



**Geographical**

MAGAZINE OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY (WITH IBG)

# The Knowledge

**YOUR  
24-PAGE  
GUIDE TO  
STUDYING  
GEOGRAPHY**

**Life after  
study**

**Field  
Trips**

**University  
Directory**





UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL

# GEOGRAPHY

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- Geography BSc
- Geography & Planning BA
- Environmental Science BSc
- Geography & Oceanography BSc
- Geology & Physical Geography BSc
- Geology & Physical Geography MSc



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**OPEN DAY:  
SAT 20TH OCT 2018**





# Welcome

**C**hoosing your university degree course can be one of the most important decisions you'll ever make. Having the right degree in your pocket sets you up for life outside academia and shapes your future.

Which is one of the many reasons why studying geography at degree level and beyond can be incredibly useful – providing a broad range of knowledge that applies to almost all factors of life. It's also widely regarded as being one of the most employable subjects available, with geography graduates filling key roles in everything from journalism to environmental protection to urban planning to the halls of government. Geographers are at the heart of all areas of the modern world.

The following pages are not only designed to help you find the geography course that suits you best, but also to shine a spotlight on the subject's importance everywhere. If you have a curiosity for the way the world works, then read on. You may just find your future within.

**Paul Presley**  
Editor, *Geographical*

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# A DEGREE FOR THE FUTURE

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Geography: [www.gre.ac.uk/ug/engsci/f801](http://www.gre.ac.uk/ug/engsci/f801)

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**125**  
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we can build on our excellence in geospatial data and technologies. For example, disruptive technologies, such as drones and connected autonomous vehicles, will only be made possible by effective use of geospatial data.

The government recognises the importance of geography and geospatial information as reflected in two exciting new developments. Firstly, the government has established the Geospatial Commission at the heart of government to ensure that we are equipped to make sure that the UK remains at the forefront of the geospatial revolution both at home and internationally.

Secondly, geography is now a recognised profession within government as part of the wider Government Science and Engineering community. As the first pan-government Head of Geography I am growing a high-profile, proud and effective profession that has a secure place at the heart of government decision making.

Applying geographic thinking has been at the heart of everything I have done, from my current role at HM Courts and Tribunals Service, to local government

# Geography today

**David Wood (@GovHeadGeog), the new pan-government Head of Geography, talks geography, government and the GSE's role...**

**E**verything happens somewhere. Now, more than ever, geographers are combining increasing quantities of geospatial information (data about where people and objects are in relation to a geographic location) with advances in technology to drive new insights on our place in the world. We are leading the way in government, recognising the importance of geography, and have established a profession to support people in their work across departments.

Geography is a wide-ranging subject which develops transferable skills of problem solving, critical thinking and inter-disciplinary working. A recent report by the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) for the Department of Education highlights that geography graduates have an above average likelihood of gaining employment, relative to graduates from other subjects, and are among the top subjects for graduate earnings. Students who have studied geography have gone on to do a wide range of jobs, while there are a huge number of opportunities in the field of geography and the geospatial sector.

The global value of the geospatial sector is \$300billion and growing, while research has identified an opportunity of up to £11billion for the UK economy if

funding, regeneration, neighbourhood renewal, teacher training, climate change and waste policy.

Our geographers play lead roles across all parts of government from the Department for Environment and Rural Affairs to Ordnance Survey and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. In leading the geography profession, I am working with a strong team of experienced geographers whose roles demonstrate the varied, interesting and important opportunities for geographers in government, for example:

- Ian Spencer is the senior civilian geographer and geospatial analyst in the UK Ministry of Defence. Ian leads 450 civilian and military personnel to deliver assured geospatial and environmental information, products and services to UK Defence.
- Liz Fox-Tucker is a lead science adviser in the Defra Environmental Analysis Unit, blending monitoring, science and geography to support the 25-Year Environment Plan.
- Brian Vinall is the operations manager in the Flood Forecasting Centre (FFC), a joint partnership between the Environment Agency and the Met Office providing 24/7 flood forecasts for England and Wales.
- Ian Coady supports the geographic requirements of the Census as well as leading on a number of United Nations programmes relating to the use of geospatial data in sustainable development.
- Jon Pickstone, is the lead for the Scottish government on economic engagement in London, a role that encompasses fields such as local economic development, regeneration and innovation.

And of course, the Prime Minister is also a geographer! **#choosgeography!** ●



# Why it pays to #choosegeography

***RGS-IBG director, Joe Smith, explains why opting to take geography at A-level and beyond is the smart choice...***

**I**f you want to better understand our world, a rewarding job that pays well and helps to shape the future, then look no further. Report after report tells the same story: choose geography.

At GCSE level, geography is part of the English Baccalaureate (EBacc), a selection of core academic subjects on which school performance is measured. It is an essential humanities choice as it offers the greatest flexibility for future subject choices.

Then at A-level, geography is a 'facilitating subject' and one of the choices most likely to secure you a place at a top university. Its combination of physical and social sciences, data skills and real world applications, makes geography a highly relevant subject to study and the perfect companion to any other humanities, arts or science subjects.

At undergraduate level, geography boasts some of the highest student satisfaction rates and lowest dropout rates. Geography graduates are also very well prepared for employment in a wide range of sectors, meaning they're unlikely to be unemployed.

And at all levels, geography is the bridge between the natural and social sciences, providing its own specialist knowledge and skills and the valuable interdisciplinary approaches needed to address pressing global issues from climate change and migration, to environmental change and social cohesion.

There's no denying it: geographers hold the building blocks to our collective future. That's why you should choose geography.

## **Three reasons why employers prefer geographers:**

1. Geographers can deal with data and people.
2. Geographers have critical analysis and writing skills, in addition to essential discipline-specific knowledge.
3. Geographers can keep pace with change - they have the level of rigour, knowledge, conceptual thinking and intellectual curiosity required in the labour market.



## **Seven reasons to choose geography:**

1. Geography opens minds, explains how the world works and broadens horizons.
2. Geography students have very high levels of satisfaction with their courses and are less likely to drop out.
3. Geography A Level is a facilitating subject for entry to top universities, no matter what undergraduate course you choose.
4. Geography graduates work in a wide range of sectors from finance to digital media, and from public administration to environmental consultancy.
5. Most geography graduates are in full time employment within six months of graduating.
6. Geography graduates are among the highest earners.
7. Geography rewards you personally and advances you professionally. ●

• Have your say online by following **#choosegeography** and give us your reasons for choosing geography!



# *Celebrating 100 Years of Excellence in Geography* at Aberystwyth University

#LoveAber 

## Our degree schemes

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BA Human Geography  
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BSc Environmental Science  
BSc Daearyddiaeth (Welsh-medium)

*Plus, four-year schemes with a sandwich year  
in industry or studying abroad.*

*All of our geography degree schemes are  
accredited by the Royal Geographical Society  
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## University Open Days 2018:

Saturday 13th October

Saturday 10th November

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 AU Geography & Earth Sciences

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THE SUNDAY TIMES  
**GOOD  
UNIVERSITY  
GUIDE  
2018**  
**UNIVERSITY  
OF THE YEAR  
FOR TEACHING  
QUALITY**

**TOP 4  
IN THE UK**  
AND 1st IN WALES  
★★★ NSS 2018 ★★★  
FOR STUDENT  
SATISFACTION

*\*Aberystwyth University's rankings  
are compared against the HE in-  
stitutions listed in The Times and  
Sunday Times Good University  
Guide 2018.*

**Royal  
Geographical  
Society**  
with IBG  
**Accredited  
Programme**



# Making the most of your degree

**A geography degree opens up a world of employment. Here three diverse professionals explain how geography helps them everyday...**



## Journalism

*Martine Croxall – Journalist and Presenter, BBC News*

'I graduated in geography from the University of Leeds and I use what I learnt every time I go to work. My degree taught me to see the world spatially and how to handle data, which informs how I view the news stories we cover and how I formulate the questions I ask. How can you make sense of reports about climate change and unusual weather events if you don't understand what a region's climate is meant to be and how weather systems work?

To take liberties with Archimedes: "Give me a map and I will explain the world!" Take a look at Russia and see why Vladimir Putin would risk provoking international outrage by annexing Crimea – because of its terrain, geology, climate and strategic importance. The Black Sea contains energy deposits and is home to part of the Russian naval fleet, giving it access to the Mediterranean.

So geography helps me better understand how places are populated, the complex relationships between human societies and natural environments, and the sources of geopolitical conflicts.' ●



## Environment

*Claire Edwards – Manager, Natural England*

'I graduated from Oxford Brookes University with a BSc in geography and cartography. My enthusiasm for maps and physical geography inspired me to study at University College London where I achieved a Masters in Remote Sensing.

My first job was a cartographer working for companies such as Dorling Kingsley and Readers Digest. Later, I became a cartographer in FRCA; a forerunner to Natural England. At this time Geographic Information Systems were in their infancy and I developed new skills in GIS which enabled me to map environmental features and analyse their relationship with geographic locations. I currently manage a team of GI specialists in Natural England, the government's adviser for the natural environment in England, helping to protect our nature and landscape. My team provides data analysis, spatial modelling and Earth Observation services. Geography underpins the evidence we provide and enables us to understand how we can better protect the environment.' ●



## Transport

*Emma Taylor – Principal Consultant, Integrated Transport Planning*

'Planning is essentially applied geography. A lot of the concepts I learnt about during my geography degree at Nottingham, such as regeneration, sustainability and social inclusion, I'm now putting into practice.

I am interested in the impact that people have upon their environment and the impact that it has on them. My dissertation was on "studentification": looking at what happens when a large concentration of students moves into a neighbourhood. My degree and Masters meant that when I went to my job interview, I could justify why the role interested me. It also gave me the numerical and communication skills I need to pass the assessment tests.

I didn't know what career I wanted. I knew I didn't want to be a geography teacher, but I still wanted to be able to apply my knowledge to a role. Planning offered the opportunity to turn my interest in geography into a professional career. After graduating, I felt I had the right skills for whatever career I chose.' ●



University of  
South Wales  
Prifysgol  
De Cymru

# Study Geography

at the University of South Wales

## Explore. Transform. Experience.

- **Joint top in the UK for Student Satisfaction** (National Student Survey 2018).
- Diverse UK and international fieldwork destinations. Previous overseas fieldwork locations have included Sicily, Athens, Santorini, New York, Hong Kong, Uganda and South Africa.\*
- Dynamic teaching approaches in small and friendly groups.
- Strong links with industry and public sector partners.

Find out more at one of our **Open Days: 6 October** and **3 November 2018**.

Book online now: [southwales.ac.uk/opendays](http://southwales.ac.uk/opendays)

\*Additional costs may apply. For up-to-date information please visit our website.  
The University of South Wales is a registered charity. Registration No. 1140312

Royal  
Geographical  
Society  
with IBG  
Accredited  
Programme

**If you are fascinated by the relationship between people and places, taking Geography at Bath Spa will equip you** to understand key global challenges, from climate change to sustainable development.

You will gain an understanding of both the human and physical aspects of the subject and can specialise in either area as your interests, abilities and career plans evolve. We offer four courses: BSc Geography; BSc Geography (Physical); BSc Geography (Human); and BSc Global Development and Sustainability.

Whatever route you take, you will be part of a friendly department offering small classes, specialist expertise and state-of-the-art facilities. Advanced technologies you could use in your studies include ArcGIS, GPS survey instruments, campus river gauging and digital 'met' stations. Our rural site is an added bonus; a superb natural laboratory where you will learn a range of scientific and social science techniques.

You will be taught by a supportive team of lecturers who are also active researchers. Specialisms include river and coastal processes, poverty and development, cultural identities, sustainable urban futures and geotechnologies. You will have the opportunity to participate in residential field trips to locations such as the English Lake District, Barcelona and Northern India.

BATH  
SPA  
UNIVERSITY

**Open Days: 13/27 October. • 10/24 November**

**Register at: [www.bathspa.ac.uk/be-bath-spa/open-days-and-visits/open-days](http://www.bathspa.ac.uk/be-bath-spa/open-days-and-visits/open-days)**



# In the field

***Geography is a subject that requires being out and about. As such, most universities will offer a range of fascinating and rewarding field trips...***

**G**eography's role as the centre for all 'earth writing' demands that students and educators alike get out of the classroom and engage with the outside world all around. Hence the central role of the iconic geography field trip, an opportunity for geographers to escape the familiar and dive enthusiastically into a new environment, observing the people and places they encounter en route, to enhance their studies. Luckily, most universities offer comprehensive and rewarding field trips to students during their courses, ranging from local trips to places of geographic interest, to journeys overseas to the wider parts of the world.

Swansea University, for example, has seen students visit locations as far afield as New York, Vancouver, Colorado, Berlin, Borneo, Austria and Mallorca. It even saw a small group of students visit Sikkim in the Himalayas, meeting with regional politicians, Buddhist monks and local inhabitants while studying the region's weather patterns, unique landscapes and biodiversity.

'In my third year I applied to take part in the interdisciplinary field trip to Sikkim,' recalls Swansea geography student Sally White of her journey. 'The group consisted of five students and one lecturer from biology, zoology, human and physical geography. We were put into interdisciplinary teams in order to work on projects and learn from each other. This was an invaluable experience at this point in my degree, as it meant I gained a different outlook to research. The activities in Sikkim were extraordinary, one day we would be collecting water samples and invertebrate surveys at a hydroelectric dam, and the next we would be meeting students from the Sikkim University. Additionally we had lots of free time in the evenings to relax and play cards. We were even lucky enough to be in Sikkim during the Indian festival of light, Diwali. The town was full of beautiful lights and brightly dressed people dancing, followed by a hilarious trip to a Karaoke bar with Sikkimese locals. Throughout the trip we became a really close group; it really was the trip of a lifetime and we all made friends for life.'

Closer to home, a great many universities take full advantage of their locations close to UK places of interest. From Bath Spa University providing research outings to locations such as Avebury, Mendip, the Somerset Levels and the Jurassic Coast of Dorset, to Birkbeck, University of London's trips to the New Forest looking at sediments that were laid down in a large river system that used to flow down the Solent seaway – geography field trips are an essential factor in choosing the right course at the right university and will provide the kind of academic grounding that is vital to a full understanding of the subject. ●







100  
1920~2020



Swansea  
University  
Prifysgol  
Abertawe

**One of the best things about studying Geography at Swansea University is the flexibility** of the programmes. You don't have to make a firm choice about whether you prefer human or physical geography. You have options to study modules from both disciplines.

**BSc/BA Geography • BSc Geography and Geo-Informatics**  
**• BA Human Geography • BSc Physical Geography**  
**• BSc Physical Earth Sciences**

All programmes come with four-year options to do a year in industry, or a year abroad with one of our partner universities.

Our Geography Department is based at leafy Singleton Park Campus, which is right next to the beach, giving students a relaxed lifestyle in a safe environment. Our south Wales location is excellent for field work. Recent field work destinations have included New York, Vancouver, Colorado, Berlin, Borneo, Austria and Mallorca, alongside our local trips.

The Department's research interests include glaciology, climate change, migration and sustainable cities. We are committed to working with partners across the world to contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

**Open Days: 13 October • 27 October (Singleton Park Campus)**

**For details, visit: [www.swansea.ac.uk/open-days](http://www.swansea.ac.uk/open-days)**



# By the numbers

**Studying geography at university is one of the most rewarding degrees you can take, as the following stats and figures prove...**

## **Geographers earn more than the average graduate, especially females**

New analysis by the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) has placed geography among the top subjects for graduate earnings. The data, derived from Department for Education (DfE) statistics, show that female geography graduates earn over **10%** more than the average female graduate, with male geographers earning over **2%** more.

Geography graduate earnings outperform several other subjects, including technology, biosciences and history. The report also highlights that geography students are among the most likely to complete their course, as well as being more likely than the average graduate to gain employment once they finish.

The report is among the first to use new Longitudinal Education Outcomes (LEO) data from the DfE and aims to provide greater clarity regarding the relative value of different degree courses.

The IFS report is the latest in a series of releases highlighting the many positives to studying geography at university. Find out more about studying geography.



## **Geographers more likely to be employed**

A recent report published by the IFS highlights that geography graduates have an above average likelihood of gaining employment, relative to graduates from other subjects. For both men and women, employment rates for geographers outperformed graduates from other disciplines, including politics, physics and history, five years after graduation.

The report also noted that geography students are more likely to complete their degree than students of

most other subjects. The dropout rate among geography students is the third lowest across all subjects.

The report is among the first to use new LEO data from the Department for Education and aims to provide greater clarity regarding the relative value of different degree courses. According to a separate report from the Higher Education Careers Services Unit, over **85%** of 2017 geography graduates were in work or further study **six months** after graduation, indicating that geography graduates are able to pursue employment or study opportunities very soon after graduating.



## **Geography courses praised by students**

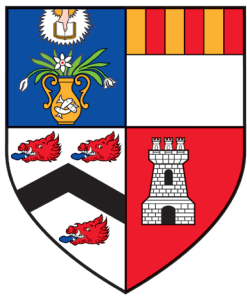
The results of the 2018 National Student Survey (NSS), published this month by the Office for Students, paint a positive picture of undergraduate geography courses across the UK.

The survey, which is completed by final year students in every UK university, revealed that **88%** of the respondents studying geography were satisfied with the overall quality of their course; higher than the **83%** nationwide average for all respondents.

In addition, **87%** of geography respondents agreed that their course is 'intellectually stimulating', indicating that undergraduate geography courses are continuing to communicate the relevance and diversity of the subject to students.

The NSS is open to final year undergraduate students between January and April each year, with the resulting data becoming available for every course at UK universities by the end of August via the Unistats website, where you can also find out which courses have received the RGS-IBG programme accreditation. ●





# UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

Geography degrees at Aberdeen may be studied as a MA or a BSc and students can choose to focus on Human Geography (MA), Physical Geography (BSc), or follow a Joint Honours programme of study. The single Honours Geography degrees are accredited by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG). The curriculum has real-world relevance, introducing students to many of the most pressing problems faced by society today and ways in which those problems may be resolved. Most Geography students follow the traditional 4 year Scottish undergraduate degree with non-Scottish domiciled UK students paying fees for their first 3 years only. We offer direct entry into Year 2 for outstanding students. There are opportunities to include a semester, or a year, studying abroad and most students undertake their exchange programme in Year Two. The Complete University Guide recently ranked Geography at Aberdeen in the top quarter of Geography departments across the UK.

Geography courses are delivered via a mix of lectures, small group teaching, labs and computer-based practical classes, including GIS (Geographic Information System). Honours courses link directly to staff research areas and include, for example, transport, rural studies, digital geographies, environmental change (palaeoecology), glaciology and environmental hydrology. Our field-based teaching brings the subject alive, is fun and helps develop team working skills. Residential field courses are offered in Years Two (to various locations in Scotland) and Three (currently to Boston, USA and the Italian Alps). Across the degree programme students learn a suite of skills transferable to the job market and our graduates have an excellent record of securing graduate-level employment.

We are a friendly Department, staff doors are open and there is a vibrant student-led Geography Society that runs events throughout the year. Come and study Geography at Aberdeen, the fifth oldest university in the UK, as the Department approaches our centenary in 2019.

**Open Days: 20th October 2018, 27th August 2019**

**Offer Holder Day 27th March 2019**

**Book a campus visit anytime**

**Email: [geography@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:geography@abdn.ac.uk) for further information**



# Geography & Sustainable Development

at the University of St Andrews

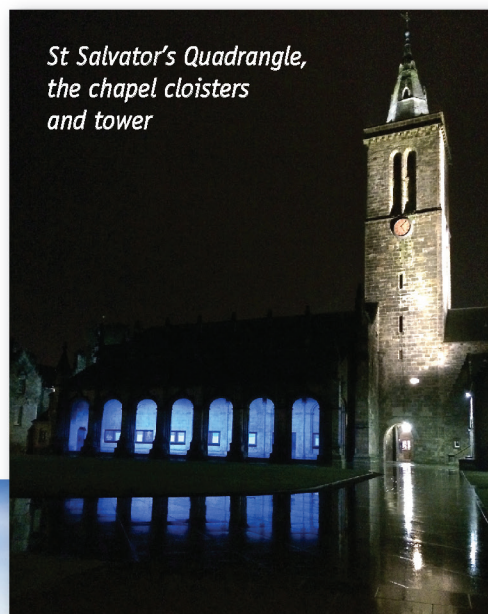


## Getting the big picture

Are you looking for a fascinating, relevant degree course at a university with a six-century pedigree of excellence, leading to exciting career opportunities? Our renowned degree programmes at St Andrews are the natural choice.

- **High student satisfaction:** stimulating breadth, rewarding depth and great fieldtrips.
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- **Research-led teaching:** because we came top in Scotland in the 2014 UK Research Excellence Framework, you'll be taught by world-class staff.

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the chapel cloisters  
and tower*



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# A broad discipline

***Geography is considered to be one of the most wide-ranging subjects available, especially when you reach university level...***

**T**here are many difficult global issues to be faced in the 21st century, and geography is right at the heart of them. The breadth and depth of the subject's coverage is how one geographer could be studying urban design while another learns about international diplomacy, or how one can specialise in poverty reduction while a colleague studies the intricacies of coastal erosion.

Therefore, before launching into an academic career with geography, it's worth considering the many disciplines contained within, to help you choose the institutions, advisors, and – ultimately – the path that is right for you.

A small selection of the options available as part of a geography degree include:





# Geography Ambassadors

**The Geography Ambassador scheme recruits, trains and supports undergraduate, postgraduate and graduate geographers to champion geography in the classroom and beyond...**

One of the ways the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) demonstrates the relevance of geography to young people is through its flagship Geography Ambassador scheme. Launched in 2005 and kindly supported by Esri UK, the scheme harnesses the knowledge and passion of undergraduate, postgraduate and graduate geographers from universities and the workplace, who act as ambassadors for the subject in the classroom and beyond.

During the 2017/18 academic year, the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) trained 276 Ambassadors from 31 universities across the UK. As well as supporting “Going Places with Geography” events at the Society, those Ambassadors spoke to 10,606 students in approximately 110 schools.

Jake Shepherd is a Lead Ambassador with the Society, currently studying Geography, Politics and International Relations at Royal Holloway, University of London. He says that ‘the Geography Ambassador scheme has given me the opportunity to visit schools in various locations, ranging from inner-city boroughs to quieter market towns. A real joy of the scheme has been to create unique content for sessions which draw links between a school’s local geography and wider geographical themes.’

Dylan Warner became an Ambassador in 2017 and has seen the role open a wealth of opportunities. ‘Acting as an Ambassador I’ve not only had the privilege to give sessions to students across the country, but I’ve attended several conferences, networking events and RGS-IBG in-house events. A stand-out experience was

meeting the producer of BBC’s *Planet Earth* series, Elizabeth White, at the RGS-IBG 2017 Children’s Lecture. Alongside this, making a difference across the country by giving fun informative sessions with other Ambassadors is amazing in itself, but hearing feedback from schools stating that we have made an impact not only on geography uptake but the enthusiasm of the pupils is truly rewarding!’

Dan Flanagan, a Geography Ambassador from 2013 to 2016, and now at the University of Lancaster, emphasises the importance of demonstrating the relevance of geography to students: ‘Helping kids make the connection between the geography they study in the classroom and their own lives is what we aim to do during school visits. Lots of children see geography in a



set way, and it’s important to show them how, through its ability to make them think differently about the world, the subject is very relevant to them.’

This also includes where the subject can take them. Rebecca Joss, a geography teacher whose Year Nine students attended the scheme’s Going Places with Geography event, highlights the importance of this: ‘Coming into this event, when asked what jobs you could get with a geography degree, most of the students would have suggested one of a small number of stereotypical positions. Their minds are definitely being opened up to the different directions geography can take them. It’s so important to catch them at the right age.’

The scheme also benefits the university students who





take part. The opportunity to rework concepts they may have learnt at university to engage a younger audience allows them to make them their own, while delivering sessions improves a number of professional skills.

Fostering an enthusiasm in schools is a key aspect of being an Ambassador. Rachael Carver, currently at Staffordshire University says: 'The scheme benefits secondary school students across the UK by providing fun and interactive sessions on a range of topics including careers, globalisation, natural hazards and much more! It also benefits hundreds of university students by developing teamwork, communication, preparation and leadership skills which are essential for future employment. I would recommend it to university students who are interested in teaching as it provides a valuable insight into life in the classroom.'

Sarah Ader is a geography student at the University of Exeter and has been an Ambassador since 2016. She feels that by promoting the subject in this way, she has gained valuable skills that can be applied later in life: 'I have learnt how to speak in public, to plan fun sessions, and to show people that geography is far more than colouring in, capital cities, and how a river meanders. My favourite event is the Christmas Lecture, which my best friend (who I met through the scheme) and I have attended for three consecutive years – what's not to love about running around with a load of children on a room-sized floor map, making geography-related crafts, and getting to meet the incredibly inspirational fellows and members of the RGS-IBG who always have a great story to tell?'

Many Geography Ambassadors stay with the scheme for years.

Joe Thorogood, currently in his final year as a PhD research student at University College London, became an ambassador in the second year of his undergraduate degree in geography. He says many school children engage with the material in Geography Ambassador sessions because it is presented in a fun and interactive way, and, importantly, by someone they can relate to easily: 'Seeing someone who is only a few years older than them, and still in education, say "I was where you are, and this is why I chose to study geography" makes students reassess the subject. The sessions help bridge the gap between geography at school and studying at university. That's what I enjoy – using my research to demonstrate to students where the subject can take them.' ●

■ To find out more about the Geography Ambassadors scheme, please visit [www.rgs.org/ambassadors](http://www.rgs.org/ambassadors)







# How the RGS-IBG can help

***Drawing upon expertise in higher education, the Society offers a range of events, resources and activities aimed at teachers and pupils...***

**I**n a rapidly changing and ever more connected world, the demand for geographical knowledge, skills and understanding has never been greater. The RGS-IBG actively supports the teaching and learning of geography in schools. It also recognises excellence in school geography and works as an effective advocate for the subject, engaging directly with government to help secure geography's important contribution to education. The Society's work includes:

## **Data Skills in Geography**

This integrated programme of work supports the important role of data skills in school geography, helps teachers build confidence in their use, and highlights their value to further study and employment. Supported by the Nuffield Foundation, the project provides

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for teachers, student events and online resource modules.  
**[www.rgs.org/dataskills](http://www.rgs.org/dataskills)**

## **Professional development**

The Society runs regular CPD events, ranging from subject knowledge updates and GIS training, to fieldwork masterclasses. These sessions are complemented by online resources and both help teachers in keeping their subject knowledge up-to-date. The Society is also working with the Department for Education to recruit more geography teachers through its Geography Teacher Training Scholarship Programme.  
**[www.rgs.org/scholarships](http://www.rgs.org/scholarships)**

## **Online resources**

The Society's up-to-date and knowledge-rich online resources help bring contemporary geographical research into the classroom and include a range of articles, case studies, lesson notes and background information documents as well as 'Ask the Expert' interviews, podcasts, animations and short videos. These resources, alongside many of the Society's other educational activities, are supported by the Ordnance Survey and are developed with the help of researchers working in higher education.

## **Regional engagement**

The Society is increasing its regional activities by working with an initial group of around ten universities to develop local programmes of termly 'Subject Update' lectures for AS and A Level pupils, occasional subject knowledge CPD events for teachers, and further complementary activities such as local fieldwork CPD events. ●

## **FIND OUT MORE:**

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