



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

BA (Hons) Human Geography

Course Code: HGEOG

2020/21

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

BA (Hons) Human Geography

Material Information Summary for 2020/21 Entrants

Confirmed at 22nd February 2019

General Information

Award	Bachelor of Arts (with honours) Human Geography
Contained Awards	Bachelor of Arts Human Geography Diploma of Higher Education Human Geography Certificate of Higher Education Human Geography
Awarding Body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of Qualification & Credits	Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5 and 6 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (360 credits in total)

Course Lengths & Standard Timescales

The standard start date for Leeds Beckett University induction week is reproduced below and relates to the majority of students starting a course in September 2020. A proportion of courses have alternate start dates which are displayed on the online prospectus and additionally will be notified to the students concerned via the offer letter. Non-September starters will also have their start dates confirmed in their offer letters.

- 3 years (full time, campus based)
Starts 21st September 2020 / Ends June 2023

Location(s) of Delivery	City Campus, Leeds (plus location of work placement, if applicable)
Entry Requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/recognition-of-prior-learning/
Course Fees	Course fees and additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter.

Timetable Information

Timetables will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Outlook Calendar
- ii) The Student Portal
- iii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions can be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Policies, Standards and Regulations <http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/public-information/>

There are no additional or non-standard regulations which relate to your course.

Key Contacts

Your Course Director	Dr Neil Evans
Your Academic Advisor	You will be allocated an Academic Advisor on the first day of your course
Your Course Administrator	Sana Waliyat

Placement Information

Summary	Leeds Beckett is dedicated to improving the employability of our students and one of the ways in which we do this is to support our students to gain valuable work experience through work-based placements. Our course placement team has developed strong links with employers, many of whom repeatedly recruit our students into excellent placement roles and the team is dedicated to supporting students through every stage of the placement process.
Length	70 hours, undertaken at year 2 (level 5)
Location	Placement locations will vary. Arrangements for your placement will be discussed and agreed during the first semester of Year 2

Course Overview

Aims

Human geography is a contemporary and dynamic course which explores what is happening in the world around us. The broad remit of the discipline means that subject matters of increasing public concern such as global poverty, social justice and cultural diversity form an integral part of the curriculum. The course challenges students' understanding and view of the world and enables them to interpret key events, movements and trends. The course aims to:

- Develop an understanding of the nature and impact of human relations on the built and natural environment
- Examine the significance of global-local processes in the production of particular geographies
- Promote an awareness of the socially constructed ways of representing and interpreting the world; and
- Foster appropriate analytical and methodological skills for the interpretation of geographical information.

Within the course there is an emphasis on the central themes of globalisation, sustainable development, spatial policy intervention and culture and identity. These themes provide an important conceptual framework for understanding the processes and factors which are affecting substantial change in the world around us. The course team have developed expertise in these areas as a result of engagement in contract consultancy work, community projects and academic research. The applied nature of these themes and activities provides the course with a strong and distinctive identity.

Currently the course attracts students from a national catchment area and has an increasingly strong market outside the traditional local region. The majority of students come straight from school or following a gap year. Given the nature of the discipline with the perceived academic rather than vocational content of the degree we believe school leavers will continue to represent the main target market.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate a critical understanding of the nature and impact of human relations on the built and natural environment.
- 2 Appreciate the significance of global-local processes in the production of particular geographies.
- 3 Develop an awareness of the socially constructed ways of representing and interpreting the world.
- 4 Apply a range of research methods and analytical skills, including qualitative and quantitative techniques, graphical presentation of information, and GIS.

- 5 Facilitate the acquisition of geographical knowledge through interaction and engagement with real world projects.
- 6 Develop a range of employability skills and reflective understanding of creative and technical skills required for employment in a related discipline.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

A variety of teaching approaches are employed including:

Lectures are used to introduce new topics and concepts and set the boundaries of the subject area. They are closely integrated with workshops, seminars and tutorials.

Seminars are an opportunity for students to present their own ideas for discussion by their peers and to reflect critically upon the issues exchanged and arising. They are often organised at the end of lecture sessions to reflect on or develop an aspect of the lecture theme.

Debates are an opportunity for students to research, reflect and present ideas critically in an engaging way. It encourages students to develop communication skills, research skills and allows students to think more deeply about their longstanding views.

Audio/visual sessions allow students time to think abstractly about lecture content and to link subject themes to wider academic or work-based debates/discussions. These often link with seminar sessions and debates particularly well.

Computer lab workshops are used for the teaching of GIS and other computer software packages, carried out in the University's designated computer labs.

Tutorials provide an opportunity for continuing discussion and dialogue between staff and individuals or small groups. They are mainly used in conjunction with group presentations and particularly for the dissertation module

Fieldtrips are used either in the sense of external visits where students can gain an understanding of how, for example, regeneration projects work on the ground, or as locations for conducting fieldwork to develop competence in practical research skills, etc.

Projects involve carrying out specific tasks often involving field investigation, analysis, conclusions and recommendations. Some may involve the simulation of professional practice, and might entail student groups working with practitioners as 'clients'.

The placement in Level 5 will provide a stage for work-based learning, with clear opportunities for developing employability, inter-personal and reflective skills.

The course team expects students to continue their learning outside timetabled sessions, both individually and where appropriate in mixed groups. Students are expected to undertake background reading each week to

inform class discussion and after class to enhance their knowledge and critical awareness. The move to increasing levels of student independence is progressive through the course with students expected to demonstrate a substantial degree of initiative and self-reliance in the Dissertation at Level 6.

Your Modules

(Correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable).

Level 4 Core Modules (2020/21)

Geography in the Contemporary World

Sustainable Places & European Field Trip

Global Geographies

City & Society

Geographies of Diversity

Contested Geographies

Level 5 Core Modules (2021/22)

Social Justice

Development of Geographical Thought

Placement & Professional Skills

Research Methods

Society & Environment

International Field Trip

Level 6 Core Modules (2022/23)

Dissertation (double module)

Level 6 Option Modules (delivery years as per Level 6 core modules above)

The following option modules are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules

Global Challenges

Geographical Imaginations

Housing Policy

Strategies for European Cities

Heritage & Conservation

Women & the Built Environment

Geographies of Consumption

Cities & Spatial Justice

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities by Level

Assessment Balance	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Examination	8 %	-	18 %
Coursework	84 %	95 %	82 %
Practical	8%	5 %	-
Overall Workload			
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	283 hours	274 hours	200 hours*
Independent Study	917 hours	856 hours	1000 hours*
Placement	-	70 hours	-

* Due to the number of electives at Level 6 the Teaching, Learning and Assessment and Independent Study hours may vary.

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and a sample of option module choices undertaken by a typical student. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, placement activities and independent study. Sandwich placement years spent out of the University are not be included in the calculation unless they are credit bearing and attributed to a level of the course. Modules may have more than 1 component of assessment.

Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators works closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

If you have any questions about life at our University in general, call into or contact the Student Hub on either campus to speak to our Student Experience Team. This team, consisting of recent graduates and permanent staff, are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. There is a Student Hub on the ground floor of the Rose Bowl at City Campus and one in Campus Central at Headingley. You can also find the team in the Gateway in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus. The telephone number is 0113 812 3000, and the e-mail address is StudentHub@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The **Support** tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The **Opportunities** tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.