THE LITTLE BOOK OF GEOGRAPHY AT BROOKES
What will I study?

In year 1, as well as taking introductory modules to prepare you for more specialised study, you will have your first taste of undergraduate fieldwork through the ‘Geography of the Oxford Region’ module.

In year 2 you will take specialist modules and go on residential fieldwork that will further emphasise the importance of fieldwork and build on your research methods training.

In your final year you will have the opportunity to concentrate on specific areas or issues reflecting the research expertise of staff, and to embark on your own fieldwork and dissertation!

The course content is organised around three areas in which staff have active research experience: Human Origins and Palaeoenvironments, Social and Cultural Change, and Environmental and Conservation Management.

Throughout your three years at Brookes you will learn how these themes affect everyday lives, discuss them critically, and think about alternative ways of solving problems associated with them.
Geography in Oxford

Oxfordshire’s beautiful countryside also offers plenty of local fieldwork opportunities, and the city centre boasts internationally renowned museums. The Pitt Rivers and Natural History Museums are on your doorstep – as are the Ashmolean Museum and Bodleian Libraries. These are unique and invaluable resources that you’ll quickly become familiar with.
“The Pitt Rivers Museum, Natural History Museum and the Ashmolean Museum have been really useful to me and I’ve visited numerous times throughout my studies to see artifacts and exhibitions.”

LILY ISABELLE GRAHAM-STEWART, GEOGRAPHY AND ANTHROPOLOGY GRADUATE
Specialist facilities

As a geography student you will have access to laboratory facilities that enable you to perform scientific tests ranging from measuring soil properties through detailed sedimentary analysis, to computer modelling and tracking chemical changes through time and space.

You will also be taught how to use both conventional presentation and dedicated software for data analysis.
Fieldwork and field trips

You will participate in local field trips in the Oxford region in your first year. In your second year, a week-long residential field course gives you the opportunity to apply the research skills you will have developed in class, and in your final year you can undertake independent fieldwork as part of your dissertation! The optional ‘Expedition’ module also offers students the opportunity to travel overseas for fieldwork.

Field trip destinations vary from year to year, but the most regular destinations for field trips are either Spain or Malta.
“I decided to combine Business with Geography as both relate to real world issues. One helps you understand globalisation and the other shows you how businesses have to adapt. Also, Geography has exciting field trips! I went to Malta with my course mates, and carried out fieldwork on the theme of festivalisation. This involved surveying locals about the upcoming Valletta International Baroque Festival, and we even got a special behind the scenes tour of the theatre afterwards!”

NICOLA RYMELL, GEOGRAPHY AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT GRADUATE
“The course appealed to me both academically and for my future career prospects, and the offer of a study abroad programme really sold it!”

RACHEL KAMALL, GEOGRAPHY AND SOCIOLOGY GRADUATE

88% of Geography students were satisfied with the quality of the course

2017 National Student Survey.
Source: Unistats.
Work experience and employment

Geographers at Brookes have undertaken work placements at a variety of NGOs, sometimes as part of their own research projects. These have included management support roles with Oxfordshire’s Wychwood Volunteers and participation in the International Citizenship Service programme with Operation Raleigh on a community project in India.

If you choose to take the module ‘Independent Study: Work and Community Related Learning’ you will have the opportunity to develop an academic programme of study alongside work experience, community work or volunteering.

Brookes Geography graduates have gone on to careers in cartography, environmental management, conservation, education, accountancy, and insurance. Many choose to go on to postgraduate study.

Our friendly, close-knit team will help you get the most out of the course. You will have your own academic advisor from within the Geography team (or your other subject if you choose to combine) and all lecturers have scheduled office hours where you will be encouraged to talk outside of the classroom to discuss your work and ideas.
“I chose to study Geography at university because I enjoyed studying it at school. Geography involves so much and can be linked to many different subjects, so it’s easy to remain interested. The best part of the course was our trip to Malta (obviously!) As well as the social side of being away with the other students, it was a great experience to be out in the field and using everything we had learnt in the classroom to carry out real research.”

TAYLOR SAMUEL–BEECHEY, GEOGRAPHY AND EDUCATION STUDIES GRADUATE
Research and expertise

You will be taught by tutors who are active researchers with strong international reputations. They draw on their own research to create modules that you will love.

Our areas of staff research expertise include:

- **Organic geochemistry**
- **Political geography**
- **Archaeology and early civilisations**
- **Urban historical geography**
- **Conservation and environmental management**
- **Sustainable development**
- **Palaeoenvironmental analysis**
We encourage you to become a researcher in your own right, and by designing and undertaking your own research you will develop excellent analytical and independent study skills that will add weight to your CV. Why not write and publish original research in Geoverse, the journal of undergraduate research?
Study abroad

You could really broaden your horizons and increase your understanding of Geography by spending part of your degree studying in another country. Recent undergraduates have spent a semester or two at universities in Canada, Australia, Europe, and the USA. We also have a special partnership with the University of Malta.

94% of Geography students feel that the staff are good at explaining things.

Combinations

You can choose to study Geography as a single or combined honours degree. Our most popular combinations with Geography are Business Management and International Relations.

The flexible approach at Brookes also means that both single and combined honours students can choose to study a module from outside of their course in their first year.
Department of Social Sciences

For more information about Geography:

www.brookes.ac.uk/geog

brookes.socialsciences

@brookes_socsci

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