



**LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY**

Course information for applicants

This information applies to the course as it will be delivered to students starting the course in 2027/28.

Information provided here was confirmed on 24/08/2026

General information

Programme code

HGPLN

Target award

If you complete this course successfully you will be eligible for the award of:

BA (Hons) Human Geography and Planning

Delivery mode

- ☒ On campus
- ☐ Distance learning

Where you will study

The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.

Professional accreditation or recognition

Professional body

Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI)

Summary of the accreditation or recognition

The course is accredited by the RTPI as a spatial route to membership. As such we remain an accredited 'Planning School' and aim to be re-accredited at the annual RTPI partnership board. Human Geography & Planning is a recognised Spatial Planning route accredited with the RTPI and Leeds Beckett University has been teaching accredited planning courses since 1934 with its origins in Leeds School of Art. The interdisciplinary nature of our teaching and research environment is exemplified in this BA (Hons) Human Geography & Planning programme.

Awarding body

Leeds Beckett University

Regulator

Office for Students

Level of qualification

Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

Course duration

If you are made an offer of a place on the course, your offer letter will include the start date.

This course can be studied:

3 years full-time

Entry requirements

Admissions criteria are available on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have previous relevant qualifications or experience, you could be exempt from certain parts of your course. Recognition of prior learning (RPL) allows you to start your course at a point appropriate to the learning and skills that you may have developed in a professional, vocational or community setting.

Find out more here: <https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning>

If you have questions about entry requirements and admissions, contact AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course fees

Course fees and a breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have questions about fees for this course, contact Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Timetable

You will receive your full timetable for the year during induction week.

What you will study

Course aims

The aims of the course are to:

- Provide a broad, contemporary and intellectually challenging geography and planning curriculum that enables you to critique the relationship between people and their environment
- Combine the exploration of theory, practical fieldwork and project work to develop a critical understanding about the significance of global local processes in the production of particular geographies
- Promote an awareness of the socially constructed ways of representing and interpreting the world
- Foster appropriate analytical and methodological skills for the interpretation of geographical and planning related information

- Develop a range of subject-specific and transferable skills appropriate to graduate employment and/or postgraduate study
- Provide a supportive and engaging learning environment that acknowledges and responds to the diversity of student backgrounds, experiences and learning styles
- Foster analytical and methodological skills to become individual, autonomous and reflective learners

Teaching and learning activities

At the centre of our learning and teaching strategy is a belief in a participatory approach. This means you are at the centre of learning by way of discussion, participating in class and learning together. This approach is a result of the exploratory nature of geography as a discipline and the intrinsic requirement that you are able to learn from experience in the classroom and our urban and rural environments. As a teaching team we also think it vital we continually innovate in our teaching material, subject matter and delivery style. As a significant proportion of the teaching team have completed teaching qualifications there is widespread awareness of the variety of ways in which students learn and a general perception of the role of the lecturer as being one of a guide and facilitator. The dominant model of teaching is therefore best described as embodying the partnership approach whereby both lecturer and students are able to gain mutual benefit. This has resulted in a general movement away from teaching which is didactic or exclusively concerned with knowledge transfer. Instead, your course team strives to encourage student participation at all levels and stages of learning.

Fieldtrips represent an important part of the teaching and learning approach. The term is used in the broadest sense and includes external visits where you will gain an understanding of how, for example, planning committees work and debate planning applications or as locations for conducting fieldwork to develop competence in practical research skills, etc. Fieldtrips are undertaken at all levels of the programme. Fieldtrips form an integral part of the degree programme and as such the cost of all-day trips are covered by the university. Any international trips, which are compulsory, the university will subsidise these trips and students will only be required to finance their travel to these destinations (plus a nominal non-refundable deposit). Alternative UK based fieldwork assignment is set if you do not attend. It is important that you are able to engage with the real world and as such fieldwork and experiential learning are regarded as essential components of the degree. There are a wide range of objectives and learning outcomes associated with fieldtrips as they are embedded within the assessment for numerous modules. However on a general note they provide you:

- an opportunity for students to apply theoretical concepts to a specific place
- to evaluate the implementation of spatial, cultural, economic and environmental policies
- to develop an awareness of cultural differences, tolerance and developing a sense of place
- to identify problems, consider solutions, gather data and collect information
- to learn generic and transferable skills such as team working and observation

Course structure

This information is correct for students progressing through the course within standard timescales. If you have to repeat study or take time out during your course, you may be taught alternative modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes.

The option modules listed may vary. Those listed here are likely to be offered in a typical year.

Level 4

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Sustainable Places and Residential Field Trip	20	S1 / Year 1
Geography in the Contemporary World	20	S1 / Year 1
Introduction to Planning	20	S1 / Year 1
City and Society	20	S2 / Year 1
Placemaking	20	S2 / Year 1
Techniques in Geographical Research	20	S2 / Year 1
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	120	

Level 5

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Placement and Employability Skills	10	S1 & 2 / Year 2
Research Methods	20	S1 & 2 / Year 2
Energy and Environmental Policy	20	S1 / Year 2
Development of Planning Thought	20	S1 / Year 2
International Field Trip	10	S1 / Year 2
Urban Design	20	S2 / Year 2
Housing Markets	20	S2 / Year 2
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	120	

Level 6

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Dissertation	40	S1 & 2 / Year 3
Planning Policy and Practice	20	S1 / Year 3
Inter-Professional Studies	20	S2 / Year 3
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	80	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Strategies for European Cities	20	S1 / Year 3
Geographies of Consumption	20	S1 / Year 3
Biodiversity and Conservation	20	S1 / Year 3
Geographical Imaginations	20	S1 / Year 3
Heritage and Conservation	20	S2 / Year 3
Women and the Built Environment	20	S2 / Year 3
Planning in Practice	20	S2 / Year 3
Total number of credits of elective modules a student must enrol on:	40	

Assessment and feedback

The balance of assessment may change depending on which option modules you choose.

Level 4

Level 4 is assessed entirely by coursework.

Level 5

Level 5 is assessed mostly by coursework, with some examinations.

Level 6

Level 6 is assessed mostly by coursework, with some examinations.

Workload

You can expect to spend a total of 100 hours learning per 10 credits.

Typically, a student on this course can expect to divide their time like this:

Overall workload	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6
Teaching, learning and assessment	261 hours	261 hours	201 hours
Independent study	939 hours	869 hours	999 hours