

Department of Geography CK101/Geography BA

Quick Course Guide

2020/2021

Version 1.0

This 'Quick Guide' is intended to support students in making their choice of modules and completing Registration. It offers students a focused overview of their module options and requirements for First, Second and Third Years. Students in associated academic programmes in UCC, or visiting can also use the document to inform their choices. Fuller information about the degree programme will be sourced on Canvas, the Departmental Website and the Geography Student Handbook which will be published during September, 2020. Please note arrangement made to address constraints on the programme due to the COVID 19 Pandemic.

For those students intending to take the Professional Masters in Education (PME) and who must therefore comply with Teaching Council (secondary) requirements, modules are tagged as follows:

** Human
Physical*

General Information

- Outline Guide to Geography Degree available at: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/ck101/geography/>
- Individual module content, prerequisites, requirements, assessment, repeat procedures etc. for individual modules are contained in the UCC Book of Modules
<https://www.ucc.ie/modules/>
- Programme requirements: Required modules, optional modules, credit requirements etc. for CK101 and other programmes can be found in the UCC Undergraduate Calendar
<https://www.ucc.ie/calendar>
- Passing/failing/compensating Regulations governing pass/fail, repeat, compensation etc. for a given year of the BA programme can be found in UCC Marks and Standards
www.ucc.ie/marksandstandards/
- Further details about the regulations devised by the Teaching Council are available at: <https://www.teachingcouncil.ie/en/fileupload/Registration/Enhanced-Supply-of-Teachers-2020-2021/Geography.pdf>

First Year

Year Coordinator - Dr Liam Coakley (l.coakley@ucc.ie)

First year students take a common programme in Geography. Three modules are included in this programme - GG1013, GG1014, GG1015. These are 'core' modules and are obligatory. GG1013 module is offered in semester 1.

GG1014 module is offered in semester 2.

GG1015 module runs throughout the year; in semester 1 and semester 2.

Semester 1 Module descriptions -

Environmental Geography *GG1013 (Semester 1)*

An introduction to the geographies of the environment; including a consideration of climatological, ecological and geomorphological and human processes that shape the environment.

This module will be delivered Online (asynchronous). Lectures and other leaning materials and supports will posted on Canvas our Virtual Learning Environment.

Module Coordinator – Dr Karen Taylor

Tues 10:00 Boole 4, Thur 12:00 Boole 4

Applied Geography *GG1015 (Semesters 1 & 2)*

This module is designed to develop your geographical skills and to encourage the development of a geographical 'world-view'.

In semester 1, students will be introduced to the analysis of geographical data and to geographical writing. Students will reflect on core ideas in geography, learn to apply them and engage in data interpretation and analysis. It is anticipated that small-group workshops will be held on-campus, in semester 1. These sessions are obligatory and will take place in the Geography Library, Geography Department. A completely online workshop option will be available for those students unable to attend in person, as a result of the current COVID19 situation.

Workshop times will be allocated, using Canvas, during the first week of term (week beginning 28th September). These workshops will take place weekly – commencing on **12th October, 2020**. A series of online and hard-copy resources will be used during these sessions. Your workshop leader will refer you to the appropriate resources, as required.

Module Coordinator – Dr Liam Coakley / Geography Staff

Semester 2 Module descriptions -

Society and Space: Geographies of Globalisation, Difference and Inequality *GG1014 (Semester 2)*

An introduction to debates and issues in contemporary human geography. The module themes explore the intersections between society and space and between people and places at a variety of spatial scales in a range of global sites.

Please note that the decision about how this module will be delivered in the context of the COVID 19 pandemic will be taken in January 2021.

Module Coordinator – Dr Therese Kenna
Tues 10:00 Boole 3, Thur 12:00 Boole 4

Applied Geography GG1015 (Semesters 1 & 2)

In semester 2, GG1015 students will be introduced to Geographic Information Systems. Lectures introducing this material and presenting the GG1015 Geographic Information Systems (GIS) practical assignment will take place @ 12.00 on the following dates–

Week 1 - Friday, 29th January @ 12.00

Week 2 - Friday, 5th February @ 12.00

Week 4 - Friday, 19th February @ 12.00

These lectures will take place in the Boole 4 Lecture Theatre, UCC. These sessions will be recorded and made available online, for all students. All materials will be accessible via UCC's online learning platform – Canvas. The module coordinator will advise students of changes, should they arise.

First year assignments and submission deadlines:

1: 800 word illustrated essay (25 marks) due **4pm, 27th October, 2020**

2: 1200 word illustrated essay (35 marks) due **4pm, 1st December, 2020**

3: GIS Research report (35 marks) due **4pm, 30th March, 2021**

4. Workshop participation (5 marks).

Progression to Second Year

To pass First Year and progress to Second Year, candidates must achieve an average of at least 40% across their four subjects combined **and** achieve at least 40% in each of three subjects **and** achieve a mark of at least 30% in the remaining subject. This is known as a pass 'by compensation'. Important: A subject passed by compensation cannot be taken in 2nd or 3rd year. However, students can opt to repeat this subject at the Autumn Supplemental Examination - for a higher mark.

Second Year

Year Co-ordinators

Dr. Piaras Mac Éinri p.maceinri@ucc.ie

Dr. Denis Linehan d.linehan@ucc.ie

Students must ensure to register for the correct number of modules according to their Degree. All modules carry a 5 credit value. Students must take their Core Requirements and at least one module in Physical and Human Geography.

Geography Major Honours 40 credits(8 modules)

Required

GG2022 Field Work

GG2038 Geographical Research Methods

plus 30 credits to be taken from the following with at least 5 credits from: GG2005, GG2025, GG2037, GG2046 and at least 5 credits from: GG2010, GG2014,GG2023, GG2024, GG2041

Geography Joint Honours 30 credits (6 modules)

Required

GG2022 Field Work

GG2038 Geographical Research Methods

plus 20 credits from the following with at least 5 credits from: GG2005, GG2025, GG2037, GG2046 and at least 5 credits to be taken from:GG2010, GG2014, GG2023, GG2024, GG2041 .

Geography Minor Honours 20 credits (4 modules)

Required

GG2038 Geographical Research Methods

plus 15 credits from the following with at least 5 credits from: GG2005, GG2025, GG2037, GG2046 and 5 credits from: GG2010,GG2014, GG2023, GG2024, GG2041.

Module Descriptions Semester 1

Quaternary Environments and Geomorphology GG2005 #

This module examines the geomorphology and associated sedimentary processes of key environmental system(s), for example, glacial-cold regions, fluvial, and coastal. Quaternary environmental changes of, for example, glacial/inter-glacial cycles, linked climate changes, plant and animal history, human impacts on the environment and key analytical techniques in Quaternary studies and geomorphology will be treated. Teaching will be delivered fully online, but will include an on-campus practical n.a. 60% exam; 40% assignments

Geography of Tourism GG2014 *

This module will examine the rapidly changing geographical relationships and environmental impacts of the tourist industry. Teaching will be delivered mainly online but there will also be on-campus group project work (worth 40% of grade) complying with social distancing rules, with provision for an online alternative if required

Social Geography GG2024 *

Within the context offered by social geography, this module explores current approaches to the study of identity and social and racial exclusion to develop critical and grounded understandings of social

geography. The course will investigate the relationships between society and space and demonstrate how the mapping of identity on to geography can expose unequal relationships between groups and individuals. Topics will range over issues concerned with the geographies of race, migration, gender, minorities, sexuality, home, children and disability. Blended. Face-to-face teaching if module size permits (limited numbers) and online material (asynchronous) posted. 100% assignments

Geographical Research Methods GG2038

This is a **core** module and provides an introduction to the wide variety of research methods and techniques for the collection and analysis of geographical data. Techniques of primary data collection of relevance to geography and earth science are considered, and secondary sources of data examined. Maps and case studies are an integral part of the module, and underpin research design and data collection strategies. 100% assignments. Blended. Face-to-face teaching (limited numbers) and online material (asynchronous) posted.

100% exam

Biogeography GG2025 #

A grounding is provided in fundamental ecological relationships between organisms and their environment, within an ecosystems framework. A combined ecological, geographical and historical approach is taken to understand current biogeographical patterns of distribution. The reciprocal relationship between humans and the biosphere will be studied within such topics as evolution, biodiversity, nature conservation and island biogeography. Blended. Face-to-face teaching if module size permits (limited numbers) and online material (asynchronous) posted.

80% exam and 20% CA (MSQ)

Atmosphere, Weather and Climate GG2046 #

The module consist of three components; the atmosphere, the weather and the climates of the Earth. Dissemination; Precise format will be communicated nearer to the time in line with public health guidelines 100% assignments

Module Descriptions Semester 2

GG2010 Cities of Diversity *

This module examines the social, cultural and economic processes that have shaped and transformed western cities. It considers the impacts of these transformations on people living in urban areas. We explore notions of difference, encounter and inequality in the city. Students participate in field work in Cork city. 100% assignments

Economic and Rural Geography GG2023 *

Significant changes in both rural and industrial societies are underlined by a variety of forces such as innovation and technology, rural industrialisation, service employment, counter-urbanisation, migration, flexible labour markets and regional development policies. In the emergence of these new spaces, the relationships between outside forces (e.g EU and the State) and local interests are critical. Dissemination; Precise format will be communicated nearer to the time in line with public health guidelines 100% exam

Contemporary Human Migration and European Settlement and Society GG2041 *

An examination of the processes of European migration from emigrations of the 19th Century to the phases of post-war migration to and within western Europe. Individual state migration patterns together with policy initiatives and models of citizenship form the framework of this module. Dissemination; Precise format will be communicated nearer to the time in line with public health guidelines. 100% exam

Introduction to Geoinformatics GG2037 #

An introduction to the key concepts, principles and theory of GIS, Remote Sensing, global satellite positioning systems, and related Geoinformatics technologies, their use in Geographical and Earth Sciences, and practical techniques of spatial data analysis. Dissemination; Precise format will be communicated nearer to the time in line with public health guidelines 100% assignments

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Field Work GG2022

Because of COVID 19, the core field-work option will most likely run on a Digital Platform, though as the constraints around the Pandemic change, we may be able to consider operating local or self-directed options. Further information about this module will be supplied during Semester 1.

Third Year

Year Co-ordinators

Dr. Paul Holloway paul.holloway@ucc.ie

Dr. Ray O'Connor ray.oconnor@ucc.ie

In the final year of the BA in Geography students have the opportunity to focus on their particular interests in the discipline, as a wide range of thematic modules is offered.

Third Year Requirements

All Major and Joint Honours Students must take the Core Module GG3001. However, in 3rd year BA Geography there are no physical/human geography module requirements. However, if you plan a career as a second level teacher please check the requirements of the Teaching Council and select modules accordingly. www.teachingcouncil.ie/

40 credit Geography GG3001 Geographical Ideas plus 35 credits from the list of 3rd year modules.

30 credit Geography GG3001 Geographical Ideas plus 25 credits from the list of 3rd year modules

20 credit Geography Any FOUR GG modules (excluding GG3001 and GG3006)

Please Note:

Carry forward: 20% of the total 2nd year Geography mark is carried forward to 3rd year. The final Geography degree mark consists of 20% of 2nd year mark + 80% of 3rd year mark.

Only those students who have attained at least 55% overall in Second Year Geography may select a Dissertation GG3006.

See UCC Book of Modules for prerequisites.

Students taking GG3027 cannot register for SS3033 or SC3007.

Module Descriptions Semester 1

Geographical Ideas GG3001

This Core Module is required for all Major and Joint Honours students. It presents geography as a critical and reflective discipline and enables students to appreciate the plural, dynamic and contested nature of the discipline. It aims to communicate to students how reflection on the theoretical approaches that underwrite geographical ideas offers opportunities to develop their own arguments and research as geographers. Dissemination; This module will be a mixture of blended online and face-to-face teaching for the upcoming semester. Assessment; 100% Assignments

Global Urbanisation* GG3010

The study of cities has never been more important than it is today with the greater part of social and economic life across the globe is now shaped by urbanisation. This module will explore some of the major urban conditions and challenges in the world today. In doing so, a range of themes and topics are explored which include: uneven urban development; cities and sustainability; urban infrastructures; human insecurity and war; and new types of inequalities. This module is both an empirical and theoretical exploration of the contemporary city, and case studies will be drawn from cities internationally including Cork, Sydney, London and Shanghai. Dissemination; Online (asynchronous). Assessment; 100% assignments

Advanced GIS GG3012

Description; Advanced studies in computer-based techniques and systems for geographical information handling and analysis, database designs and links with the mathematical modelling and analysis of environmental systems; case studies of GIS applications to specific environments; examination of the societal, commercial and research contexts of geographic information generation, analysis and use. Dissemination; Online (asynchronous lectures, synchronous practicals). Assessment; 100% assignments

Geographies of the Irish Diaspora GG3038*

A focus on some of the key debates in the academic literature on the Irish diaspora and Irish migration. The module will draw on current theoretical perspectives on migration, globalisation and identities, and students will be encouraged to set familiar and popular stories and representations of migration within appropriate conceptual frameworks. Lectures with some interactive workshops focusing on skills in critical reading and analysis. Dissemination; Online (asynchronous). Assessment; 100% exam

Environmental Remote Sensing GG3041 #

Through analysis of examples taken from across the world the application of air and space borne remote sensing in studying environmental change will be investigated. Topics covered include changes in the biosphere, cryosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and urban areas. The role of remote sensing in contemporary natural disasters and in policy formation will also be addressed, and ethical issues examined. Dissemination; Blended. Face-to-face teaching (limited numbers) and online material (asynchronous) posted. Assessment; 60% exam; 40% assignments

Geopolitics and Geostrategies GG3046*

We live in an era of intense political and economic interconnection. Many parts of the world are extremely interdependent. These interdependencies can be a source of great strength but they can also cause conflict, and power is yielded in many different ways, geographically. In GG3046, you will explore the workings of this interdependent world, at different scales and come to an understanding of the spatial consequences of power, at the level of the world. You will be introduced to patterns and processes in geopolitics and to the actors that operate in geopolitical space. You will be asked to engage with different geopolitical visions and assess the traction of different ideologies in different parts of the world. Dissemination; Blended. Face-to-face teaching (limited number) and online material (asynchronous). Assessment; 100% assignments

Historical Geographies of the City * GG3043

This module has a particular focus on the impacts of modernity on urban life in the 19th and 20th Century. Through the study of urban transformations, the module will explore the principal geographical concerns within modernity; namely, the reconfiguration of spatial relations, the reorientation of spatial experience and the remaking of spatial practices. We examine debates in contemporary historical and cultural geography, with a particular emphasis on spatial and social theory, and conceptual and methodological strategies for undertaking research with primary research material. 100% assignments. Dissemination; Blended. Face-to-face teaching (limited number) and online material (asynchronous). Assessment; 100% Assignments.

Geography of Heritage GG3037*

This module examines the meaning of heritage in contemporary societies. It will specifically deal with issues of conservation and representation. Important heritage landscapes continue to be threatened by modern development. By focusing on specific case studies, it will examine the value placed on heritage in society. The politics of heritage will also be explored. Questions of identity, nationalism, and multiculturalism are central then to any discussion of the geography of heritage. Dissemination; TBD. Assessment; 100% exam

Module Descriptions Semester 2

Please note that decision about how these modules will be delivered in the context of the COVID 19 pandemic will be taken in January 2021.

Climate Change and Historical Climatology# GG3056

Description; The module consists of two broad components: the causes of climate change and the history of climate change on Earth, and the contribution of historical climatology to this understanding. Dissemination; Precise format will be communicated nearer to the time in line with public health guidelines. Assessment; 100% assignments

Human Ecology*GG3009

Human ecology is concerned with human environmental interactions. Humans differ from other animal species in that not only are we biological, but we are also psychological and cultural animals. Thus the values we hold and the types of societies we create strongly impact on how we interact with the biophysical environment. Human ecology is a transdisciplinary subject, concerned with the interrelationships between humans, their culture and their ecosystems. Dissemination; Precise format will be communicated nearer to the time in line with public health guidelines. Assessment; 80% exam; 20% assignments

Food Geography *GG3045

This module addresses the contemporary global food system: what, how, where and why food is produced. It examines the evolution and co-existence of different agricultural systems around the world; the role of corporate actors in the transformation and retailing of global foods; and the changing nature of consumers and consumption within this system. The module will explore the dynamics and contradictions of a food system that, while heralding ever-widening consumer choice, leaves one billion people food insecure and hungry; and impacts significantly on the global environment. Dissemination; Precise format will be communicated nearer to the time in line with public health guidelines. Assessment; 80% exam; 20% assignments

Regional and Local Planning Issues and Policies *GG3027

Regional and local planning issues, dialogues and strategies, the public administrative and policy context of planning within Ireland and the wider global setting. Dissemination: Precise format will be communicated nearer to the time in line with public health guidelines. Assessment; 60% exam; 40% assignments

Coastal and Marine Geomorphology#GG3007

The study of geomorphological and other physical Earth surface process controls influencing the development of coastal and marine environments, from local to global scales. Themes covered include wave studies, coastal sediments and beach development, coastal erosion, seabed mapping and sea-level changes, coastal management and planning. Dissemination; Precise format will be communicated nearer to the time in line with public health guidelines. Assessment; 60% exam; 40% assignments

Landscape Paleoecology and Palynology# GG3051

The lectures will introduce students to the theory and method of palynology, with subsequent practical classes allowing students to develop 'hands on' laboratory skills, including microscopic identification of pollen grains, data presentation, interpretation and analyses. Case studies illustrate the application of palynological data in understanding the extent and timing of long term patterns of climate change and the role of human communities in modifying and disturbing environmental systems. Dissemination;

Precise format will be communicated nearer to the time in line with public health guidelines.
Assessment; Exam 60%; assignments 40.

Historical Geographies of Ireland *GG3049

This module will focus on social movements, and cultural and economic transformations. Themes addressed include: place, patronage, politics in seventeenth and eighteenth century Ireland; the impact of landlordism and landscape transformation; the distribution of secular and religious institutions; the origins and expansion of banking in Ireland; the impact of railways and canals; the Great Irish Famine; the Catholic Church; the co-operative movement; representations of emigration; ideas of commemoration (including monuments, place names and street names); the impact of EU membership; the Celtic Tiger. Dissemination; Precise format will be communicated nearer to the time in line with public health guidelines. Assessment; 100% Assignments

Dissertation GG3006 (10 credits)

An undergraduate dissertation is an extended in-depth piece of research on a Geographical topic. Research projects usually involve field work and an opportunity to work one-on-one with a faculty member of Geography. It is a great opportunity to learn how to carry out a research project and to put into action the research methods, theoretical approaches and knowledge that you have gained throughout your degree.

Requirements: Students who opt to undertake a dissertation are required to have achieved at least 55% in Second Year Geography.

The module GG3006 Research Methods and Dissertation consists of a final piece of work approximately 8,000 words in length (80%), a written literature review (10%) and an oral presentation (10%).

Workshops:

Dissertation workshops will be delivered online due to restrictions on physical space and social distancing measures. Material will be provided online prior to the session, and then a live Q&A will be undertaken through MS Teams. These sessions have been timetabled for Mondays at 1-2pm. These sessions are aimed to provide a formalised setting for you to develop specific research methodologies with a departmental expert in the subject.

Supervisors: You will be assigned a faculty supervisor, who you will meet through the year to develop your research. These meetings will either be undertaken virtually through MS Teams or through appointment in person. This will be determined on a per-case basis.

Key Dates:

- Monday 5th October:

Introduction to dissertation workshop

- Friday 9th October:

Last day to change modules.

- Friday 16th October: Written proposal due with agreed date and time for meeting supervisor on front page

- Week October 19th – 23rd October: Meet to discuss proposal with your supervisor.

- The Literature Review for your dissertation is to be submitted in two stages. The first draft, which is not assessed, is to be submitted to your supervisor by 4pm Friday 20th November. The second which will be assessed is to be submitted by last class day 4pm Friday 18th December.

Presentation sessions for BA Geography for Monday February 1st and February 8th 2021 have been organised. The format of these presentations will be organised in-line with public health guidelines closer to the time.

The submission date for the dissertation is 1 p.m. Monday 12th April 2021.