



Department of Geography  
and Earth Sciences

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Undergraduate studies in

**Geography, Environmental and  
Earth Sciences, and Sociology**

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## Important information

The programme information published in this brochure was correct at time of going to print (October 2023) and may be subject to change. Prospective students are advised to check the definitive programme information, including entry requirements, that is available on our website before making an application, to ensure that the programme meets their needs.



# Welcome

The Department of Geography and Earth Sciences is one of the largest and most experienced of its kind in the UK, specialising in a broad range of themes across the natural, physical and social sciences. We have recently celebrated a century of Geography at Aberystwyth, and have been teaching Earth Sciences for even longer! We are ranked Top 5 in the UK and Top in Wales for overall student satisfaction for the subject of Human Geography and Top 10 in the UK and Top in Wales for overall student satisfaction for the subject of Physical Geographical Sciences (National Student Satisfaction Survey 2022).

We have a long-standing tradition of offering contemporary and exciting degree schemes, and have recently added a range of Sociology courses to our portfolio, born out of over 100 years of cutting-edge social science research at Aberystwyth University.

The majority of our single honours courses are available with the option of an integrated year in industry or with an integrated year studying abroad, enabling you to get the most out of your time at university and gain a head start when entering the competitive job market after you graduate. Our foundation year courses will ensure you receive a solid grounding in the essential skills you will need to successfully complete your chosen degree path.

Our staff are passionate about what they do. They are dedicated researchers and lecturers, many of whom are at the forefront of their respective fields. Their first-hand knowledge of the world is fed into our undergraduate courses through a variety of specialist themes.

We provide you with a range of learning opportunities, whether it be in a lecture theatre, seminar class, tutorial, or in laboratory or field courses. You will be assessed in a variety of ways, including exams, reports, presentations, videos and essays, all of which are designed to enhance your subject-specific, personal and transferable skill sets. As well as highly satisfied students, we have always had a strong track record of producing highly employable graduates who go on to work in a wide range of careers, or to further study.

Further information about our courses and other opportunities can be found in this booklet. Why not join us on an Open Day / Online Open Day or Applicant Visiting Day to see for yourself what makes Aberystwyth such an incredible place to study.

**Dr Hywel Griffiths**  
Director of Admissions  
Department of Geography and Earth Sciences

# Our courses

## Single Honours

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# Criminology and Sociology

BSc (Hons) | ML93 | 3 years

Our Criminology and Sociology degree will enable you to learn about key concepts which help to explain how crime and deviance is perceived by society. In addition, these complementary disciplines will allow you to examine the interdisciplinary nature of crime, criminality and society as well as the relationship between society and crime.

On this course you will gain an in-depth understanding of society and criminality and will be introduced to new perspectives on social inequality and social change that are taking place both locally and internationally.

Providing insight on criminology from a sociological perspective, our degree will give you the sophisticated knowledge and analytical skill set needed for breaking into the public and social sectors, as well as the criminal justice system. Alternatively, it is a great starting block for further study.

You will benefit from:

- being taught by criminologists and sociologists who are actively engaged in research
- the chance to undertake a criminal justice work placement
- benefitting from our excellent working relationships with local organisations and criminal justice agencies
- undertaking supervised independent criminological research.

### Employability

The Criminology and Sociology degree provides an excellent academic foundation for careers in the criminal justice sector, including the Police, HM Prison and The National Probation Service, and youth justice. Completing the degree can also provide opportunities to work in crime or intelligence analysis, community care and social work, as well as in local, regional and national government agencies.

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Crime Control and Prevention \*
- Essential Skills for Criminologists \*
- Introduction to Criminology \*
- Key Concepts in Sociology
- Place and Identity
- Thinking Sociologically.

### Second and final year:

- Quantitative Research Skills \*
- Sociological Theory
- Genders and Sexualities
- Empirically Based Dissertation \* or Law and Criminology Dissertation \*
- Critical and Radical Criminology \*.

Optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests include:


- Contemporary Global Migration
- Placing Culture
- Placing Politics \*
- Geographical Information Systems
- Cybercrime and Cybersecurity \*
- Wrongful convictions in criminological context
- Everyday Social Worlds
- Critical Perspectives on Imprisonment
- Urban Risk and Environmental Resilience
- Psychological Explanations of Criminal Behaviour
- Memory Cultures: heritage, identity and power
- Treatment and Rehabilitation of Offenders.

For more details on the optional modules available to develop your specialist interests, see the current list on our website, or contact us.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

## Key Facts

 **Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 120-96  
IB: 30-26.

 **Assessment weighting:**  
100% coursework or 50% coursework and 50% exams.

 **Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes.

# Environmental Earth Science

BSc (Hons) | F640 | 3 years

Aberystwyth is surrounded by a great natural laboratory that provides us with many excellent sites for fieldwork. Our field equipment and laboratory facilities will help you explore core skills in Environmental Earth Science and apply these to a wide range of environmental problems.

You will study planet Earth as a unified system, exploring the interactions between the solid rocky Earth (lithosphere) and the secondary environment, which includes the hydrosphere, biosphere and atmosphere. This degree will train you in field and practical skills which can be applied to solving some of the most urgent environmental issues facing our society such as pollution from human activities like mining and power production, site investigation for land redevelopment and understanding volcanic eruptions.

You will benefit from:

- being taught by and learning with world-leading researchers
- having access to analytical facilities which are recognised by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) to support project work
- fieldwork in each year of your degree - themes may include geological processes, environmental pollution, energy and resources, and sustainable development
- developing professional skills throughout your degree.

## Employability

Employability is embedded within all our courses. Our degrees provide a solid foundation for a vast array of careers across a range of sectors. In a rapidly shifting global economy, our graduates are adaptable and able to draw on a range of transferable skills, ensuring that they are always in demand. Our graduates have, for example, found employment as environmental consultants, planners, civil servants, surveyors and in education.

## Key Facts



**Typical offer:**  
**UCAS tariff points:** 120-96 to include a C in Biology, Chemistry, Geography or Physics  
**IB:** 30-26 with 5 points in a science subject at Higher Level.



**Assessment weighting:**  
 65% coursework and 35% exams.



**Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes.



**Also available:**  
**F642** Integrated year studying abroad.  
**F643** Integrated year in industry.  
**F64F** Integrated foundation year.

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- An Introduction to Earth Materials
- Earth Surface Environments
- Fieldwork Skills
- Researching the World : Data Collection and Analysis
- How to Build a Planet \*
- Life on Earth.

### Second year:

- Advanced Earth Materials
- Environmental Earth Science Research Design and Fieldwork Skills
- Fundamentals of Geochemistry
- Chemical Analysis of Natural Materials
- Geographic Information Systems.

### Final year:

- Environmental Geochemistry and Biogeochemistry
- Applied Environmental Management
- Monitoring our Planet's Health from Space
- Glaciers and Ice Sheets
- People, Climate and Environment: a Palaeoenvironmental Perspective
- Sedimentary Environments
- Volcanic Activity: Hazards and Environmental Change
- Environmental Earth Science Dissertation \*.

See our website for the optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.



# Environmental Science

BSc (Hons) | F750 | 3 years

Our Environmental Science degree explores some of the most important issues and challenges currently facing society. We offer the unique opportunity to study these in both the Department of Geography and Earth Sciences and the Department of Life Sciences, where you will be taught by world-leading researchers.

The degree focuses on past, present and future environmental processes and their complex interactions with human activities. You will also investigate societal response to both natural and human-induced environmental changes and evaluate the ways in which they are managed.

We offer several overseas field courses and a number of opportunities for local fieldwork, so that you can make the most of our stunning location.

You will benefit from:

- a wide range of laboratory facilities, including an Earth observation laboratory, palaeoecology laboratory, aquarium systems for both marine and freshwater organisms, advanced microscopy and bio-imaging laboratory, facilities for DNA sequencing, metabolomics and proteomics, and a modelling laboratory for spatial and temporal integration of biological data
- being taught by and learning with world-leading researchers in their respective fields
- developing professional skills and training throughout your degree.

## Employability

Employability is embedded within all our courses. Our degrees provide a solid foundation for a vast array of careers across a range of sectors. In a rapidly shifting global economy, our graduates are adaptable and able to draw on a range of transferable skills, ensuring that they are always in demand. Our graduates have, for example, found employment as environmental consultants, planners, civil servants, surveyors and in education.

## Key Facts



**Typical offer:**  
**UCAS tariff points:** 120-96 to include a C in Biology, Chemistry, Geography or Physics  
**IB:** 30-26 with 5 points in a science subject at Higher Level.



**Assessment weighting:**  
 50% coursework, 50% exams.



**Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes.



**Also available:**  
**F752** Integrated year studying abroad.  
**F753** Integrated year in industry.  
**F75F** Integrated foundation year.

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Earth Surface Environments
- Microbial and Plant Diversity \*
- Genetics, Evolution and Diversity
- Fieldwork Skills
- How to Build a Planet \*
- Researching the World: data collection and analysis.

### Second year:

- Physical Geography and Environmental Science Research Design and Fieldwork Skills
- Chemical Analysis of Natural Materials
- Reconstructing Past Environments
- Ecological Surveying \*
- Catchment Systems \*
- Climate Change: Plants, Animals and Ecosystems
- Environmental Microbiology and Monitoring \*.

### Final year:

- Applied Environmental Management
- Glaciers and Ice Sheets
- Sedimentary Environments
- Volcanic Activity: Hazards and Environmental Change
- Environmental Regulation and Consultancy
- Global Biodiversity Conservation
- Marine and Freshwater Field Course
- Population and Community Ecology
- Terrestrial Ecology Fieldcourse \*
- Wildlife Conservation
- Environmental Science Dissertation \*.

See our website for the optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.



# Geography

BSc (Hons) | F800 | 3 years

Our Geography degree offers the opportunity to explore key topics in both human and physical geography. Themes include hydrological systems; glacial processes; geomorphology; soils; ecosystem dynamics; cultural and historical geography; urbanisation, rural change and development; place and identity; and globalisation.

You will also have the opportunity to study interdisciplinary themes such as environmental change, geohazards and sustainability, and also receive specific skills training, for example in remote sensing and geographic information systems (GIS). Our flexible degree structure means you can specialise in a particular field or maintain a breadth of interests throughout the course, allowing you to focus on themes that excite you.

We offer a broad range of fieldwork opportunities including a free local trip at the beginning of the first year. In the second year we offer a range of trips to suit a variety of specialisms and budgets. Current destinations include north Wales (free), Birmingham and the West Midlands (free), Berlin (at additional cost) and the Alps (at additional cost). Day trips are also embedded in certain modules throughout your degree.

You will benefit from:

- being taught by and learning with world-leading researchers in their respective fields
- studying a course accredited by the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers)
- use of exceptional facilities for laboratory work in soils, water quality and pollen identification, social investigation and data processing.

## Employability

Employability is embedded within all our courses. Our degrees provide a solid foundation for a vast array of careers across a range of sectors. In a rapidly shifting global economy, our graduates are adaptable and able to draw on a range of transferable skills, ensuring that they are always in demand. Our graduates have, for example, found employment as environmental consultants, planners, civil servants, surveyors and in education.

## Key Facts



**Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 120-96  
IB: 30-26.



**Assessment weighting:**  
65% coursework, 35% exams.



**Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes.



## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Conflict and Change: the Making of Urban and Rural Spaces \*
- Earth Surface Environments
- Living in a Dangerous World \*
- Place and Identity
- Researching the World: Data Collection and Analysis
- How to Build a Planet \*

### Second year:

- Geographical Information Systems
- Concepts for Geographers
- Geography Research Design and Fieldwork Skills \*
- Physical Analysis of Natural Materials
- Frozen Planet
- Catchment Systems \*
- Placing Culture
- Geographical Perspectives on the Sustainable Society
- Social Research Methods \*

### Final year:

- Applied Environmental Management
- Contemporary Global Migration
- Everyday Social Worlds
- Glaciers and Ice Sheets
- Sedimentary Environments
- The Psychosocial Century
- Volcanic Activity: Hazards and Environmental Change
- Geography Dissertation \*

See our website for the optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.



**Also available:**  
**F802** Integrated year studying abroad.  
**F803** Integrated year in industry.  
**F80F** Integrated foundation year.



# Human Geography

BSc (Hons) | L700 | 3 years

Our Human Geography degree addresses some of the major issues facing the world today, including globalisation, sustainable development, inequality and poverty, geopolitics, nationalism and regionalism, urban and rural change, and migration.

You will study the historical processes behind contemporary trends, drawing together perspectives from different countries and cultures, and use different sources ranging from maps and statistics, to film, art and literature.

We offer a broad range of fieldwork opportunities including a free local trip at the beginning of the first year. In the second year we offer a range of trips to suit a variety of specialisms and budgets. Current destinations include Birmingham and the West Midlands (free) and Berlin (at additional cost). Day trips are also embedded in certain modules throughout your degree (destinations are subject to change).

You will benefit from:

- studying a course accredited by the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers)
- being taught by world-leading researchers in their respective fields throughout your course
- professional skills and training throughout your degree.

## Employability

Employability is embedded within all our courses. Our degrees provide a solid foundation for a vast array of careers across a range of sectors. In a rapidly shifting global economy, our graduates are adaptable and able to draw on a range of transferable skills, ensuring that they are always in demand. Our graduates have, for example, found employment as planners, civil servants, surveyors and in education.

## Key Facts

**Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 120-96  
IB: 30-26.

**Assessment weighting:**  
75% coursework, 25% exams.

**Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes.



## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Conflict and Change: the Making of Urban and Rural Spaces \*
- Living in a Dangerous World \*
- Place and Identity \*
- Thinking Sociologically
- Researching the World: Data Collection and Analysis.

### Second year:

- Concepts for Geographers
- Human Geography Research Design and Fieldwork Skills \*
- Placing Culture
- Placing Politics \*
- Social Research Methods \*
- Geographical Perspectives on the Sustainable Society.

### Final year:

- Contemporary Global Migration
- Everyday Social Worlds
- The Global Countryside: Geographical and Sociological Perspectives
- Memory Cultures: Heritage, Identity and Power
- Modern British Landscapes
- The Psychosocial Century
- Urban Risk and Environmental Resilience
- Geography Dissertation \*.

See our website for the optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

**Also available:**  
L703 Integrated year in industry.  
L704 Integrated year studying abroad.  
L70F Integrated foundation year.



# Physical Geography

BSc (Hons) | F840 | 3 years

The Physical Geography degree allows you to explore the fundamental processes that shape the world in which we live. Supported by a teaching team of world-leading researchers you will investigate key themes including Quaternary environmental change, hydrological systems, glacial processes, geomorphology, soils and ecosystem dynamics.

As a physical geography student, you can also choose to study topics of an interdisciplinary nature, including environmental management, sustainability, Earth resources and natural hazards. The structure of the degree enables you to either specialise in a particular field or to maintain a breadth of interest throughout your course.

We offer a broad range of fieldwork opportunities including a free local trip at the beginning of the first year. In the second year we offer a range of trips to suit a variety of specialisms and budgets. Current destinations include north Wales (free) and the Alps (at additional cost). Day trips are also embedded in some modules throughout your degree.

You will benefit from:

- studying a course accredited by the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers)
- use of exceptional facilities for laboratory work in chemical and physical analysis (for example, for soils, water quality and pollen identification), and access to the latest remote sensing and software GIS packages
- being taught by and learning with world-leading researchers in their respective fields.

## Employability

Employability is embedded within all our courses. Our degrees provide a solid foundation for a vast array of careers across a range of sectors. In a rapidly shifting global economy, our graduates are adaptable and able to draw on a range of transferable skills, ensuring that they are always in demand. Our graduates have, for example, found employment as environmental consultants, planners, civil servants, surveyors and in education.



## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Earth Surface Environments
- Living in a Dangerous World \*
- Researching the World: Data Collection and Analysis
- How to Build a Planet \*
- An introduction to Earth Materials
- Life on Earth.

### Second year:

- Geographic Information Systems
- Catchment Systems \*
- Chemical Analysis of Natural Materials
- Physical Geography and Environmental Science Research Design and Fieldwork Skills \*
- Physical Analysis of Natural Materials
- Reconstructing Past Environments
- The Frozen Planet.

### Final year:

- Applied Environmental Management
- Glaciers and Ice Sheets
- People, Climate and Environment: a Palaeoenvironmental Perspective
- Sedimentary Environments
- Volcanic Activity: Hazards and Environmental Change
- Geography Dissertation \*

See our website for the optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

## Key Facts

**Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 120-96  
IB: 30-26.

**Assessment weighting:**  
65% coursework, 35% exams.

**Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes.

**Also available:**  
**F845** Integrated year studying abroad.  
**F846** Integrated year in industry.  
**F84F** Integrated foundation year.

# Psychology and Sociology

BSc (Hons) | LC38 | 3 years

The Psychology and Sociology degree will enable you to engage with psychological theory and research and explore how psychology is applied to real-world personal and social issues. The course will also enable you to explore both the personal and social nature of human experience from different perspectives.

On this degree you will learn how to critically evaluate ideas, concepts and approaches across the whole of the subject areas and within particular branches of Psychology and Sociology. The course will also draw attention to the connections between human behaviour and the wider social systems (including communities, cities and nations) within which we live. You will learn how to conduct independent research and will become acquainted with a range of qualitative and quantitative methods, digital data sources, and modes of data collection, analysis and presentation. You will also learn how to apply the key concepts associated with psychology and sociology in real-world situations and develop your employability skills.

You will benefit from:

- a wide range of expertise among our research-active staff
- access to eye tracking, an electroencephalogram (EEG), physiological measurement equipment and behavioural measurements equipment
- a range of practical classes and data collection supervision in both disciplines
- learning from live research projects that enable you to encounter cutting-edge theoretical and empirical understandings of the social world.

**Employability** The study of Psychology and Sociology provides a solid foundation for you to consider a wide range of careers including the media, social work, international development, community engagement and the Civil Service, to name a few. Our graduates have progressed on to careers in the Police force; health and social care; social work; social policy (including public housing, social work, local government administration and the voluntary sector); management; journalism; public relations; teaching and research.

## Key Facts

**Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 120-96  
IB: 30-26.

**Assessment weighting:** 40% coursework, 60% exams.

**Field trips/fieldwork:** Yes.

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Brain, Behaviour and Cognition
- Introduction to Core Topics in Social and Individual Behaviour
- Introduction to Research Methods in Psychology \*
- Key Concepts in Sociology
- Place and Identity
- Thinking Sociologically.

### Second year:

- Cognitive Psychology
- Sociological Theory
- Qualitative Research Methods
- Quantitative Research Methods \*
- Social Psychology
- Genders and Sexualities.

### Final year:

- Behavioural Neuroscience
- Developmental Psychology
- Psychology Research Project
- Everyday Social Worlds.

See our website for the optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.



# Sociology

BSc (Hons) | L300 | 3 years

The BA Sociology degree at Aberystwyth University will train you to develop a critical awareness of and engagement with the social world. By studying this course, you will develop a thorough grounding in the key sociological perspectives, both historical and contemporary, that have been employed by sociologists to understand society. You will also develop your ability to analyse social phenomena through training in the collection, analysis and presentation of sociological data.

By studying this course, you will develop a thorough grounding in the conceptual and theoretical approaches that have been employed by sociologists to study the world around us. You will also develop your ability to analyse social phenomena through training in the collection, analysis and presentation of sociological data.

You will benefit from:

- experiencing the value and significance of research methods training in Sociology, with hands-on research methods supervision and an intensive supervised data collection week in the second year
- learning how to apply the key concepts associated with sociology in real-world situations and develop your employability skills
- learning from our research strengths to ensure that you are exposed to cutting-edge theoretical and empirical understandings analysed through a sociological lens.

## Employability

Our Sociology degree provides a good foundation for you to consider a wide range of careers including the media, social work, international development, community engagement and the Civil Service among many others. Nowadays, employers are seeking graduates who possess various skills which include the ability to think analytically and laterally. This degree will provide you with a breadth and flexibility of skills, which is why Sociology graduates nationally are attractive to employers.

## Key Facts



**Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 120-96  
IB: 30-26.



**Assessment weighting:** 80% coursework, 20% exams.



**Field trips/fieldwork:** No.



**Also available:**  
L302 Integrated year studying abroad.  
L303 Integrated year in industry.  
L30F Integrated foundation year.

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Thinking Sociologically
- Key Concepts in Sociology
- Place and Identity.

### Second year:

- Genders and Sexualities
- Sociological Theory
- Placing Culture
- Sociological Research in the 'Field'.

### Final year:

- Sociology Dissertation \*
- Everyday Social Worlds.

Optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests include:

- Contemporary Global Migration
- Gender and the Media
- Placing Politics \*

For more details on the optional modules available, see the current list on our website, or contact us.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.



# Sociology and Politics

BSc (Hons) | LL32 | 3 years

Our Sociology and Politics degree will enable you to develop critical awareness of the world around you by studying both the social and political landscape. You will learn about the conceptual and theoretical methods used by sociologists to study the world. At the same time, your exploration of the political world will provide you with information about political influences on social norms and processes.

On this course you will learn how to look critically at the world, by analysing social phenomena and through learning how to collect, interpret and introduce sociological data. You will also discover how politics has the ability to change lives, about the big ideas that shape our social, economic and political worlds, and how these ideas become policies.

You will benefit from:

- experiencing the value and significance of research methods training in Sociology, with hands-on research methods supervision and an intensive supervised data collection week in the second year
- learning how to apply the key concepts associated with sociology in real-world situations and develop your employability skills
- critically engaging with key debates about fundamental issues of politics, such as good government, the nature of the state, justice and rights, and the rule of law
- reflecting on the ways that states and societies address political problems such as the distribution of limited resources, the balance between order and justice, liberty and security, rights and opportunities, and between power at the local, national and international level.

## Employability

Our Sociology and Politics graduates are well placed to enter roles in the development sector, local and national politics, the Civil Service, Government and social research, social work and social policy (including public housing, local government administration and the voluntary sector), roles in the third sector such as with NGOs and charities, work with international organisations, public relations and journalism, teaching and management.

## Key Facts



**Typical offer:**  
UCAS tariff points: 120-96  
IB: 30-26.



**Assessment weighting:** 40% coursework, 60% exams.



**Field trips/fieldwork:** No.

## Module list

Below is an indicative list of modules that you may study on this course.

### First year:

- Behind the Headlines \*
- Exploring the International 1: Central Concepts And Core Skills \*
- Key Concepts in Sociology
- Place and Identity
- Politics in the 21st Century \*
- Thinking Sociologically.

### Second year:

- Sociological Theory
- People and Power: Understanding Comparative Politics Today \*
- Sociological Research in the 'Field'
- Genders and Sexualities.

### Final year:

- Everyday Social Worlds
- Sociology Dissertation \*.

Optional modules you may select to develop your specialist interests include:

- Contemporary Global Migration
- Gender and the Media
- Placing Politics \*.

For more details on the optional modules available, see the current list on our website, or contact us.

\* also available partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh.

# Joint Honours

Subject	Available with...	Joint Honours
Geography	Welsh	LQ75
Physical Geography	Computer Science	FG84





## Studying through the medium of Welsh

Aberystwyth University offers a high level of provision for students to be able to study through the medium of Welsh - one of the highest in Wales.

The Department of Geography and Earth Sciences provides all students with the opportunity to study part of their course through the medium of Welsh. We offer a number of modules and courses which can be studied partially or entirely through the medium of Welsh. You can study some modules in Welsh, even if you are studying mainly in English, and you can choose to submit your coursework in Welsh.

There are opportunities for students who are fluent in Welsh, in addition to those who are less confident or are learners. There are variations in undergraduate course modules and the amount that can be studied through the medium of Welsh.

'Addewidion Aber' is Aberystwyth University's commitment to develop Welsh medium provisions following the University's Welsh-medium Academic Strategy. This is the most comprehensive plan of its kind by any university in Wales.

These pledges highlight what is special about Aberystwyth and how the University offers a complete Welsh experience to students, including:

- Flexible opportunities to study through the medium of Welsh in all departments
- Guaranteed Welsh-speaking Personal Tutor
- Bilingual work experience
- Guaranteed Welsh-medium accommodation
- Support for learning and improving your Welsh
- Money in your pocket for following between 5 and 40 credits in Welsh
- Free membership of the Welsh Students' Union (Undeb Myfyrwyr Cymraeg Aberystwyth)
- Space for Welsh-medium societies to meet.

## Employability

We want all our students to achieve their ambitions. That's why we make every effort to help you gain the skills you need to succeed in the workplace during your time at university. Individual enterprise, technical competence, group discussion and teamwork, and leadership skills are all encouraged through a range of opportunities provided in lecture, seminar, tutorial, library, field and practical settings.

Our integrated year in industry degree schemes for Geography, Physical Geography, Environmental Science, Environmental Earth Science, and Human Geography and Sociology will allow you to gain valuable experience in the workplace during a long paid placement and improve your career prospects after graduating. The year in industry takes place during your third year, after which you will return to Aberystwyth to complete your degree in your fourth year.

Recent graduates have gone into a range of careers, including regional and local environmental consultancy, planning and development, travel and tourism, local government, education and outreach, journalism, and careers in the civil service.



# Research

You will be taught by world-leading researchers during your time in Aberystwyth. Our staff are experts across a broad range of areas of human geography, physical geography, environmental science, Earth science and sociology, working across several distinct research groups: Centre for Glaciology; Cultural and Historical Geography; Earth Observation and Ecosystem Dynamics; Earth Surface Processes; Quaternary Environmental Change; Society, Place and Politics; and Interdisciplinary Centre for Environmental Microbiology and Geochemistry.

In the most recent UK-wide research assessment (REF 2021), 95% of research in the Department of Geography & Earth Sciences was classed as world leading or internationally excellent, signifying both the quality and breadth of research that we undertake. A key feature of the 'research-led teaching' ethos at Aberystwyth, is that you will have regular contact with acknowledged pioneers and leaders in their respective fields. This ensures that you are exposed to the latest academic thinking in undergraduate lectures, tutorials, seminars and field courses throughout our programmes.

**CHERISH (Climate, Heritage and Environments of Reefs, Islands and Headlands):** EU Funded Project that aims to increase knowledge and understanding of the impacts (past, present and near-future) of climate change, increased storminess and extreme weather events on the cultural heritage of reefs, islands and headlands of the Welsh and Irish regional seas, also involving the Royal Commission, The Discovery Programme and Geological Survey, Ireland.

[cherishproject.eu](https://www.cherishproject.eu) [f](#) CHERISH Project [X](#) @CHERISHproj

**RIPFISH (Rift Propagation For ice SHEET models):** This NERC funded project aims to answer questions surrounding the uncertainty in global sea level rise that is associated with Antarctica's ice shelves. The project assesses the processes of glacier ice fracture and rifting that lead to ice shelf disintegration, both now and in the future. The investigation brings together leading researchers across Wales from Aberystwyth and Swansea Universities.

[www.aber.ac.uk/en/dges/research/centre-glaciology/](http://www.aber.ac.uk/en/dges/research/centre-glaciology/)

[f](#) AUCfG [X](#) @AU\_CfG

**Global Mangrove Watch:** Thriving mangroves are key to the health of nature and effective climate action. This collaboration between Aberystwyth researchers and the International Water Management Institute, the Nature Conservancy, Solo Earth Observation and Wetlands International has created an online platform that provides the remote sensing data and tools for monitoring mangroves necessary for this. It gives universal access to near real-time information on where and what changes there are to mangroves across the world and highlights why they are valuable.

[www.globalmangrovetwatch.org](https://www.globalmangrovetwatch.org) [X](#) @GlobalMangroves

**Coastal Uplands Heritage and Tourism (CUPHAT):** This collaboration between researchers in geography, life sciences and business studies in Aberystwyth and University College Dublin and the Dyfed Archaeological Trust showcased the natural and cultural heritage of coastal upland areas in Ireland and Wales, including by using new digital platforms. The project's aims was to increase sustainable and regenerative forms of tourism within these areas, thus leading to the creation of more sustainable livelihoods, communities and environments.

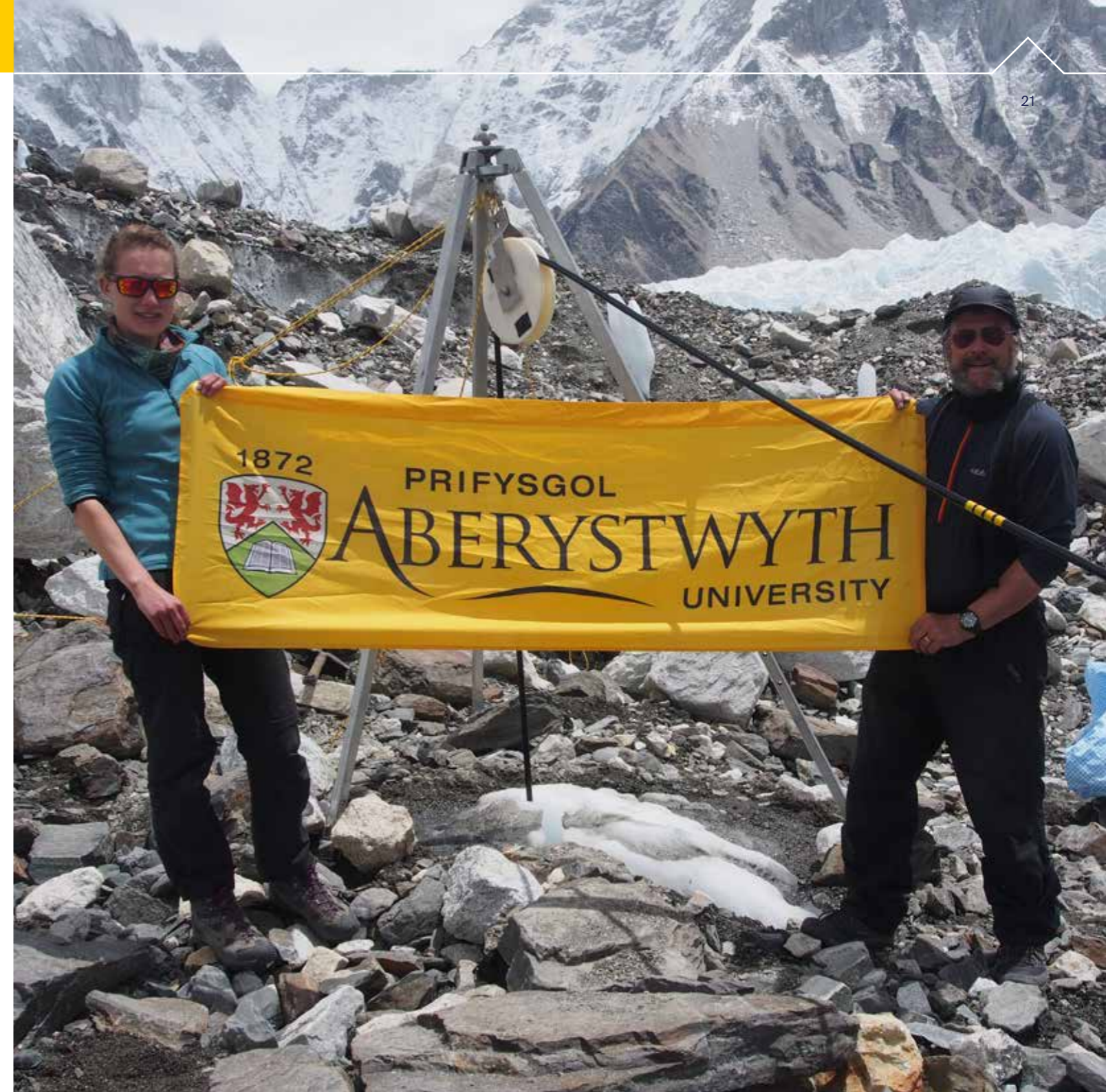
<https://coastaluplands.com/>

[f](#) Coastal Uplands: Heritage and Tourism (Cuphat)

[X](#) @CUP\_HAT\_

**WISERD Civil Society:** As part of this ESRC-funded research centre, Aberystwyth human geographers have collaborated with geographers, economists and sociologists in Bangor, Cardiff and Swansea universities and Queensland University of Technology to explore structures of elite patronage in civil society organisations, trajectories of environmental activism in the UK and Australia, and the challenge of political polarisation in local communities.

[www.wiserd.ac.uk](http://www.wiserd.ac.uk) [f](#) WISERDNews [X](#) @WISERDNews





# Global opportunities

Aberystwyth's Global Opportunities team offer an exciting range of options for you to go overseas as part of your degree: from short courses and volunteering opportunities in the summer, to a full semester or year abroad studying your chosen subject at one of our partner universities.

The University also offers a number of courses which include an integrated year studying abroad, enabling you to study at one of our European or international partner universities for one or two semesters during your third year, returning to Aberystwyth for your final year and graduation.

Reports have shown that students who study abroad are more attractive to employers and earn more than their peers. Take advantage of the opportunity of a lifetime while improving your critical skills by choosing to study abroad.



# How to apply

Once you've decided what course you want to study and where, you'll be able to start the university application process. Here's a brief overview of the process and our procedures here at Aberystwyth.

## 1 Apply through UCAS.com

Deadline 31 January. Aberystwyth University institution code: A40.

**TOP TIP:** You'll be given a 10-digit UCAS ID number. Keep this to hand as you'll be asked for it many times.

## 2 The University will consider your offer

**TOP TIP:** Use UCAS Hub to keep an eye on your application. At Aberystwyth we aim to make a decision within four weeks.

## 3 The offer will show on UCAS Hub

## 4 Decide where to go

Once you've received all your offers, you'll need to decide which university you want to go to, within a set time. This is when you'll need to note which universities will be your firm and insurance choices.

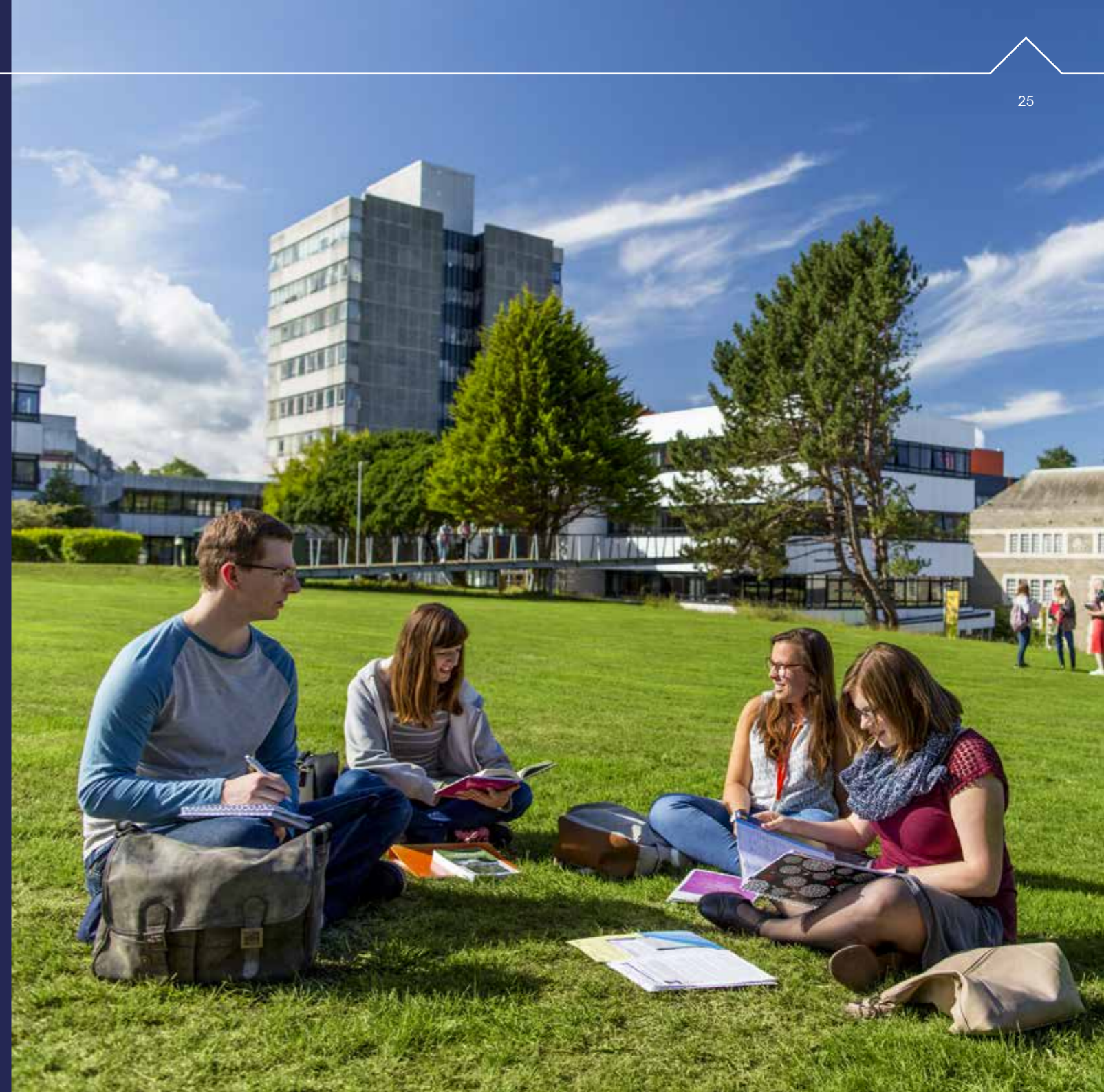
## 5 Accommodation

Once you've chosen your firm/insurance choice you'll be able to apply for your accommodation (April onwards).

## 6 Results day

UCAS Hub will confirm your offer of a place. If you're not clear what the offer is, contact the university directly. If you don't get the grades you've hoped for, you may want to consider entering Clearing.

## 7 Start packing!





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