

Fieldwork is an exciting and interesting way to develop your practical skills. You'll gain hands-on experience of a wide range of environmental, ecological, geological and social situations in the local area. You'll also have the opportunity to travel further afield or even overseas on a range of exciting field courses that will place your studies in the context of real-world issues.

Please note that all field trips are subject to government travel guidelines.

Environmental and Earth Sciences

BSc/MSci Environmental Science

- Alpine Environmental Processes, Switzerland
- Environmental Field Course, Carrock Fell
- Hydrological Processes, Slapton Ley
- Water, Society and the Istrian Landscape, Croatia
- Various local field excursions

BSc/MSci Earth and Environmental Science

- Alpine Environmental Processes, Switzerland
- Environmental Field Course, Carrock Fell
- Geological Mapping, Isle of Mull
- Hydrological Processes, Slapton Ley
- Volcanic Processes, Mount Etna
- Various local field excursions

Costs

Lancaster University will cover the core fieldwork costs of any compulsory modules, though you may be required to cover some additional costs (such as food). Where fieldwork is optional (comprising either the whole module or part of the module) some of the cost will be subsidised by Lancaster University with the remainder paid by the student.

If you opt to take a Study Abroad year, modules and field courses available for Year 3 will be chosen from your host university. Please note: Field options available are subject to pre-requisites

Geography

BSc/BA/MSci/MArts Geography

- Hydrological Processes, Slapton Ley
- Water, Society and the Istrian Landscape, Croatia
- Alpine Environmental Processes, Switzerland
- Volcanic Processes, Mount Etna
- Various local field excursions

BA/MArts Human Geography

- Water, Society and the Istrian Landscape, Croatia
- Various local field excursions

BSc/MSci Physical Geography

- Hydrological Processes, Slapton Ley
- Water, Society and the Istrian Landscape, Croatia
- Alpine Environmental Processes, Switzerland
- Volcanic Processes, Mount Etna
- Various local field excursions



For more information

Please visit our website:

 www.lancaster.ac.uk/lec/undergraduate

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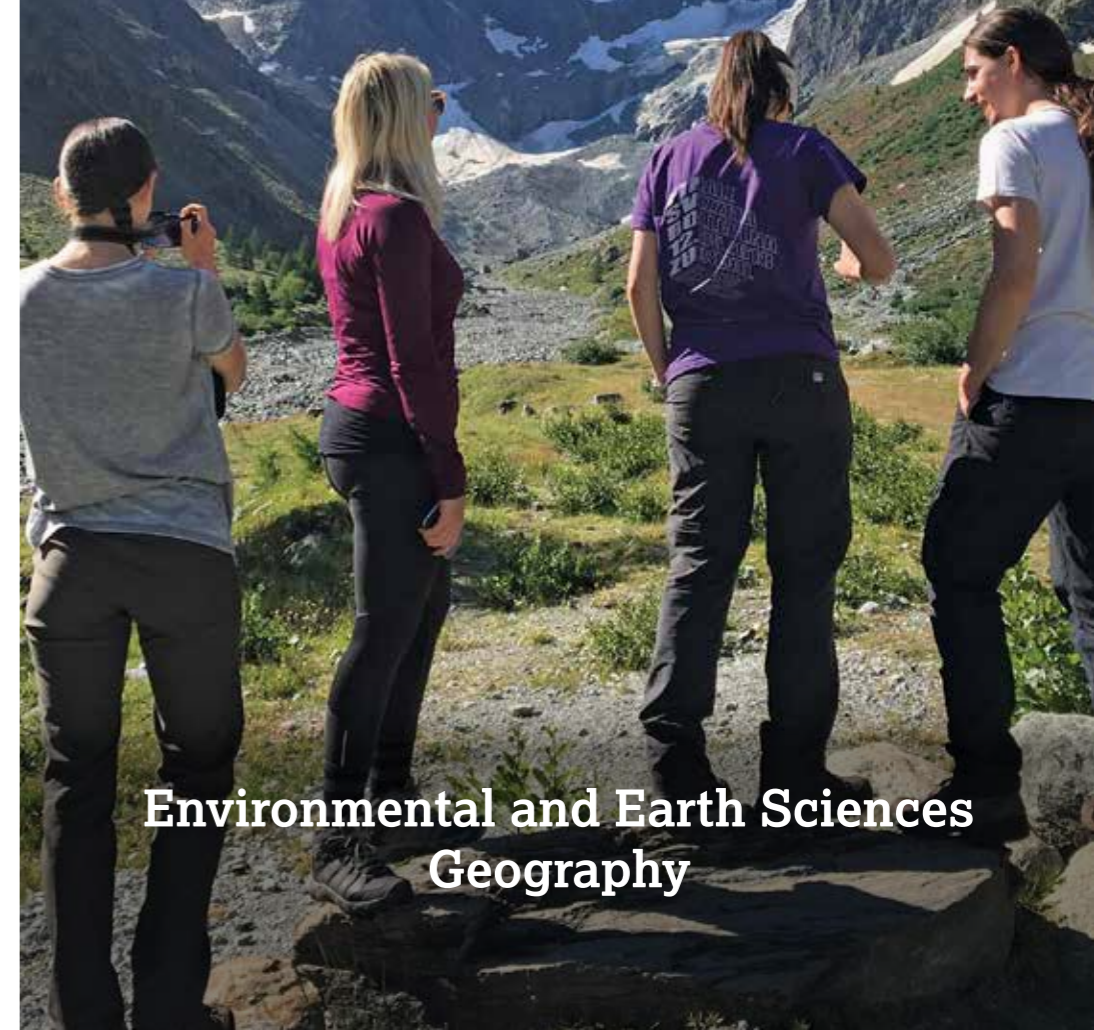
Disclaimer: The information in this leaflet relates primarily to 2025/26 entry to the University and every effort has been taken to ensure the information is correct at the time of printing in June 2024. The University will use all reasonable effort to deliver the course as described but the University reserves the right to make changes after going to print. You are advised to consult our website at www.lancaster.ac.uk/study for up-to-date information before you submit your application.

Further legal information may be found at www.lancaster.ac.uk/compliance/legalnotice

Lancaster
Environment Centre

Lancaster
University 

Fieldwork Opportunities



Environmental and Earth Sciences
Geography

Environmental Field Course Carrock Fell

Enjoy a one-week field-based module, with a four day residential trip in the Lake District, followed by two days on campus with your fellow students and learn a number of important field and lab skills needed to succeed in the Environmental Sciences. Based at Carrock Fell, you will collect primary data from a disused tungsten mine and analyse and interpret this to assess the present and future impacts this will have on water quality. During the field course you will learn hydrological, geological and surveying skills whilst also developing your lab skills in relation to water chemistry.

Year of Study: Second

Date: September

*This is a compulsory field course for Environmental Science/Earth and Environmental Science students

Water, Society and the Istrian Landscape Croatia

You will explore Croatia's Istrian Peninsula, an idyllic landscape of olive groves, forests, wineries, and beaches with an environment which is strongly governed by its karst geology, unique biodiversity and its position on the transition between humid temperate and desert climates. Istria is also the setting of dramatic social-economic, political and environmental changes and contrasts, and on this field course you will focus on the challenges of environmental management, particularly of water resources, in this unique landscape.

Year of Study: Third

Date: Easter Vacation

Geological Mapping Isle of Mull

Study geologic and geomorphologic processes, and develop your Earth science field skills, during our field trip to the Isle of Mull. During this field course you will learn how to collect field data in order to make a geologic map. You will also visit some of the oldest rock formations in the UK, which formed during the opening of the Atlantic Ocean, and as such you will be able to understand a wide range of geologic terrains. As part of the module, you will gain excellent practical skills including mapping techniques, how to plot structural data and be able to recall aspects of British geological history.

Year of Study: Second

Date: May

*This is a compulsory field course for Earth and Environmental Science students

Hydrological Processes Slapton Ley

Our week long-trip to Slapton Ley in Devon offers a unique opportunity to study an important environmental issue, eutrophication, through field work and laboratory analysis. Based at the Slapton Ley Field Studies Centre, you will study the hydrological processes which govern nitrate eutrophication of a coastal freshwater lake of ecological significance. This field course is co-taught by staff from Natural England, who will lead a field visit on 'catchment sensitive farming', which will expand your knowledge of nitrate remediation measures.

Year of Study: Third

Date: Summer Vacation (between second and third year)

Alpine Environments Switzerland

Gain an in-depth understanding into Alpine environments during our intensive week-long residential field course in south-west Switzerland. During the course you will collect significant amounts of field data focussed on one of four interconnected study themes spanning glaciology, soils, ecology and hydrology. Once back at Lancaster, the field course is assessed by a written research paper and a professional-style presentation. The experience provides an inspiring foundation into the science and understanding of how these globally sensitive ecosystems are responding to change.

Year of Study: Third

Date: Summer Vacation (between second and third year)

Volcanic Processes Mount Etna

Visit Europe's largest active volcano, Mount Etna, and study the complex processes that take place both on the surface and beneath volcanoes. During this intensive week-long field course, you will explore a number of the physical volcanic processes that take place, including lava flow emplacement, explosive events and the evolution of a basaltic volcano. In addition, you will evaluate methods of managing volcanic hazards on heavily populated active volcanoes.

Year of Study: Third

Date: Easter Vacation

Local Field Excursions

Nestled between the Lake District, Yorkshire Dales National Park, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and nearby to major cities such as Manchester, Lancaster is perfectly placed to study environmental and geographical processes. You will have the opportunity to develop your field skills through regular visits to the local area and highlights include:

- Develop your field and observational skills studying water flow in a cave system in North Yorkshire.
- Visit Hazelrigg, our very own weather monitoring station, adjacent to our campus, to study the radiative balance of the atmosphere.
- Unravel the geological history of the area and learn geoscience techniques in the Lake District or Yorkshire Dales.
- Critically explore how the physical infrastructure of Salford and Manchester is experienced by different groups of people.
- Learn first-hand how and why wastewater is treated before being released into the environment.
- Explore the possibilities offered by green energy solutions through a visit to renewable energy installations in Burneside village, Cumbria and at James Cropper plc, a paper mill and major local employer.

The availability of field courses is dependent upon your scheme of study