



Course Summary: May 24, 2025

Geography and Urban Planning BA Honours

- UCAS code: **LK74**
- Full time
- 3 years

Study Human Geography alongside issues relating to Urban Planning to understand the challenges of our cities and contribute to future societies.

You are currently viewing course information for entry year: **2025**

Next start date:

- September 2025

Tuition fees (Year 1)

- Home: **£9,535**
- International: **£25600**

Entry requirements and offers

- A-Level: **ABB**
- IB: **32 points**

[View contextual offers](#)

UCAS Institution name and code:

- NEWC / N21

Course overview

You'll learn about the social forces that shape our society and the spaces we live in and discover techniques for 'reading' cities and spaces.

Our renowned experts will guide you through the practices of public planning and design, and help you explore the political and democratic factors that influence it, setting foundations for your career.

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

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

Your course and study experience - disclaimers and terms and conditions

Please rest assured we make all reasonable efforts to provide you with the programmes, services and facilities described. However, it may be necessary to make changes due to significant disruption, for example in response to Covid-19.

View our [Academic experience page](#), which gives information about your Newcastle University study experience for the academic year 2024-25.

See our [terms and conditions and student complaints information](#), which gives details of circumstances that may lead to changes to programmes, modules or

University services.

Quality and ranking

Professional accreditation and recognition

All professional accreditations are reviewed regularly by their professional body.

Modules and learning

Modules

The information below is intended to provide an example of what you will study.

Most degrees are divided into stages. Each stage lasts for one academic year, and you'll complete modules totalling 120 credits by the end of each stage.

Our teaching is informed by research. Course content may change periodically to reflect developments in the discipline, the requirements of external bodies and partners, and student feedback.

Optional module availability

Student demand for optional modules may affect availability.

Full details of the modules on offer will be published through the [Programme Regulations and Specifications](#) ahead of each academic year. This usually happens in May.

To find out more please [see our terms and conditions](#)

We'll introduce you to the study of planning and geography through subjects such as planning theory and systems, and urban, regional, social and environmental issues.

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Interconnected World	20
Coasts and Communities: Human Geography Fieldwork	20
Mapping a changing world: GIS for Geographers	20
Planning Processes	10
Economics of Development I	10
Shaping Towns and Cities	20
Planning for a Better World	20

You can specialise by choosing a range of topics from the geography and planning disciplines. You'll also undertake research training and will have the opportunity to develop employment skills.

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Research Skills	20
Optional Modules	Credits
Political Geography	20
Economic Geography	20
Social and Cultural Geography	20
Urban Geography	20

Career Development for second year students	20
Houses and Homes	20
Design & Neighbourhood	20
Researching Local Economies	20
Understanding Cities	20
Digital Civics	20
Urban Infrastructures: A Lens on the City	20
Global Course on Institutional Design for Spatial Planning	20

You can continue to specialise by choosing in-depth modules on geography and planning topics, and you'll complete a dissertation on a topic of interest to you. You will also have a further opportunity to develop your employability skills.

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Dissertation	40
Optional Modules	Credits
Chinese Cultural History and Urban Development	20
Climate Literacy: From philosophies to practice	20
Geopolitics	20
Local and Regional Development	20
Geographies of Race and Nation	20
Migration, Bordering and Solidarities	20
Humanitarianism and Health Inequalities	20

The Politics of Difference and Identity	20
Geographies of Global South Cities	20
Geographies of Housing	20
Career Development for final year students	20
Strategies into Action: Planning	20
Development Management	20
Planning Theory and Politics	20
Study Abroad	40
Disasters, Monsters and Mess	20
Strategies Into Action: Urban Design	20

Information about these graphs

We base these figures and graphs on the most up-to-date information available to us. They are based on the modules chosen by our students in 2024-25.

Teaching time is made up of:

- scheduled learning and teaching activities. These are timetabled activities with a member of staff present.
- structured guided learning. These are activities developed by staff to support engagement with module learning. Students or groups of students undertake these activities without direct staff participation or supervision

Teaching and assessment

Teaching methods

Our courses have a high level of staff and student interaction, including:

- tutorials
- lectures
- 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 through a combination of:

- Coursework
- Essays
- Examinations – practical or online
- Presentations
- Reports

Skills and experience

Practical skills

You'll study a broad range of theoretical and practical skills, including building design, mapping science, global social and economic change, and local environmental initiatives.

In Stage 2 an optional international study visit provides first-hand experience of other geographical and planning contexts.

Business skills

You'll gain a wide range of skills that will enable you to work in urban or rural policy fields, in public or private practice and with a wide range of other professions.

Opportunities

Work placement

Get career ready with a work placement and leave as a confident professional in your field. You can apply to spend 9 to 12 months working in any organisation in

the world, and receive University support from our dedicated team to secure your dream placement. Work placements take place between stages 2 and 3.

You'll gain first-hand experience of working in the sector, putting your learning into practice and developing your professional expertise.

If you choose to take a work placement, it will extend your degree by a year, and your degree title will show you have achieved the placement year. Placements are subject to availability.

[Find out more about work placements](#)

Study abroad

Experience life in another country by choosing to study abroad as part of your degree. You'll be encouraged to embrace fun and challenging experiences, make connections with new communities and graduate as a globally aware professional, ready for your future.

In Stage 3 you can choose to spend a whole semester studying in Europe as part of a study abroad exchange.

[Find out more about study abroad](#)

Facilities and environment

Facilities

You'll be part of the [School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape](#) and will also spend time in the [School of Geography, Politics and Sociology](#).

You'll be based in the Henry Daysh Building and have access to a dedicated planning studio with computing facilities and social space.

Support

You'll have the support of an academic member of staff as a personal tutor throughout your degree to help with academic and personal issues.

Peer mentors will help you in your first year. They are fellow students who can help you settle in and answer any questions you have when starting university.

We also have a dedicated Learning and Teaching Co-ordinator (Student Support), who can offer you support if you are experiencing issues that may be affecting your performance at University. They can also offer advice about other University services that may benefit you depending on your circumstances.

Your future

Join our network of confident and successful graduates who have gone on to work as planners or surveyors and you can take advantage of our departmental links with organisations such as Transport for London, White Young Green and the Association of European Schools of Planning.

Graduates in demand

You will leave with sought after skills, including teamwork, project management, research and presentation skills, and therefore will have access to a wide variety of careers.

A Geography and Urban 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.

Make a difference

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 your degree 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. This experience is a crucial element of reflective study used to inform Stage 4.

Our Careers Service is one of the largest and best in the country, and we have strong links with employers. We provide an extensive range of opportunities to all students through our ncl+ initiative.

[Visit our Careers Service website](#)

Recognition of professional qualifications outside of the UK

From 1 January 2021 there is an update to the way professional qualifications are recognised by countries outside of the UK

[Check the government's website for more information.](#)

Find out more...

- Go online for information about our full range of degrees:
www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate
- To watch videos about student life in Newcastle, visit
www.ncl.ac.uk/lovenewcastle
- Visit **www.ncl.ac.uk/tour** to take virtual tours of the campus and city
- Book for an Open Day to come and see us in person
www.ncl.ac.uk/openday
- Contact us online at **www.ncl.ac.uk/enquiries** or phone +44 (0)191 208 3333

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www.ncl.ac.uk/pre-arrival/regulations

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