

Get ready for UWE BA(Hons) Geography

This is an exciting time for you and no doubt you are looking forward to getting on with this new chapter in your life. As your Programme Leaders, we warmly welcome you onto your BA(Hons) Geography degree programme.



During your induction, the team will provide you with the information you need to make your time at UWE Bristol successful. It is important that you fully engage with this in order to ensure you start your degree well, and to get to know the other students on your programme. In the meantime, we have provided some information below that will help you to prepare for starting with us.

We look forward to meeting you in September.

Dr Andrew Tallon and Dr Billy Clayton

Programme Leaders for BA Geography

Before you start

We are looking forward to welcoming you in the week commencing 15 September for Starting Block and the beginning of your programme. Starting Block will help you settle into university and to help you get to know your teaching team and course mates. We will help you find your way around, get used to our systems, and practise the skills you need to make a strong start. Look out for further emails and explore the [Starting Block website](#) with more details.

Your personalised teaching timetable will be available to you via MYUWE (login required) once you have started the registration process. Please visit the '[Understanding your teaching timetable](#)' website to find out when your timetable will be published.

Preparing and arrival

You can find everything you need to know about registration, Starting Block and the start of teaching, on our [Preparing and Arrival](#) webpage. Take a look at our website to familiarise yourself with our facilities and services such as the [library](#), [study skills](#), [academic support](#), [health and wellbeing support](#) and much more.

Our [study skills workbook](#) introduces you to essential services as well as key skills.

You can also explore our support for careers and enterprise. [UWE Careers & Enterprise](#) provide a range of workshops, appointments and a huge range of online resources to support students in realising their future ambitions. The [Careers Toolkit](#) is our online portal for finding vacancies, booking onto events and accessing a range of resources.

Registration

Once you have satisfied all admissions requirements, we'll send you your login details for our IT systems to enable you to activate your university email account. Once your account has been activated, you'll gain access to the [MYUWE](#) platform where you can register. Note that your login details for MYUWE are different to those used for the UWE Welcome website. Registration for September programmes will only be open from August onwards. You can find guidance and further information on our [Registration](#) website.

ID card – upload your photo now

We can only print your ID card if you have added your photo to [MYUWE](#). To avoid delays, upload your photo as soon as you receive login details. For help, go to our [student card guidance](#).

Engage with your programme

Start your learning

This pre-arrival activity will form the basis of various field trips throughout the course, and a key wider element of the course: the study of real-world issues in varying geographical localities and in the context of a learning community.

1. Think about the economic, social and environmental indicators that could be used to classify and describe the status and characteristics of an urban or rural area.
2. Using the internet, research the problems facing urban and rural places across the UK, in the context of the economic and social impacts of Covid-19 and the cost-of-living crisis.
3. What are the issues and problems surrounding the regeneration and redevelopment of declining places across the UK, and what can be done to attract investment and visitors back to such places?
4. We will be undertaking several UK and overseas field trips to exciting and engaging locations over the next three years, and you will also complete an individual Extended Independent Project (dissertation). What sorts of ethical and methodological issues arise from conducting geographical research in the field?
5. Read widely and engage with global issues related to geopolitics, trade, migration, tourism and travel, resource use, and the climate crisis on a regular basis, as a real-world foundation related to the modules that you will be studying from later in the year.

Read around your subject

To succeed within your chosen programme, you will need to think critically about key issues and practices. Here are some books to help you to understand the scope of your programme:

- Dombroski, K., Goodwin, M., Qian, J., Williams, A., & Cloke, P. (Eds.). (2024). *Introducing Human Geographies* (4th ed.). Routledge.
- Short, J. R. & Benton-Short, L. (2025) *Human geography: a short introduction*. Third edition. New York: Oxford University Press Inc.
- Murray, W.E. and Overton, J. (2014) *Geographies of Globalization*, London: Routledge, 2nd Edition

Connect with others

You can follow the geography department and Geography Society on Twitter: [@UWE_GEM](#) and take a look at our [UWE Bristol Geography LinkedIn group](#) and perhaps create your own LinkedIn account and connect with us!

You can also choose to join the student [Geography and Environmental Society here at UWE](#), who organise a variety of academic and social events throughout the year.

Be prepared

Access support

Check the information on our [Disability web pages](#) so you know what you need to do. If you need any urgent additional mobility or other support to fully access all activities during your studies, contact me as your programme leader.

Get equipped

The University has computers on all our campuses for you to use during your studies. These provide access to our core digital learning tools and any specialist software required for your course. You may have scheduled sessions in computer labs or other specialist facilities, and you will be able to use open-access PCs for self-study.

UWE Bristol licenses many specialist software packages for use on personal laptops for the duration of your course. If you're struggling to meet the financial demands of your course, please contact [the Student Money Service](#) team for advice and guidance.

See the UWE website for detailed information on [choosing your IT equipment](#) including [recommended specifications](#).

The core software used on your course includes:

- MS Office Applications (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Outlook, Teams)
- ArcGIS Pro (digital cartography and spatial analysis)
- IBM SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) and other statistical software
- NVivo (qualitative analysis software)

All these packages will run on Windows devices, but some may not on Macs, tablets or Chromebooks. We recommend that you have access to a device with the following minimum specifications:



- Windows 10 operating system
- A processor that is at least a hyper threaded dual core (ideally a quad core)
- At least 8GB RAM (ideally 16GB)
- At least 32GB available disk space (ideally with an SSD hard drive)

International students

[The Global Student Support Team](#) offer information and advice to ensure you receive all the support you need to get the best from your time at UWE Bristol. They are here to help you to settle in when you first arrive at UWE Bristol and organise social events to help you to adapt to your new environment.

Whom to contact if you have questions

For any questions about the programme, please contact:

	<p>Dr Andrew Tallon Co-Programme Lead – BA Geography Email: andrew.tallon@uwe.ac.uk Phone: +44 (0) 117 32 82098</p>
	<p>Dr Billy Clayton Co-Programme Lead – BA Geography Email: william2.clayton@uwe.ac.uk Phone: +44 (0) 117 32 82316</p>

Please note: this information has been provided on the assumption that you will meet the conditions of your offer and be eligible to take up your place.

Entry: September 2025

Current version: Spring 2025