth Surface Processes
- Biogeography and Geomorphology
- Enterprise for the Environment
- Environment and Society
- Natural Resources and Sustainable Development
- Communicating Geography
- Iceland Field Course

Third Year

Students take a total of six specialist subject modules in the Michaelmas and Lent terms. Two modules are selected from those available in biology, and four from those in Geography. Biology research project dissertations are also completed during the first term of third year.

Biology Theme:

Select two modules from:

- Ecology Field Course
- Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution
- Animal Behaviour
- Environmental Plant Biology
- Ecophysiology of Host-Pest Interactions
- Issues in Conservation Biology
- Conservation in Practice
- Global Change Biology
- Sustainable Agriculture

Geography Theme:

Select four modules from those on offer, including:

- Geographies of Agriculture: Global Development and Ecosystem Change
- Environment, Politics and Society in Amazonia
- Holocene Environmental Change
- Recent Change in Aquatic Environments
- Environmental Remote Sensing and Image Processing
- Lakes, Rivers & Estuaries
- Coastal Processes
- Glacial Systems
- Physical Geography Field Course – Spain
- The Making of the British Countryside