



GEOGRAPHY – Subject Introductory Information

Introduction

- A general introduction to the subject.
Geography is a multi-faceted, diverse and exciting field of study. Geography is the key bridging subjects linking the Humanities, the Social Sciences and the Sciences. It provides an insight into each of these broad areas of human knowledge. People's impact on the earth, as reflected in the landscape, forms the central theme. The relationships between society and the landscape are highly complex, multifaceted and often contested.
- What are the main themes that will be covered over the three/four years of the programme.
A broad range of Human and physical geography modules, please see here what modules are being offered for 2020/2021:
http://www.nuigalway.ie/media/collegeofartssocialsciencescelticstudies/schools/geographyarchaeology/geography/Discipline-of-Geography-Syllabus-2020_2021.pdf
- What will be the focus of first year.
-TI150 Principles of Human Geography: Introduces key problems, concepts and contexts of human geography
-TI151 Principles of Physical Geography: Introduces key aspects of the physical geography of the Earth
- TI1100 / TI1101 Geography in Practice: A lecture and practical module that emphasizes field, mapping and laboratory skills with fieldtrip opportunities
- Why might students decide to take this subject?
Students studying Geography not only acquire an understanding of people's place in the world but they also develop a skill set (Research, Data Analysis, Computing/GIS, Cartography, Survey Techniques, Laboratory Techniques and others) that is widely applicable to many jobs and future careers. The combination of numerical and analytical skills are highly sought after by many sectors of employment.
- What subjects might be complementary to this subject?
Subjects that have proven to be popular combinations with Geography include Sociology & Politics; Economics (both important in the planning professions); Languages (work with NGOs); Law (for Civil Service posts); Archaeology (Heritage posts); History, English, Irish and Maths (Teaching profession).
- How might this subject relate to current events in society?
Students in our Geography Programme are engaging with some of the key challenges facing our globe and future generations. Geographers are urgently needed to help understand dynamic and relevant issues such as global warming; energy security and food security; the causes and consequences of migration; spread of disease (needed now more than ever); management of flooding, and the impacts of economic change on people and places.

Structure of the Programme

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Overall structure of the subject over the three/four years of the programme.

You will study three subjects in First Arts. You continue to study two of the subjects that you pass in first year to degree level - in Second and Final Arts. 60 credits required for each year of 2nd and 3rd, each module carries 5 credits.

- Are there any 'unusual' modules or activities i.e. fieldwork etc.

The first year programme in Geography is composed of three modules. Two modules are solely lecture based and one involves a combination of lectures, and practical's such as field trips and mapping exercises.

CÉIM:

Every student is automatically enrolled into a shared learning (CÉIM) session. CÉIM is an academic peer learning programme for 1st year Geography students run jointly by the School of Geography and Archaeology and NUI Galway Students' Union.. It is worth noting that regular CÉIM attendees perform better academically than those who attend irregularly or not at all. Benefits of CÉIM also include:

- Adapting easily to life at NUI Galway; Meeting other students; Coursework support; Help with exam preparation and skills development. Details of how these sessions will work under the current Covid 19 restrictions will be outlined in the Geography in Practice module.

Drop-in Help Sessions:

Geography will provide drop-in sessions to assist with any questions you might have with the Geography in Practice exercises. These will be face-to-face meetings and the details of sign-up times etc. will be available on Blackboard. You can also check the link to the Geography Discipline Webpage

- Which modules will be available in First Year

There are 3 modules in first year, TI150 -Principles of Human Geography; TI151 - Principles of Physical Geography and TI1100 / TI1101 Geography in Practice.

- Links to programme and description of first year modules on discipline webpage / link to First Year Student Handbook.

1) http://www.nuigalway.ie/courses/undergraduate-courses/arts.html#course_overview

2) http://www.nuigalway.ie/media/collegeofartsocialsciencescelticstudies/schools/geographyarchaeology/geography/Discipline-of-Geography-Syllabus-2020_2021.pdf

- **Online Learning and Teaching**

Due to COVID-19 lectures will be conducted online through blackboard: they will be pre-recorded and will be made available for the official timetabled times. It is critical that students keep up to date with individual module Blackboard Announcements and Handbooks to know when face-to-face activities are taking place. The level of face-to-face activities will vary across modules, with specific details available at the beginning of the semester. See link to Geography Discipline Webpage

Assessments

- How will assessments take place? [Assessments will take place online.](#)
- Format of assessments. [CA, MCQs, online quizzes](#)
- What will be assessed – link between assessments and learning outcomes for the programme
[All module assessments will take place in the form of continuous assessment and online MCQ tests through blackboard. All assessments will be based on the programme content and required readings, details of which will be provided through the individual modules.](#)

Live Introductory Question and Answer Session

CASSCS First Arts Orientation 2020

- Outline of what will be covered in the Live Introductory Lecture and Question and Answer Session?

The purpose of this session is to provide students with a brief overview of Geography as a discipline and inform them of what is expected of each student throughout their time at NUIG should they decide to choose geography as one of their subject choices.

- What dates/times will the live sessions take place. [Wednesday 23rd Sept@ 12pm](#) and [Friday 25th Sept.@ 12pm](#)
- What do student have to do to access the live question and answer sessions. [See College advice](#)

Important Links

- Link to Geography [Discipline Webpage](#)