Geography and Planning
BA Honours

A world-class university in a world-famous city

UCAS code LK74
3 Years

www.ncl.ac.uk/ug/LK74

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If you would like to study human geography alongside issues relating to urban planning then this degree is for you.

You will learn about the social forces that shape our society and spaces we live in, and will discover a variety of techniques for ‘reading’ cities and spaces.

You will examine the practices of public planning and design, and explore the political and democratic factors which influence it.

The degree integrates core areas from our geography and urban planning degrees and is designed to equip you with strong analytical skills and practical implementation abilities.

Your first year is professionally accredited by the Royal Town Planning Institute.

Highlights of this degree

Quality and ranking
Geography at Newcastle is highly regarded. We rank:

- top 100 – Geography category – QS World University Rankings by Subject 2019
- top 150 – Urban Planning category – QS World University Rankings by Subject 2019
- top 200 – Social Sciences category – Times Higher Education World University Rankings by Subject 2018
- 10th in the UK for research – Research Excellence Framework 2014
- 16th in the UK for research (Architecture, Built Environment and Planning) – Research Excellence Framework 2014

Professional accreditation*
Stage 1 of this degree is accredited by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI).

Some students particularly enjoy the planning element of this degree and decide they’d like to become a town planner. The accredited first year means you’re eligible to transfer to our Master of Planning MPlan Honours or Urban Planning BA Honours degree if this is something you decide you’d like to pursue.

*All professional accreditations are reviewed regularly by their professional body.

What you will study
You study a broad range of theory and practice, including building design, mapping science, global social and economic change, and local environmental initiatives.

You will study key themes throughout your degree:

- social and cultural development – concerned with understanding the social forces that are reshaping our society
- urban and regional development – exploring the changing patterns of urban and regional activity
- planning – examining the processes and practices of public planning and control

You will gain a wide range of knowledge and practical skills that can lead to a range of careers. Previous graduates have gone on to work as planners or surveyors, or in organisations such as Natural England or National Park authorities.

Boost your employability with a work placement
Apply to spend 9 to 12 months on an optional work placement between Stages 2 and 3. You can apply to spend your placement year with any organisation and will receive University support to do so. You’ll gain first-hand experience of working in the sector, putting your learning into practice and developing your professional expertise.

It will extend your degree by a year and is subject to availability, however it isn’t available if you’re spending a year studying abroad.

Find out more about Work Placements.

Study abroad
You have the opportunity to take part in a study abroad exchange.

Find out more about study abroad.

Facilities and support
As a Geography and Planning student at Newcastle, you will be part of the University’s School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape and will also spend time in the School of Geography, Politics and Sociology. You will be based in the Henry Daysh Building, re-opening from major refurbishment in January 2020, and have access to a dedicated planning studio with computing facilities and social space.

Facilities
We are Britain’s largest and longest-established planning school, with excellence in town planning, architecture, landscape architecture, urban design and digital architecture.

Take a virtual tour of the facilities available for planning and geography students.
Support
You’ll be supported by a personal tutor throughout your degree – an academic member of staff who can help with academic and personal issues. You’ll also have access to a peer mentor in your first year – a fellow student who can help you settle in and answer any questions you have.

Careers Support
We are committed to developing your employability and have a dedicated careers adviser to offer advice and guidance throughout your degree.

If you choose to change to the Masters of Planning (MPlan) degree during your studies, we will help you to secure placement opportunities in a range of planning environments to which you can apply.

Social activities
You’ll become part of a really lively community of staff and students.

Our student-run society, GeogSoc, is one of the University's largest, organising events throughout the year.

Course Details

Stage 1

Compulsory modules
GEO1010 Interconnected World
GEO1015 Human Geographies of the UK
GEO1018 Geographical Analysis
TCP1014 Planning Processes
TCP1019 Economics of Development I
TCP1027 Shaping Towns and Cities
TCP1028 Disciplinary and Professional Perspectives on Planning

Requests for a transfer from stage 1 of LK74 into stage 2 of K421 or K400 can be considered only if you have passed all stage 1 modules.

Stage 2

Compulsory modules
TCP2027 Research skills

Optional modules
You choose 100 credits of modules from the lists below. You are advised to select 60 credits from semester 1 and 40 from semester 2 in order to give a 60/60 credit balance.

You must select a minimum of 40 credits from the following Geography modules:
GEO2047 Political Geography
GEO2099 Economic Geography
GEO2103 Development and Globalisation
GEO2110 Social Geographies

You must select a minimum of 40 credits from the following Planning modules:
TCP2005 Houses and Homes
TCP2006 Design and Neighbourhood
TCP2025 Researching Local Economies
TCP2028 Understanding Cities
TCP2030 Urban Poverty: A Global Perspective
TCP2031 Digital Civics - Designing Applications for Digital Public Engagement
TCP2033 Urban Infrastructures: A Lens on the City
TCP2034 How Public is Public Space? An Interdisciplinary Perspective
TCP2035 Study Visit
TCP2036 Global Course on Institutional Design for Spatial Planning
APL2035 Participation: Theories and Practice

You may select the following module:
NCL2007 Career Development for Second Year Students

Work Placement (optional)
Stage 2
You can apply to spend 9 to 12 months on an optional work placement between Stages 2 and 3. You can apply to spend your placement year with any organisation and will receive University support to do so. It will extend your degree by a year and is subject to availability. It isn’t available if you’re spending a year studying abroad. Find out more about Work Placements.

Year 3 (Placement Year)
On completion of Stage 2 and before entering Stage 3, you may as part of your studies for the degree spend a year in a placement with an approved organisation. If you are required to re-sit your Stage 2 assessment, you must delay the start of your placement until you have done so. If you fail Stage 2, you may not complete a placement year.

NCL3000 Careers Service Placement Year Module

Stage 3

Compulsory modules
TCP3099  Dissertation

Optional modules
You choose 80 credits of modules from the following lists. You are advised to select 40 credits each semester in order to give a 60/60 credit balance.
You must select 40 credits from the following Geography modules (to follow some of these modules you are required to have followed certain modules at Stage 2):
GEO3063 Militarism: Space and Society
GEO3102 Geopolitics
GEO3103 Geographies of Money
GEO3114 Local and Regional Development
GEO3125 Critical History, Participatory Theory and Practice in the Caribbean
GEO3134 Geographies of Sustainability
GEO3145 Humanitarianism: Representation, Intervention and Rescue
GEO3146 Geographies of Working Lives
GEO3149 Geographies of Film
GEO3151 Geographies of Health
GEO3153 Geographies of Race and Nation
You must select 40 credits from the following Planning modules:
TCP3028 Strategies into Action: Planning
TCP3053 Development Management
TCP3054 Planning Theory and Politics
TCP3055 Erasmus Exchange
TCP3056 Disasters, Monsters and Mess
TCP3059 Strategies into Action: Urban Design*
TCP3060 Food: Space and Polity
TCP3061 Contemporary Planning Issues
APL3004 Chinese Politics, Culture and Urban Development: Architecture, Planning and Visual Culture
*You must have previously taken the TCP2006.
If you did not take NCL2007 in Stage 2, you may take the following in place of a Stage 3 option from a subject you took 60 credits from in Stage 2:

NCL3007 Career Development for Final Year Students

Teaching and assessment

Study at the cutting edge
The research findings of our staff are integrated into the curriculum of our degrees, allowing us to offer you an extremely broad range of topics at the forefront of current issues in geography.
We focus on real-world challenges such as climate change, natural hazards, economic development and sustainability, so you are prepared to meet the challenges of the future.

Teaching methods
All of our geography courses enjoy a high level of staff and student interaction, including:

• tutorials
• lectures
• laboratory work
• seminars.

All modules also require a considerable amount of independent study, culminating in a dissertation under expert supervision in Stage 3.

Assessment methods
You’ll be assessed by a combination of examinations and course work.
Course work may include reports, essays, presentations and data analysis.

Find out more
Visit our Teaching & Learning pages to read about the outstanding learning experience available to all students at Newcastle University.

Careers

Geography and Planning careers
Our graduates’ excellent employment record is a sign of the flexibility and professionalism that our geography degrees develop.
The range of skills that geographers acquire is much sought after by employers, and our graduates therefore have access to a wide variety of careers.
Our degrees provide experience of a host of general skills including written and oral presentation, teamwork, project management, problem solving, numeracy, computing, mapping and graphics and research skills.
Geographers are adaptable, and their broad understanding and range of approaches to the world and its problems are relevant to many different jobs.
Planning Graduates will leave with sought after skills, including teamwork, project management, research and presentation skills, and will therefore have access to a wide variety of careers. A Geography and Planning degree from Newcastle will ensure you develop the skills that employers look for and can open the doors to a wide range of careers.

Many of our graduates enter careers in recruitment, marketing, PR, insurance, research, and business management, as well as in the not-for-profit sector. Others continue their studies in areas including real estate, town planning and education.

Find out more about the career options for Geography from Prospects: The UK’s Official Careers Website.

What our graduates go on to do: employment and further study choices

See what our recent graduates went on to do and view graduate destinations statistics. These statistics are based on what graduates were doing on a specific date, approximately six months after graduation. Take a look at the most recent data available for our graduates.

The destination data is available in varying levels, beginning with the University and moving through Faculty and School down to individual course reports. This final level may give you some useful ideas about possible options after your course or a course you are considering.

Careers and employability at Newcastle

Newcastle University consistently has one of the best records for graduate employment in the UK.

96% of our 2017 UK-domiciled UG/PG graduates progressed to employment or further study within six months of graduating.

85.5% of our graduates are in graduate level employment or further study within six months of graduating.

We provide an extensive range of opportunities to all students through an initiative called ncl+. This enables you to develop personal, employability and enterprise skills and to give you the edge in the employment market after you graduate.

Our award-winning Careers Service is one of the largest and best in the country, and we have strong links with employers.

Tuition Fees (UK students)

2020 entry: £9,250

For programmes where you can spend a year on a work placement or studying abroad, you will receive a significant fee reduction for that year.

Some of our degrees involve additional costs which are not covered by your tuition fees.

Please note:

The maximum fee that we are permitted to charge for UK students is set by the UK government.

As a general principle, you should expect the tuition fee to increase in each subsequent academic year of your course, subject to government regulations on fee increases and in line with inflation.

See more information on all aspects of student finance relating to Newcastle University.

Tuition Fees (EU students)

2020 entry: £9,250

You will pay the same tuition fees as UK students for the duration of your course.

For programmes where you can spend a year on a work placement or studying abroad, you will receive a significant fee reduction for that year.

Some of our degrees involve additional costs which are not covered by your tuition fees.

Please note:

As a general principle, you should expect the tuition fee to increase in each subsequent academic year of your course, subject to government regulations on fee increases and in line with inflation.

See more information on all aspects of student finance relating to Newcastle University.

Tuition Fees (International students)

2020 entry*: £19,800

*Please note:

You will be charged tuition fees for each year of your degree programme (unless you are on a shorter exchange programme).

The tuition fee amount you will pay may increase slightly year on year as a result of inflation.

If you spend a year on placement or studying abroad as part of your degree you may pay a reduced fee for that year.

See more information on all aspects of student finance relating to Newcastle University.

Fees & Funding
Scholarships and Financial Support (UK students)
You may be eligible for one of a range of Newcastle University Scholarships in addition to government financial support.
Newcastle University Scholarships
Government financial support

Scholarships and Financial Support (EU students)
You may be eligible for one of a range of Newcastle University Scholarships in addition to government financial support.
Newcastle University Scholarships
Government financial support

Scholarships and Financial Support (International students)
We offer a range of scholarships to eligible international students:
Vice-Chancellor’s International Scholarships
Vice-Chancellor’s Excellence Scholarships
Vice-Chancellor’s Global Scholarships
We also offer International Family Discounts which are available for all international students with a close family member who has graduated from or is now studying at Newcastle University.
Newcastle University offers Sanctuary Scholarships for eligible undergraduate students (excludes MBBS and BDS students) from asylum-seeker and refugee backgrounds.
Some of our subject scholarships and sports scholarships are also available for international students.

UCAS buzzword
Ask your teacher or adviser from your school or college for the UCAS buzzword. You need the buzzword when you register on the Apply system. This makes it clear which school or college you are applying from.
All UK schools and colleges and a small number of EU and international establishments are registered with UCAS.
If you are applying independently, or are applying from a school or college which is not registered to manage applications, you will still use the Apply system. You will not need a buzzword.

Making your application
On the UCAS website you can also find out more about:
• application deadlines and other important dates
• offers and tracking your application

Application decisions and enquiries
Find out more about our admissions process and who to contact if you need help with your application.

The Old Quadrangle, at the heart of campus

Apply

Applying to Newcastle University through UCAS
To apply for undergraduate study at Newcastle you must use the online application system managed by the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS).
UCAS codes for Newcastle University
• institution name - NEWC
• institution code - N21