



OLLSCOIL NA
GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY
OF GALWAY

Coláiste na nDán, na nEolaíochtaí
Sóisialta & an Léinn Cheiltigh
College of Arts, Social Sciences
& Celtic Studies

Geography and Sustainability



University
of Galway.ie

Subject Overview

Geography and Sustainability is a multilayered, diverse and exciting field of study. It is the key bridging subject linking the humanities, the social sciences and the sciences.

In taking eography and Sustainability as a subject, not only will you acquire an understanding of our place in the world, you will also develop a skill set (research, computing/ Geographical Information Systems (GIS), surveying) that is applicable in many sectors of employment.

University of Galway is home to one of the largest Geography disciplines in Europe and has a staff cohort that is highly respected nationally and internationally

Subject Name: Geography and Sustainability

Course Code: GY101

CAO Entry Points 2025: 350

Duration: 3 Years BA / 4 Years BA (International)

Entry Requirements: Minimum Grade H5 in two subjects and passes in four other subjects at O6/H7 in the Leaving Certificate, including Irish, English, another language and three other subjects recognised for entry purposes.

Career Opportunities

Geography and Sustainability students acquire a wide range of skills and qualities that are valuable in many professions. The combinations of numerical and analytical skills are highly sought after by many sectors of employment. Recent graduates have excelled and carved out niches for themselves in lecturing, teaching, environmental consultancy, journalism, heritage work, renewable energy sector, marketing, planning, tourism, government and policy institute research, in nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) and CSO development work.

What Our Students Say:

“What I liked best about studying Geography at University of Galway was the rich diversity of topics on offer and the flexibility of the courses that allowed me to pursue the geographical topics that interested me most. There is a good mix of practical, field and lab work, as well as lectures delivered by really approachable staff. I am now due to start teaching in Abu Dhabi. I really enjoyed my time at University of Galway and have made friendships that will last a lifetime.”

-Johanna Kavanagh, BA (Film, English and Geography)

Study Abroad

Staff at University of Galway are internationally renowned researchers engaged in numerous projects which provide a rich and varied university network across Europe, China and the USA. These links are invaluable in connecting students to research and study abroad opportunities. Students can also apply for inclusion on the BA International which allows them to study for a year at prestigious universities in Europe and the USA.

Course Outline

First Year

Students are introduced to key geographical ideas, processes and concepts that impact on and shape the physical landscape as well as the role of humans in shaping space and place. We also place a key emphasis in this first year on field trips and associated skills, mapping and laboratory skills.

Second and Final Year

There is a wide range of modules on offer in Years 2 and 3. These include Rural Geography, Urban Geography, Coastal Environments, Climatology, Tourism, Economic Geography, Palaeoecology, Political and Cultural Geography, Biogeography, Marine Spatial Planning, Environmental Planning and GIS. A key element of Final Year Geography is the opportunity students have to develop their own areas of research interest, while also developing their critical and analytical skills, through designing and executing a supervised research project.

Find Out More

Dr Eugene Farrell

T: + 353 91 494336

E: eugene.farrell@universityofgalway.ie

W: www.universityofgalway.ie/geography