



Department of Geography

THIRD YEAR GEOGRAPHY 2019/20

Editor: Chris Van Egeraat, Associate Professor, Third Year Geography Manager

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What's in this Handbook?

Welcome back!	3
Staff involved in Third Year Geography Programme.....	4
Keeping in touch, getting in touch	5
Four critical bits of information you should know.....	6
1. Missed Assessments/ Deadlines/ Tutorials/ Exams/On-going personal circumstances.....	6
2. Using References.....	7
3. Assessment Formats	7
4. Plagiarism and Collusion.....	8
Essential information for Final Year Students	9
Student Categories and Credit Requirements.....	9
Carrying Deficits.....	11
Things to consider when selecting geography modules.....	11
Third Year Geography: Grade Related Criteria.....	12
Third Year Geography modules	14
GY310B Geography Research Workshops	209
Requesting an Academic Reference.....	209
Postgraduate Studies and Careers in Geography.....	20
Get Involved.....	221
Third Year Timetable.....	22
Third Year Geography Year Planner.....	23
Frequently Asked Questions:.....	22
MU Library Services:.....	225
Experiential Learning	226

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: See: www.maynoothuniversity.ie/registrar/key-term-dates

10 September 2019:	<i>Online registration for continuing students commences</i>
Monday 23 September 2019:	<i>Third Year Geography lectures commence</i>
Friday 11 October 2019	<i>Change of module deadline</i>
Monday 28 October - Friday 1 Nov 2019:	<i>Semester 1 Study Week</i>
Friday 20 December 2019:	<i>Conclusion of First Semester lectures</i>
Friday 10 January 2020:	<i>Semester 1 module examinations commence</i>
Monday 3 February 2020:	<i>Semester 2 lectures commence</i>
Monday 16 March to Friday 20 March 2020:	<i>Semester 2 Study Week</i>
Friday 10 April 2020:	<i>Good Friday (No Lectures)</i>
Monday 13 to Friday 17 April 2020:	<i>Easter Vacation</i>
Friday 8 May 2020:	<i>Conclusion of Second Semester lectures</i>
Friday 15 May 2020:	<i>Semester 2 module examinations commence</i>

Welcome back!

Welcome back to your Home in Geography. The Department has had a busy and fruitful summer. Jan Rigby and Jim Walsh retired this summer. We bid goodbye to Kath Browne, but are glad to have her as a close neighbour at UCD. We welcome Dr Patrick Bresnihan to our Department as our new lecturer in Nature-Society. We also welcome one of our own recent graduates, Dr Rachel McArdle to research and teach in Urban and Cultural Geography. We offer a special welcome to our final-year students. This is a place of learning, scholarship and research. As you complete your undergraduate studies with us, you build upon your introduction to concepts and issues provided in the first two years, and are now able to address research challenges in detail.

This year, we have an excellent range of physical, human and environmental geography modules on offer, led by our experienced and very enthusiastic staff. Ro Charlton (GY312) asks how river systems may be managed while Conor Murphy (GY313) looks at the modeling of climate change. Helen Shaw asks about the pressures on and sustainability of global eco-systems (GY317) while also leading a course looking at past ecology and trends of environmental change (GY367). Steve McCarron interrogates the long-term record of glaciation (GY315) and Gerard McCarthy examines the relationship between oceans and climate change (GY369). Patrick Bresnihan looks at environmental issues in Geographies of Pollution (GY319).

Combining conceptual approaches with practical applications, Conor Cahalane (GY314) explores the ways remote sensing is used to study environmental change with Ronan Foley (GY304) giving students an opportunity to learn about Geographic Information Systems and Science through the use of industry-standard GIS software. In cultural geography, Rachel McArdle offers Approaches to Cultural Geography (GY305) and Lorna O'Hara explores the geographies of gender (GY357) while Karen Till's module The City in Film (GY339) and The Creative City (GY358) module taught by Rachel McArdle offer students the opportunity to explore both cultural and urban geography themes. Urban geography is also under examination in a module on Urban Planning and Property Development module (GY342). In economic geography, you can study the informational economy (GY321) and Regional Development (GY330) with Chris van Egeraat and Michael Murphy explores the myriad Geographies of the Crisis and Recovery (GY331).

We have several classes in Political Geography. Alistair Fraser (GY333) looks at the global politics of food while William Durkan (GY327) examines the political responses to environmental challenges. Gerry Kearns considers issues of power and space in Geopolitics (GY337) while the Geography of Elections (GY347) is taken up by Adrian Kavanagh. We also offer two classes in Health Geographies with Martina Roche presenting Medical Geography (GY326) and Ronan Foley lecturing on Culture, Health and Place (GY336).

As we take you to the research frontier, we will also develop your critical skills. We want you to be able to read scholarly works with a full awareness of the contentious matters of methodology and analysis behind the published claims. Single-Major and Major students both prepare for (GY306) and then complete a major piece of independent work (GY303). Double-Major students join a research-based seminar and complete their own research essay (GY310B). Students can also take advantage of a work placement module that reflects upon the use of geographical skills in the broader world of work (GY399A and GY399B). Adrian Kavanagh gives you an opportunity to learn more about the evolution of our marvelous discipline of Geography (GY305).

We are all dedicated to giving you the inspiration and confidence to study and to talk about the Earth as our Home. We will take good care of you, but if we could do more, please let us know via your Year Manager (Chris van Egeraat), the Director of Undergraduate Education (Adrian Kavanagh), or me.

Gerry Kearns, Head of Department Professor of Geography



**Gerry Kearns, Head of Department
Professor of Geography**

Staff involved in Third Year Geography Programme

Academic Staff	Email	Room
Adrian Kavanagh (<i>Deputy Head</i>)	Adrian.P.Kavanagh@mu.ie	6, Top Rhetoric House
Alistair Fraser (<i>Single Major Mgr</i>)	Alistair.Fraser@mu.ie	21, Top Rhetoric House
Chris van Egeraat (3 rd year Mgr)	Chris.vanEgeraat@mu.ie	10, Top Rhetoric House
Conor Cahalane	Conor.Cahalane@mu.ie	7, Top Rhetoric House
Conor Murphy	Conor.Murphy@mu.ie	2.6, Laraghbryan House
Gerard McCarthy	Kath.Browne@mu.ie	18, Top Rhetoric House
Gerry Kearns (<i>Head of Department</i>)	Gerry.Kearns@mu.ie	23B, Top Rhetoric House
Helen Shaw	Helen.Shaw@mu.ie	13, Top Rhetoric House
Karen Till	Karen.Till@mu.ie	19, Top Rhetoric House
Lorna O'Hara	Lorna.Ohara@mu.ie	<i>Arrange via email</i>
Martina Roche	Martina.Roche@mu.ie	11, Top Rhetoric House
Michael Murphy	Michael.B.Murphy@mu.ie	15, Top Rhetoric House
Patrick Bresnihan	Patrick.Bresnihan@mu.ie	TBC
Rachel McArdle	Rachel.McArdle@mu.ie	<i>Arrange via email</i>
Ro Charlton	Ro.Charlton@mu.ie	23, Top Rhetoric House
Ronan Foley	Ronan.Foley@mu.ie	12, Top Rhetoric House
Rowan Fealy (<i>Postgraduate Dir.</i>)	Rowan.Fealy@mu.ie	2.6, Laraghbryan House
Stephen McCarron	Stephen.McCarron@mu.ie	14, Top Rhetoric House
William Durkan	William.Durkan@mu.ie	<i>Arrange via email</i>
Support staff		
Neasa Hogan	Geography.Department@mu.ie	23C, Top Rhetoric House
Una Holton	Geography.Department@mu.ie	23C, Top Rhetoric House
Mick Bolger, Technician	Michael.Bolger@mu.ie	Opp. Physical Geography Lab

See the department's full staff list <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/geography/our-people> Staff should be contacted **during office hours** or **by appointment** only. Office Hours are posted on Moodle MC:GY_03

3rd Year Manager: Chris van Egeraat, Room 10, Top Floor, Rhetoric House
 Email: chris.vanegeraat@mu.ie
 Tel: 086 0851732
Office Hours: on appointment

Geography Major-Single Major Manager: Dr Alistair Fraser, Room 26, Top Floor, Rhetoric House
 Email: alistair.fraser@mu.ie Tel: 01 7083494

Keeping in touch, getting in touch

You can keep in touch with the Department using one of the following five methods:

1. **Moodle:** This online learning environment [<https://2020.moodle.maynoothuniversity.ie>] is accessible both on and off campus. We use it for: (a) administration work by the Year Manager including, posting notices and announcements, posting important documents for final year students and signing up students to modules (e.g. GY310B project) and events and (b) to pass on information/ resources about individual modules. You will have access to all Moodle areas relating to the modules that you are registered for, as well as to a general information page for the Third/Final Year geography programme **MC:GY_03**. There is also a Moodle page MC:GY_PMC for submitting Personal or Medical Circumstances[PMC] forms to the Department.
2. **Department Notice Boards:** Notices relating to Final Year Geography are located on the Ground Floor and Top Floor (opposite Room 6), Rhetoric House. Consult these regularly.
3. **Email:** Messages to individual students from the Year Manager/Staff will normally **ONLY** be made via email, using the student's mumail.ie address. You should check your University email account on a regular (at least daily) basis and clear your inbox when it is getting full. Email messages FROM students to staff must come from your mumail.ie account. Messages FROM students to staff involving other than a short reply should NOT be sent by e-mail. If discussion or advice of a general nature is required this should be done through a meeting with the staff member concerned during their office hours.
4. **Office Hours:** Some Staff have *office hours* set aside to meet with students to discuss matters relating to their work in the Department of Geography. Please make use of these as they can be very helpful to students in their final year. These 'office hours' are listed on the **MC:GY_03** Moodle page. Students should always check the relevant Moodle pages before seeking information from staff. Special appointments may be arranged with individual staff members. General matters relating to your particular Year course should be addressed to the Third Year Manager (Chris van Egeraat) or to the Major/Single Major Manager (Alistair Fraser).
5. **Department of Geography website:** Students will find useful information here on the undergraduate geography programmes including an overview of each year, modules offered, course requirements, Year Guides and other documentation and details on staff teaching and research activities. Information about upcoming events and more general departmental news is posted regularly on this site www.maynoothuniversity.ie/geography. For more detailed and up-to-date information on specific modules, see the geography Moodle pages.

When to use which medium	
Moodle	Frequently; for most information regarding modules and courses
Notice Boards	Occasionally, often around exam time/ after in-class assessments
Email	If Moodle, webpages, in-class announcements or notice boards don't help. For queries that only require a <u>brief response</u>
Office Hours	For queries requiring a more detailed discussion with a staff member
Phone	For <u>urgent matter</u>

Four critical bits of information you should know

1. Missed Assessments/ Deadlines/ Tutorials/ Exams/On-going personal circumstances

Note that the following procedures are there to support you. **If you have any ongoing personal issues that may affect your performance you are strongly advised to contact your third year manager (Chris van Egeraat 086 0851732).** This allows for early facilitation and the exam board will consider your situation in determining your results.

You **MUST** complete and submit a **Personal or Medical Circumstances[PMC]** form if you (for valid reasons):

- miss, or have difficulties during, a written/end-of-module examination
- miss a required in-class assessment
- fail to meet a deadline for submitting a project report or essay, or a piece of work in tutorial classes
- are absent from regular classes for a significant period of time (two weeks, or more)
- miss a number (more than two) of GY310B tutorial sessions

PMC forms **must be completed online** through the special and **confidential PMC page** that can be accessed through Moodle **MC:GY_PMC**. After doing so, if required, you must submit medical certificates and/or other supporting documentation to the Department Office (Rhetoric Room 23C) as soon as is possible. (All medical certificates and other documentation **must be dated** and include your name, address, year of study and student number. Copies of all documents submitted should be retained by the student, who may be required to produce them later.) When the PMC form has been completed/submitted, you may be asked to schedule an appointment to meet with the Department of Geography administration staff and/or the Year Manager (through the Moodle Scheduler function) within **two weeks** of the relevant event. If you know that you will be absent ahead of an event (e.g. medical appointment), then the PMC (and supporting documents) should be submitted ahead of that event.

Follow-up procedure: In most circumstances if the reason is acceptable, students will be notified by email. If it is considered that further information is required, the student will be given guidance at the time about what is needed. If further discussion is required about information provided, students will be required to make an appointment to see the Year Manager. Where the reasons given in the PMC form are accepted, the following outcomes will apply (as appropriate):

Circumstances	Outcome (if successful)
<i>Missed in-class assessment</i>	<i>Resit assessment, usually on the same day as the main module examination in January/May, or in the last two weeks of term</i>
<i>Late submission of essay/project</i>	<i>Later submission date set by Lecturer/Tutor/3rd Year Manager</i>
<i>Missed examination</i>	<i>Resit examination during the Repeat Exams in August</i>
<i>Extended absence from class</i>	<i>Details brought to attention of the examination board at the end of the year for consideration</i>

When no marks/extension/additional sitting will be awarded:

- When a PMC form is submitted more than two weeks after the exercise/ deadline
- When the reasons given are not deemed to be acceptable
- When no PMC form is submitted
- When inadequate supporting documentation is provided
- When a subsequent deadline is missed

2. Using References

The Department of Geography has an excellent referencing guide (*The Reference Point: A Department of Geography Guide to the Harvard Referencing System: Second Edition* (Hobbs and ni Mhordha, 2014) available at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/geography/handbooks> and from the META MC:GY_03 Moodle page. *The Reference Point* should be carefully referred to for guidance on referencing when writing Geography Department essays or research reports. You must always consult and follow the guide whenever you hand in written work.

3. Assessment Formats

Some continuous assessment work may be done in the form of essays/research reports. Students will be penalised with loss of marks if these are submitted after the notified submission date unless they have a valid reason for doing so (as detailed via a PMC). In-class assessments may take the form of a single main test or a series of short tests, taking place during lecture time. Final written examinations for Third Year Geography modules (excluding those assessed by 100% continuous assessment) take place (a) EITHER in 120 minute sessions where examination papers consist of four questions, of which two must be answered or (b) in a 60 minute exam session where the examination paper consists of three questions, of which one must be answered. More details on specific assessment formats for individual 3rd Year Geography modules are provided later on in this handbook. First Semester modules will be examined in January 2020 and Second Semester modules in May 2020. *Provisional grades* for First semester lecture modules will be posted during the second semester (late February). Specific *grade related criteria* for 3rd Year Geography modules are posted on Moodle.

GRADING SYSTEM: Marks awarded for individual modules are divided into the following grades:

- First Class Honours: 70% and higher
- Second Class Honours Grade I: 60-69%
- Second Class Honours Grade II: 50-59%
- Third Class Honours: 45-49%
- Pass 40-44%,
- Fail < 40%
- Non-Compensatable Fail < 35%
-

See specific grade related criteria for 3rd Year Geography in this Handbook.

In order to pass the geography subject a student must:

- Obtain 40% on aggregate in the subject
- Have marks of 40% or higher for at least half of credits
- Not fall below 35% in any module

A subject mark will not be allocated to a student who has insufficient credits - either by not being registered or by not attending the relevant examination or by submitting no continuous assessment for a module.

Compensation and composition

The default compensation mark is 35%. That means that if you get a module mark of less than 35 you cannot pass the module by compensation, and must repeat it or substitute another module.

The final mark in your degree is calculated from a combination of annual marks in second and final year. The final year contributes 70% of the final mark, and the second year 30%.

For the full regulations see the University Marks and Standards at <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/university-policies>

4. Plagiarism and Collusion

Plagiarism can occur by accident if you rely too heavily on a single source for your information. To avoid the risk of plagiarism you should:

- As far as possible, summarise or paraphrase, in your own words, material from outside sources – do not copy out chunks of a book/article/report (even if referenced properly);
- When you use exact quotations of another author's words, you must use quotation marks to indicate this, and reference the source fully, both in the text and in the reference list. Similarly, if you make reference to statistics/figures drawn from another source, you must reference the source fully, both in the text and in the reference list;
- Reference all material which is neither your own work nor common knowledge.

Collusion occurs when two or more students co-operate to produce work that is then submitted for assessment as the work of a single student. (It does not include work which is required to be submitted by a team as part of the assessment.) Collusion occurs when a student:

- Knowingly submits work done in collaboration with others without supervisor approval
- Collaborates with another student in completion of work which he/ she knows is intended to be submitted as that student's own, unaided work.
- Knowingly permits another student to copy all or part of his/her work and to submit it as the other student's unaided work.

All cases of suspected plagiarism/collusion will be referred to the Head of Department. If claims prove to be the case, penalties will be heavy. Students may also be referred to the University's Academic Discipline Committee.

Essential information for Final Year Students

The focus of this final year of the Geography undergraduate programme is on **Thinking Critically** and **Contesting Geographical Knowledge**. Students will be introduced to more advanced ideas and debates in relation to geographical concepts and theories, and substantive problems occupying the attention of leading scholars in the discipline. Modules in this year become more specialised and it is here that the integration of staff research and teaching becomes particularly prominent. Emphasis is placed on the critical evaluation of different geographical approaches and theories, including an appreciation of the ways in which theoretical disputes are debated and resolved and the implications of choosing one theory over another. In addition, students are provided with the opportunity of applying the research skills acquired in Year 2 Methods classes through research work for the individual project (GY310B) or thesis (GY303).

Please consult with staff members at an early stage if you are experiencing difficulties – often these can be resolved very quickly and before they become serious problems. If during the year, health or personal circumstances arise which adversely affect your long-term ability to carry out course requirements, please bring these to the notice of the Year Manager (Chris van Egeraat) as soon as possible.

Student Categories and Credit Requirements

Geography Single Major GY3SM (MH101 BA) – Students take 60 credits* in Geography in 3rd year. Students must take four lecture modules in each semester and must also take the GY305 (Approaches to Human Geography), GY303 (Thesis) and GY306 (Literature Review & Thesis Presentation) modules.

Geography as a Major GY3MJ (MH101 BA) – Students take 40 credits* in Geography in 3rd year. Students must take any four modules in Semester 1 while In Semester 2 students must take GY310B and any three optional lecture modules.

Geography Double Major GY3DM (MH101 BA) - Students take 30 credits* in Geography in 3rd year. Students must take three optional lecture modules in Semester 1 while in Semester 2, students must take GY310B and two optional lecture modules.

BA European Studies GY4EDM (MH108) - Students take either 25 credits or 30 credits in their final year. Students must take one compulsory European Studies modules (PO314) as part of their studies. They may opt to do these in place of one 5-credit Geography module; if they do so, they must take 25 credits in Geography: two optional modules/electives in Semester 1 and; GY310B and two optional modules/electives in Semester 2. Otherwise (if they take PO314 as an option within their other subject) their course requirements are exactly the same as for *Geography Double Major* students, i.e. 30 credits.

Geography as a Minor GY3MI (MH101 BA) – In principle you will take 20 credits of geography in year 2. Students must complete four lecture modules – taking two lecture modules in each semester.

*See section below for exceptions to this rule

Electives and modules outside the normal program/subject

All students are permitted to take a 10 credit elective module. In the Single Major programme, the 10 Elective credits will substitute 10 Geography credits. In all other programs, the 10 Elective credits will substitute 5 credits in each subject of the programme. You can register for Elective modules as part of the overall registration process for second year and the normal 'change of minds' procedures apply. For questions regarding Elective modules contact: programme.choices@mu.ie

Joint Major students are permitted to take five credits, and Single Major students ten credits (five in each semester), outside their normal (Geography) subject. These are referred to as 'modules outside the normal program'. If you want to take a module outside the normal program, but have it counted as part of the Geography subject, then you are required to have the written permission of Head of Geography and Heads of the other Department(s) before registration. The mark in the module will then contribute to the geography subject mark. Minor students are not permitted to substitute a module from another subject for a Geography module. This option is not available to Minor students or to European Studies students who are already taking ES310/ES320 as part of their Geography credits. **Students interested in taking a module outside the Geography curriculum should consult the third-year manager, Dr. Chris van Egeraat.**

Students cannot take Rogue modules in combination with Elective modules (Students either take Elective modules or other modules outside the normal program).

There are two main offices whose role it is to deal specifically with student queries regarding registration and programme choices.

<p>Programme Advisory</p>	<p>The Programme Advisory Office, is available to advise you on any choices you might have to make related to your programme including subject choice. The Programme Advisory Office acts as a guide to students as you navigate your own way through your programme options. The Programme Advisory Team are available to answer any questions students may have: details of times and location are available on the PAO website. Continuing third year students may avail of the service if you are unsure about your programme options for example if you have any questions about whether or not to choose to take an Elective.</p> <p>Email: programme.choices@mu.ie Telephone: 01 474 7428</p> <p>In person: please see their website for information about meeting a member of the Programme Advisory Team: www.maynoothuniversity.ie/programme-advisory-office</p>
<p>Registry Help Desk</p>	<p>Deals with student enquires on all aspects of registration except fees and course/pathway choice. Access is by phone, email or in-person at the Registration Desk (Humanity House). Email: registration@mu.ie Tel: 01 708 3813 www.maynoothuniversity.ie/records</p>

Carrying Deficits From Second Year

To progress into Third/Final Year Geography, students are permitted to carry ONE deficit module (max. 5 ECTS) from their second year course. From Second Year Geography, students must have passed 25 credits if a Double Major (GY3DM) student, 35 credits if a Geography Major (GY3MJ) student, 55 credits if a Single Major (GY3SM) student or 15 credits if a Geography Minor (GY3MI) student (including modules that are passed by compensation).

Students carrying a deficit at the start of the academic year **must** make an appointment with the Third/Final Year Manager by the end of Week 1 to discuss the implications of an increased final year workload and to plot a way forward regarding timetabling and scheduling implications.

Things to consider when selecting geography modules

You will really want to make this year count, so when it comes to module selection, choose carefully and with the right motivation. There is a good range of geography (optional/elective) modules to choose from, even allowing for clashes that may exist with (compulsory) modules for your other subject. The most important criteria is to choose modules that interest you – this can motivate you to do well and can also help to guide your future choice of career path, postgraduate course or life experience, after graduation. Be curious. Although you will be registering for Semester 1 and Semester 2 modules in early September 2018, remember that the change of mind option is also available. This will allow you to “shop around” in the first week of both semesters, to attend lectures in the modules that your timetable will allow and to see “what they are really like”. Remember all students (except Minor) will have a research project to complete in Semester 2, so plan your time accordingly.

Please note:

Maynooth University’s ‘**change of module**’ **deadline** is at the end of Week 3 in Semester 1 and the end of Week 2 in Semester 2. We would strongly advise that if you wish to change modules, you do so in the first week of term to allow you to focus fully on your module material.

Remember that you should not choose a Geography module if times **clash with a compulsory module** in your other subject (even if the online registration process allows you to do so).

Student numbers per modules are **capped**, mainly due to room-size restrictions. If you find that you cannot register online for a module because it has reached its cap, keep trying using the online system in the first two weeks of the semester as spaces can become available as students move out of one module into another.

GY399A and GY399B Geography Work Placement: Please note that you will not be able to sign up for these modules as part of the online registration process. Students interested in taking the GY399A or GY399B module should contact Chris van Egeraat (chris.vanegeraat@mu.ie).

Third Year Geography: Grade Related Criteria

During the Final Year of Undergraduate studies in Maynooth University Department of Geography, students will:

- Specialise further in the subject of Geography, engaging in detail with the research interests of Maynooth University Department of Geography staff
- Learn about debates relating to concepts, theories and substantive issues in the discipline of Geography
- Become familiar with current research in the fields of Human and Physical Geography
- Be enabled to carry out a critical evaluation of different approaches and theories within Geography
- Further develop their knowledge/understanding of the Geography research skills acquired in 1st and 2nd years and apply these for the purposes of carrying out individual research projects

1st Class 70-100	Awarded when it would not be reasonable to expect a Third Year student to produce better work
Relevance	Knowledge well applied to set task, readings fully integrated into answer, appropriate links between research and theory/ concept base of discipline cited, good ability to analyse and select appropriate material. Clearly reasoned, logical arguments, original/creative thinking.
Content	Wide, detailed and accurate knowledge, evidence of critical reading, beyond references provided. Clear understanding of theoretical/ conceptual framework, including alternative viewpoints and research methodologies.
Presentation	Clear/ fluent expression, well-presented, suitable use of graphs, tables, maps, accurate spelling and grammar. Referencing as appropriate, good ability to use different genres as appropriate, e.g. essay, project report.
2:1 60 - 69	
Relevance	Knowledge applied to set task, readings integrated into answer, some links between research and theory/ concept base of discipline cited, ability to analyse and select appropriate material. Reasoned arguments.
Content	Wide, detailed and accurate knowledge, evidence of critical reading, beyond references provided. Clear understanding of theoretical/ conceptual framework, including alternative viewpoints and research methodologies.
Presentation	Reasonably clear/ fluent expression, satisfactory presentation, appropriate use of graphs, tables, maps, accurate spelling and grammar. Referencing as appropriate, ability to use different genres as appropriate, e.g. essay, project report.
2:2 50 – 59	
Relevance	General focus on set task, readings partly integrated into answer, argument limited
Content	Adequate but incomplete knowledge of material, some evidence of background reading. Limited understanding of theoretical/ conceptual framework, some evidence of understanding of alternative viewpoints.
Presentation	Reasonable expression, satisfactory presentation, limited use of graphs, tables, maps, reasonably accurate spelling and grammar. Referencing acceptable, some ability to use different genres as appropriate, e.g. essay, project report.
3rd 45 - 49	
Relevance	Some focus on set task, major points relevant, no evidence of integration of readings. No arguments identified.

Content	Knowledge of subject but not beyond material from lectures, reproduction of lecture materials. Evidence of some understanding of theoretical/ conceptual framework, research in field.
Presentation	Acceptable expression, no/ inappropriate use graphs, tables, maps, no referencing, inaccuracies spelling/ grammar create some difficulty, limited ability to present work in different genres as appropriate, e.g. essay, project report.
Pass 40 - 44	Minimum acceptable standard of response
Relevance	Limited focus on set task, some irrelevancies. No evidence of integration of readings, no arguments identified
Content	Basic knowledge of subject matter, factual errors, reproduction of lecture materials. Very limited evidence of reading or understanding of theoretical/ conceptual framework or research in field.
Presentation	Weak expression, inaccuracies create considerable difficulty for understanding. Little/ no evidence of ability to use different genres as appropriate, e.g. essay, project report.
Fail [E] 25 – 39	Mark less than 35 – non-compensatable failure
Relevance	Basic focus on set task (within general 'field'), but much irrelevant, no evidence of integration of readings, no arguments identified
Content	Some knowledge of subject matter specified within question, major errors, no evidence reading or engagement with material, no evidence understanding of theoretical/ conceptual framework or research in field.
Presentation	Very weak expression, very confused and difficult to understand
Fail [F] 0 – 24	
Relevance	No focus on set task, maybe not even on general field, very little/ no engagement with material
Content	Very little/ no knowledge of subject area, no evidence background reading, knowledge of basic theories/ concepts ideas, plagiarised
Presentation	Extremely weak expression, very confused, very hard to understand

Application of these criteria

These criteria are provided for guidance only – they are not a 'check list' for awarding grades.

Students should be aware that while presentation is of importance in any work, most of the marks will be awarded on the basis of relevance and content, i.e. an extremely well-presented, but totally irrelevant answer displaying little/ no understanding of the topic would receive a very low grade.

Plagiarism involves the presentation of another person's work as your own. **Collusion** occurs when two or more students co-operate to produce work, which is then submitted as the work of a single student. Penalties for plagiarised work or work which involves collusion are heavy and very serious cases may be referred to the University's Academic Discipline Committee.

Third Year Geography modules 2019/20

See <http://apps.maynoothuniversity.ie/courses/?TARGET=CS&MODE=SEARCH>

Notes: <i>All Final Year Geography modules are five credit modules, with the sole exception of the GY303 Thesis module, which is a ten-credit module.</i>	
The thesis modules (GY303, GY306) and Geography Research Workshop module (GY310B) can be classified as a Human or Geography and Physical option depending on the theme/focus of the thesis/research.	
Other modules with a GY30x module code format are general/methods/concepts//research project modules and these can generally be classified a combined Physical Geography/Human Geography (with the exception of GY305 Approaches to Human Geography).	
Physical Geography Modules	GY312, GY313, GY314, GY315, GY317, GY319, GY367, GY369
Human Geography Modules	GY305, GY321, GY326, GY327, GY330, GY331, GY333, GY336, GY337, GY339, GY341, GY342, GY347, GY357, GY358, GY377

GY303 S2 Thesis (Single Major and Geography Major) (AF) - Preparation of a 10-12,000-word thesis on a research topic approved by the Single Major/Geography Major Manager (AF). Note: This ten module is compulsory for Single Major (GY3SM) students. More details on this will be provided on the GY303/GY306 Moodle pages.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment – total assessment is based on thesis.

GY304 S1 Geographical Information Systems and Science (RF) - Students will develop a basic understanding of GI Science concepts and gain experience in the applied use of industry-standard GIS software. The course will be delivered through a mix of lectures and laboratory practicals. Core concepts associated with GI Science, including digital data structures, co-ordinate systems, geo-referencing, raster modelling and neo-geographies will be introduced and discussed. GIS software, specifically ArcGIS, will be used with the students to develop their practical skills and knowledge of data identification, creation, querying and fundamental GIS analysis.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment.

GY305 S1 Approaches to Human Geography (AK) - This module will study historical and contemporary developments within geography as an academic discipline and the social, political and historical contexts in which the subject developed. It will study how the development of geography has been shaped by different philosophical and theoretical approaches, and also analyse how these different schools of geography may approach specific topics or themes in Geography in different ways. This module also aims to develop students' critical skills in terms of developing critiques of the different approaches taken to Geography, and aims to offer students theoretical frameworks to draw from, so as to provide them with a sound basis to build geographical research on. This module is compulsory for Single Major (GY3SM) and Geography Major (GY3MJ) students and optional for Double Major (GY3DM, GY4EDM) and Minor students (GY3MI)

Assessment: One-hour examination at the end of semester: 50%; Continuous Assessment: 50%.

GY306 S1 Literature Review and Thesis Presentation (Single Major) (AF) - Single Major (GY3SM) and Geography Major (GY3MJ) students are required to write a critical review of the published literature relating to their chosen thesis topic. The literature review should summarise the existing literature and identify research questions to be empirically tested based upon debates and disagreements within the literature. Students will also make a presentation based upon their proposed research project, identifying the research questions and outlining the methodology that they will use to address these questions. More details are provided on GY306 Moodle.

Assessment: 100% continuous assessment

GY310B S2 Geography Research Workshops - The aim of this module is to provide students, working both individually and in teams, with skills relating to research design, academic report writing and oral presentation as well as critical assessment and academic argument. Working in a small group setting, with supervision from a dedicated staff member, students use these skills to produce a c.4,000 word research report, with the topic relating to the general theme associated with their group option. *More details on this module are on Moodle GY310B.* Note: this is **compulsory** for Major and Double Major and European Studies students.

Assessment: 100% Continuous Assessment: 70% research report, 15% research presentation (group or individual), 15% general work throughout tutorial process including end-of-module assessments.

GY312 S1 Fluvial Geomorphology (RC) - Rivers drain more than two-thirds of the earth's land area, are found in many different environments, and show an amazing diversity of form. Fluvial geomorphology is the study of the mechanisms that drive fluvial processes and the process-form feedbacks that control river characteristics, behaviour and landforms. This module begins by examining the environmental factors that control channel equilibrium and form. The processes by which channel adjustment occurs in response to changes in these controlling factors are then considered through the investigation of different fluvial environments and the evidence for historical channel changes. Several related themes are covered, including the unintentional effects human activities have on fluvial environments and ways in which river channels can be effectively managed through understanding and working in harmony with the fluvial system.

Assessment: Two-hour exam at the end of semester: 67%; Continuous Assessment: 33%.

GY313 S1 Climate Change (CM) - Within the lifespan of the present generation, global climate is expected to change more radically than at any time over the past several thousand years. The primary cause of this is increasingly recognised as being due to human activities in altering the composition of the atmosphere, particularly as a consequence of interfering with long wave radiative transfers as a result of increasing carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. How big and how rapid the climatic changes resulting from this are likely to be are of acute concern for the entire global community and are the subjects of major research efforts world-wide. This module addresses the causes and consequences of climate change. It examines how various techniques enable a longer term perspective on climate to be obtained. It examines how past and present climatic fluctuations can be seen to have social, economic and political consequences which technological advances have not eliminated and may even have exacerbated. The implications of modelling-based projections of the enhanced greenhouse effect for Ireland and other parts of the world will be analysed, as will options to mitigate future global warming.

Assessment: Two hour exam at the end of semester: 67%; Continuous Assessment: 33%.

GY314 S2 Environmental Remote Sensing (CC) - Remote sensing involves receiving, understanding and interpreting information about the Earth from a distance, usually by analysing satellite images. The module provides an introduction to the theory behind different types of imagery, training in the analysis of this imagery and simple digital image processing techniques.

Assessment: Two hour exam at the end of semester: 67%; Continuous Assessment: 33%.

GY315 S2 Glacial Geomorphology (SMC) - The module will cover the range of erosional and depositional processes which have shaped physical landscapes in cold climate regions throughout the "Quaternary" period (the last 2.64 million years). The module focuses on geomorphological change by glacial ice masses with special attention paid to understanding the development of Ireland's glacial landscapes. The evidence around us of environmental change over these per-historic time periods provides an important long-term records of large-scale controls on global climate development. They can thus provide a context for the examination of modern concerns about accelerated global environmental change.

Assessment: Two hour exam at the end of semester: 67%; Continuous Assessment: 33%

GY317 S2 Global Ecosystem Pressures and Sustainability (HS) - Growing pressures on the natural environment through intensification of human land use may compromise ecosystem functions that are central to both the human and the natural world. According to the UN commissioned Millennium Ecosystem Assessment report, 60% of ecosystem services are currently degraded or used unsustainably. This module examines rising ecosystem pressures focusing particularly on post WWII intensification of land use and projected demands in future output. It explores effects of water and pollinator shortages, fertilisers and chemical deposits in the environment, and the widespread introduction of genetically modified organisms. Questions asked include: What changes can these 'stressors' cause in wild population structure and

biodiversity, and how might they ultimately affect such ecosystem services like water purification, food production, biological pest control, pollination, soil conservation and carbon sequestration?

Assessment: *Two hour exam at the end of semester: 67%; Continuous Assessment: 33%*

GY319 S2 Geography of Pollution (PB) – Pollution is everywhere. Microplastics circulate in the deepest parts of the sea and in the cells of microorganisms; residues of radioactive material released in the 1950s lace the entire surface of the planet; smog produced from rapidly expanding cities slowly kills millions of people every day; billions of pieces of space debris amass just beyond the breathable atmosphere. This is the Anthropocene, a purportedly new geological epoch demarcated by the planetary effects of human activity.

While pollution may be everywhere it does not affect everyone equally. Drawing on the critical traditions of environmental justice, political ecologies of health, and science and technology studies, this module will provide students with a critical understanding of pollution and its uneven effects on bodies and environments. The course will examine: the histories and movements of specific pollutants as they have manifested in particular times and places; how and by whom pollution and toxicity is identified, categorised, and measured and why these forms of expertise are often contested; and how pollution is regulated and managed, and why new perspectives and measures are required to target the systemic causes of pollution.

Assessment: *Two hour exam at the end of semester: 67%; Continuous Assessment: 33%*

GY321 S1 Geography of the Informational Economy (CVE) - Since the 1970s the capitalist world is undergoing a systemic change from an industrial economy to an informational/knowledge economy, in which productivity is based on information derived from advances in new information and communication technologies. This module sets out to analyse this transition and its social, economic and spatial effects. Core topics include: the nature of the informational economy; the production and use of information technology; the evolution of the Internet; business networks and their geographies; information-based producer and consumer services (notably recent developments such as Facebook, Twitter and cloud computing); socio-spatial polarisation in the informational economy; ICT and rural development; the impact of the informational economy on Ireland.

Assessment: *Two hour exam at the end of semester: 67%; Continuous Assessment: 33%.*

GY326 S2 Medical Geography (MR) - This module explores issues relating to the biological and social causes of human disease; It considers the importance of Geography in the context of medical/health data and the uses of and challenges involved with using such data. It considers the various ways that environment influences health, including the relationship between early life exposures and disease in later life. The module also explores 'popular epidemiology' and real versus perceived disease patterns. It reflects on the relationship between poverty, inequality and health, examining the role of social capital in this regard

Assessment: *Two hour exam at the end of semester: 50%; Continuous Assessment: 50%*

GY327 S1 Environmental Politics (WD) - The dynamics associated with environmental politics and policy-making at the local, national, European Union and global levels will be a key concern of this module.

The manner in which environmental regulation has been shaped by political concerns will also be a key theme in this module, illustrating the degree to which legislation often results from a balancing act between environmental concerns and economic pressures. It also provides an introduction to different environmental discourses, as well as the history of the environmental movement and the emergence of "green parties" in western democracies, and also trans-boundary environmental issues.

Assessment: *One hour exam at the end of semester: 50%; Continuous Assessment: 50%.*

GY330 S2 Regional Development and Planning (CVE) - Why do people living in Donegal enjoy lower levels of wealth than people living in Dublin and what can be done to address this? The module aims to give students a thorough understanding of the processes driving unbalanced regional development and related regional development policies and planning strategies. Core topics of the module include: changing perspectives on what constitutes regional development; the evolution of theories of regional development; regional development policies and instruments; the role of indigenous and multinational companies. The module will focus specifically on regional development problems and policies in Ireland, notably the impact of the Celtic Tiger, the economic crisis, and Ireland's National Planning Framework.

Assessment: *Two hour exam at the end of semester: 67%; Continuous Assessment: 33%*

GY331 S2 Geographies of the Crisis and Recovery (MM) - The module's objective is to introduce students to the current global financial, economic and political crisis, to the particular forms that it has taken in Ireland

compared to other countries (in Europe and North America), and to its unfolding impacts on the economic, socio-cultural and political geographies of Ireland. It will discuss various theoretical approaches to understanding the causes of the crisis with particular reference to the role of neoliberalism. The course will provide a critical understanding of the diverse strategies states have adopted to respond to the crisis such as austerity and the varying civil society social movement reactions.

Assessment: *Two hour exam at the end of semester: 67%; Continuous Assessment: 33%*

GY333 S2 Global Foodscapes (AF) - This module examines multiple dimensions of dramatic changes in the character and form of the global food complex. The module pays attention to the impact of globalization on food production, distribution, and consumption. Key processes are identified, theorized, and explained. Understanding the geographical consequences of the global foodscape is at the centre of the module. Case study materials are drawn from 'first' and 'third' world contexts. Numerous theoretical perspectives will be introduced, evaluated, and critiqued during the module.

Assessment: *Two hour exam at the end of semester: 67%; Continuous Assessment: 33%*

GY336 S2 Culture Health and Place (Ron F) - The aim of this module is to explore some of the critical questions facing health care systems and the contribution which geography can make to understanding how such systems are structured and delivered. The module is split into two connected sections. The first discusses different international health care system models and then considers the Irish health care system and how it compares. The second section focuses on key discussions around the planning of health care services; emphasising inequalities associated with access, utilisation and deprivation and how these in turn are shaped by wider system structures.

Assessment: *Two hour exam at the end of semester: 67%; Continuous Assessment: 33%*

GY337 S1 Geopolitics: Power and Space (GK) - This course will examine the relations between power and space at a variety of scales. It will have three main areas. First, the Political Geography of Ireland and its place in colonial and postcolonial worlds. Second, the geopolitics of race in the United States. And, finally, the global geopolitics of the Cold War and the New World Order that has replaced it. The central concepts of the course will be scale, race, colonialism, postcolonialism, power, exclusion, and imperialism.

Assessment: *Two hour exam at the end of semester: 50%; Continuous Assessment: 50%*

GY339 S1 The City in Film (KT) - Films reflect the remarkable changes in urban life that have occurred since the turn of the twentieth century and represent the promises and failures of globalization, urban development, and living with strangers. As an aesthetic form, film emerged at the turn of the last century and soon became a new way of representing the built environment and imagining urban form. As early as the 1920s, film also reflected urban theories and influenced planning practices in many countries. As a social scene, cinema created a viewing public through a shared leisure experience ('going to the movies') and urban form (the movie house on main street or in the mall). Visions of the modern city also reflect (and sometimes reinforce) societal desires and fears. Stage sets, digital imagery, sound, lighting, and stories about contemporary and futuristic cities depict both idealistic utopian hopes for socially just and beautiful worlds, as well as fears of 'the Other' (aliens, foreigners, nature, women), of unchecked government power or of corrupt corporate control. In this module, students view and discuss films from the 1920s to the present produced in Europe and the U.S. Students gain an understanding of such themes as: social and cultural conflict in segregated and divided cities; political and economic processes tied to urban growth and change (colonialism; real estate development; deindustrialisation; power, politics and urban warfare); changing racial and gender relationships and urban public spaces; politics, technologies and urban design; and utopian and dystopian urban futures.

Assessment: *100% Continuous Assessment.*

GY341 S1 Approaches to Cultural Geography (RMcA) – Using maps, images, texts, film, and tv geographies, this course will examine the myriad of cultural geographies that we experience in everyday life. In doing so, this course will introduce students to key concepts and approaches used in cultural geography. In particular the course will examine the way in which cultural geographers have become increasingly aware of the selective nature of geographical images and the implications for groups and cultures they represent.

Assessment: *Two hour exam at the end of semester: 50%; Continuous Assessment: 50%*

GY342 S1 Urban Planning and Property Development (to be determined) – Details to follow

Assessment: *Two hour exam at the end of semester: 67%; Continuous Assessment: 33%*

GY347 S2 Electoral Geography (AK) - This module introduces students to the key themes and debates in electoral geography and the recent literature in this field. It will offer a cogent argument as to why geography and geographical concepts (such as space and place) matter when it comes to explaining political behaviour and in particular electoral behaviour. This module will draw on examples from the Irish and the international context. Key themes to be covered during this module include: Electoral systems and how these are expressed in terms of geographical patterns of support; how political parties "use geography" to organise themselves and to maximise their representation levels; the shaping of electoral boundaries and how these may impact on the ability of political parties to translate given support levels into parliamentary seat numbers/representation levels; geographical dimensions of "under representation" in political systems with specific reference to different demographic and social groups (e.g. females, younger voters, working class voters, ethnic minorities).

Assessment: *One hour exam at the end of semester: 50%; Continuous Assessment: 50%.*

GY357 S2 Gender and Geography (LoH) - Recent research on a small number of interrelated topics is discussed and analysed. The final choice of topics will depend on the availability of staff. Further details on this module will be made available on the Departmental website/in the Third Year Handbook before the start of term.

Assessment: *Two hour exam at the end of semester: 67%; Continuous Assessment: 33%*

GY358 S1 The Creative City (Special Topics in Geography 8) (RMcA) - Creativity is increasingly seen as a highly significant factor in the economic, developmental, and social geography of cities. More fundamentally, new ideas about the role that creativity plays in society have changed how many groups view the function of cities. This module will explore a range of different perspectives on creativity – from business oriented approaches to arts oriented approaches – and will navigate the interconnections and divergences between cultural and economic perspectives. The aim is to provide students with a critical overview of a variety of perspectives on the creative city. Using case study examples, the module will discuss how creative industries transform the urban economy of cities. It will explore culture-led regeneration and creative city approaches to urban spatial planning, and it will examine the role that the cultural industries and the arts play in the social and economic life of cities.

Assessment: *Two hour exam at the end of semester: 50%; Continuous Assessment: 50%*

GY367 S1 Palaeoecology (HS) - We are aware that the ecological environment is changing and that humans are the cause of much of that change; but, our perspective of human driven environmental change is often very recent. A longer term perspective is vital as change has been ongoing throughout the Holocene. We explore such questions as: What impact did hunter gatherers have on megaherbivores such as the woolly mammoth? What were the impacts of the first farmers? Did these early impacts change climate as well as ecology? How did medieval and post-medieval human populations change landscapes and what did this mean for biodiversity? The first part of this module focuses on long-term ecological change via palaeoecological approaches. We examine and critique how we use pollen and other microfossils to investigate ecological and environmental change in the last c.11500 years. We then examine the major ecological changes that have taken place developing an understanding of both natural and human-driven changes in the landscape as well as their impact and implications for the future. We discuss applications of palaeoecological results to; climate change, nature conservation, land management options and proposals for rewilding.

Assessment: *One hour exam at the end of semester: 50%; Continuous Assessment: 50%*

GY369 S2 Oceanography (GMc) - Over 70% of the earth's surface is covered by oceans giving earth then name 'The Blue Planet'. The oceans contain 97% of the world's water and produces 50% of the world's oxygen---that's every other breath you take. Since the 1950s, over 90% of the excess heat trapped in the atmosphere predominantly by man-made greenhouse gases has been stored in the ocean---in other words, 'global warming' could as accurately be described as 'ocean warming'. Understanding the oceans is key to understanding how the Earth works. This course is designed for those who are interested in a holistic understanding of the ocean but who don't have a scientific background. The course will discuss a range of fundamental topics, including ocean currents, sea level, primary production and carbon in the ocean, and

look at selected special topics in more detail, including plastics in the ocean and Ireland's ocean: the northeast Atlantic.

Assessment: *One hour exam at the end of semester: 50%; Continuous Assessment: 50%*

GY399A S1 Geography Work Placement (JR) This module allows a student to apply and enhance his/her geographic knowledge and skills in an external working environment (outside Maynooth University).

The placement would be identified by the student and discussed with, and approved by, the module convenor (Chris van Egeraat) before the work placement could commence. Where possible, the academic supervisor will visit the workplace whilst the placement is in progress.

Assessment: *100% continuous assessment.*

GY399B S2 Geography Work Placement (CvE) This module allows a student to apply and enhance their geographic knowledge and skills in an external working environment (outside Maynooth University).

The placement would be identified by the student and discussed with, and approved by, the module convenor (Chris van Egeraat) before the work placement could commence. Where possible, the academic supervisor will visit the workplace whilst the placement is in progress.

Assessment: *100% continuous assessment.*

GY310B Geography Research Workshops

The GY310B module is only available to Double Major (GY3DM) Geography as a Major (GY3MJ) and European Studies (GY4EDM) students (for whom this is compulsory). Students will have between ca.16-17 options to choose from, with all of these having a specific geographical project theme and meeting time.

Students will select **one** option when GY310B option/project group sign ups commence in mid-November. More details on GY310B – **the project options, meeting times and venues – will be forwarded (by email/via the GY310B Moodle page) to the incoming class early in Semester 1 by the module co-ordinator, Adrian Kavanagh.**

All registered Double Major and European Studies students should have access to the GY310B Moodle page by end-October – if not, do contact Adrian Kavanagh as soon as is possible. **Furthermore, if you haven't finalised your registration by the time that GY310B sign ups are scheduled to commence (meaning that you cannot access the GY310B Moodle page) please contact Adrian Kavanagh as soon as is possible.**

Very Important: Before selecting a group, please make sure you choose from times that **do not clash** with times for Semester 2 compulsory modules in your other subject.

Students who fail to register a choice before the end of Semester 1 will be randomly allocated a space in one of the groups that are not full.

Once the sign-ups process has concluded, you **cannot change out of your selected group.**

NB: GY310B groups commence in the first week of Semester 2 2020. Weekly GY310B tutorial meetings run for one hour each week during Semester 2. Attendance is compulsory.

Requesting an Academic Reference

When applying for a postgraduate course, employment or work experience, you will typically be asked to provide an academic reference or the name of an academic referee to accompany your application. When seeking an academic reference from a member of the Department of Geography, students should direct their **request to their 3rd Year (GY310B) Tutor** or their **GY303 Thesis supervisor**. Geography 'Minor' students should normally seek to get an academic reference from their 'Major' subject.

Students should in **NO** circumstances put down the name of a Staff member as a referee/one of their referees in an application form **without first getting the agreement of the Staff member in question.** Staff provide references as a courtesy not as a requirement and it is in your interest to ask someone who knows you and your work well. Remember to contact staff well in advance of the due date.

Initial reference requests should be made in person, preferably during that Staff member's office hours. If that Staff member has agreed to write the reference, the student should provide them with: (a) a signed *Reference Disclaimer Form* (available to download on the MC:GY_03 Moodle page) (b) an *up-to-date* copy of their *professional curriculum vitae (CV)* (c) all relevant details on the course/job that you are applying for and (d) details on how/to where the reference letter should be submitted. See the document "References from the Geography Department" on the MC:GY_03 Moodle page for further information.

Postgraduate Studies in Geography

Geography at Maynooth University offers the following **postgraduate degree options**:

- **MA Geography:** *This innovative and flexible course is designed for students who wish to work with internationally respected scholars and real-world partners to develop their understanding of human geography, while enhancing their research skills. The MA also offers specialist streams in 'Cities, Politics and Globalisation' and 'Art, Culture and Environment', and is available on a full-time (1 year) or part-time (2 year) basis. For student testimonials see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W5Q4-fwaGoU>*
- **MSc (Climate Change):** *This is a full-time one year course that aims to provide graduates with the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to enable them to undertake analysis of both global and Irish related climate change science, impacts and policies.*
- **MSc (GIS/Remote Sensing):** *This full-time one-year course is aimed at graduates who will be trained in Geographical Information Systems, Remote Sensing, Digital Image Processing and Geophysical Techniques and will provide the skills required for careers in information technology based companies, Ordnance Survey, academia and state bodies. (There is also an MSc in Geocomputation, run by the National Centre for Geocomputation, which has more of a computational focus.)*
- **MLitt and PhD research:** *The PhD course normally involves four years of study, the MLitt degree two years of study. In addition to the preparation of a thesis, research students undertake training in specialised substantive modules, advanced methodologies and generic skills.*

Students normally need to attain *at least* a **2.1 mark** in Geography (or in a few cases a **very high 2.2 grade**) to get a place on one-year Masters programmes in Maynooth University Department of Geography. The students who are invited to proceed straight to MLitt/PhD research generally tend to be students who have attained a First Class Honours grade or a high 2.1 grade for their Final Year Geography studies.

See Moodle MC:GY_03 during the year for information and updates on ERASMUS MUNDUS funded postgraduate courses and other postgraduate courses and scholarship opportunities in Ireland and overseas.

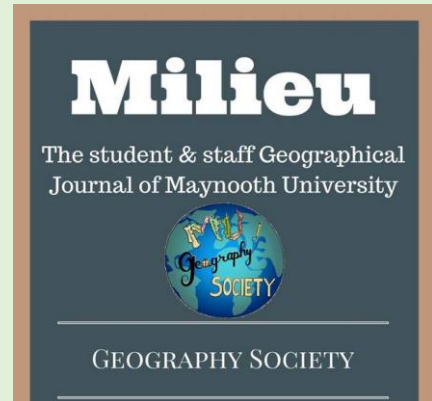
Get Involved

Staff-Student Committee:

Year representatives (elected by students during the first semester) will have scheduled meetings with the Staff-Student Officer (Dr. Adrian Kavanagh) during the year to discuss matters of mutual concern. Students who wish to have particular matters relating to the Third Year programme, or the general student experience, discussed should bring these to the attention of the year representatives.

Student Geography Society:

The student Geography Society organises social events during the year and publishes an annual magazine, *Milieu*. You are strongly encouraged to support the Society's activities and to join the Society on Fairs Day! Final Year students are strongly encouraged to submit articles (academic or more humorous/social in tone) and photos to the Society for inclusion in the 2019 issue of *Milieu*. The closing date for submissions to *Milieu* usually occurs around the end of January. *Milieu* offers students – especially those with an interest in postgraduate studies in Geography – with the opportunity to get their first geographical article published.



We post photos of some Maynooth University Geography student activities throughout the year on the Department's Flickr page: www.flickr.com/photos/nuimgeography

Social Media

Geography's Eye on the World Blog

Eye on the World is a blog written by staff and students in the Department of Geography at Maynooth University. Our plan is to use the blog as a means to keep an eye on the world. We post stories about geography and geographers in the news, news stories/events that are especially geographic, and news stories that we feel should connect with a large swathe of our student body. To access this blog, visit: <https://maynoothgeography.wordpress.com/>



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[@MaynoothGeog](https://twitter.com/MaynoothGeog)



Join us at [Maynooth University Department of Geography](https://www.facebook.com/groups/155278104499136/)
Past Students of the Geography Department:
www.facebook.com/groups/155278104499136/

Why not join us in your final year or after you have completed your studies

Third Year Geography Timetable

Timetables and venues are subject to change and may even change during the first weeks of the semester. See the University's timetable webpage ahead of your lectures:

<https://apps.maynoothuniversity.ie/timetable/>

Third Year Geography: Year Planner

SEMESTER 1		
	Mid-September 2019	On-Line Registration for Continuing Students
Week 1	23 September 2019	Commencement of lectures
Week 2	30 September 2019	
Week 3	7 October 2019	Change of Module Deadline - all Continuing Students 11 Oct
Week 4	14 October 2019	
Week 5	21 October 2019	
Study Week	28 Oct – 1 November 2019	Study Week
Week 6	4 November 2019	
Week 7	11 November 2019	
Week 8	18 November 2019	
Week 9	25 November 2019	
Week 10	2 December 2019	
Week 11	9 December 2019	
Week 12	16 December 2019	Last week of lectures for First Semester
Christmas vacation	23 December 2019 – 6th January 2020	
Study Week	6 – 9 January 2020	Study week, Exams commence 10 th of January
Inter Sem. Break	27 – 31 January 2020	
SEMESTER 2		
Week 1	3 February 2020	Start of Lectures – Second Semester
Week 2	10 February 2020	Deadline for Change of 2 nd Semester Modules 14 February
Week 3	17 February 2020	
Week 4	24 February 2020	
Week 5	2 March 2020	
Week 6	9 March 2020	Postgraduate Open Day 10 March
Study Week	16 – 20 March 2020	Study Week
Week 7	23 March 2020	
Week 8	30 March 2020	
Week 9	6 April 2020	Good Friday 10 April
Easter Vacation	13 April 2020	Easter vacation 13-17 April
Week 10	20 April 2020	Lectures resume 20 April
Week 11	27 April 2020	
Week 12	4 - 8 May 2020	Last week of Lectures
Study Week	11 -14 May 2020	Study Week
Examinations	15 May 2020	Summer examinations commence

Third Year Geography: Frequently Asked Questions

Q: I need to get an academic reference – who should I ask to get this from?

ANS: Your Third Year GY310B tutor or Single Major/Geography Major thesis supervisor.

Q: I don't see any details on the Third Year timetable about GY310B. What time is this on at?

ANS: Students will sign up for times for GY310B (Geography Research Workshop module) on the GY310B Moodle page) early in Semester 1 (middle of October); a range of different project options/times will be offered to students to choose from and sign up to.

Q: Could you tell me some of the reasons why students fail/do badly in Third Year Geography?

ANS: Reasons include: (a) failing to submit project work – on time or at all, (b) not attending lectures/only attending a few lectures, (c) not paying attention in lectures, (d) making the wrong module choice(s), (e) not reading widely enough – depending on lecture notes only, (e) leaving reading/revision until a few days before exams, (f) poor revision techniques – e.g. 'spotting' exam questions and writing out and learning prepared answers for these, (g) poor exam techniques - bad time management, failing to answer the question properly, lacking ability to develop points/arguments in your answer, not making reference to insights from the readings/literature.

Poor marks in the GY310B/thesis modules can often be put down to factors such as the student not starting their primary research work early enough to give them sufficient time to successfully conclude the project, students failing to consult with their project/thesis supervisor, students doing insufficient levels of /no primary research and/or accidental/deliberate plagiarism or collusion. A lack of clarity in relation to a student's research aim and objectives can also prove problematic here.

Q: I have a problem relating to Geography that I am worried about. Can I do anything?

ANS: It may well be the case that an answer to your problem is to be found in this very Handbook. If it is not, don't brood over your problem – come and talk about it with your Third Year Manager (Dr. Chris van Egeraat – Chris.vanegeraat@mu.ie). Problems often turn out to be less serious after you talk them over with someone who can point you toward solutions. In cases where you have issues (e.g. personal or financial) that the Department is not be able to address, we would strongly encourage you to avail of the different services provided by the University (some of these are noted below).

Q: I would like to improve the quality of my written work, can I get assistance with this?

ANS: The University has a Centre for Teaching and Learning (www.maynoothuniversity.ie/centre-teaching-and-learning), which provides students with opportunities to address many general issues relating to learning and assessment and to attain support in order to further develop their writing skills. Students may also wish to avail of the services of the Maynooth University Writing Centre, established by the Centre for Teaching and Learning to support student academic writing. One-to-one appointments can be booked by e-mail to writingcentre@nuim.ie.

Useful University Services

Student Counselling

Academic Advisory

Examinations Office

Access Office

Student Services

Students Union

Student Health Centre

Health & Safety

Security

Career Development Centre

Phone/E-Mail Contacts

Ext 3554 (**Outside of the Campus: 01 7083554**)

Ext 3368 or email: advisory.office@mu.ie

Ext 3820 or email: exams.office@mu.ie

Ext 6025 or email: access.office@mu.ie (Twitter: @MU_MAP)

Ext 4729 or email: student.services@mu.ie

Ext 3669 or email: students.union@mu.ie

Ext 3878

Ext 4720/6521 or email: brendan.t.ashe@mu.ie

Ext 3929 (General)/3333 (Emergency).

Email: security.north@mu.ie or security.south@mu.ie

Ext 3592 or email careers@mu.ie

Note: Please place the digits 01 708 in front of the extension numbers if you are using a mobile/external phone.

MU Library

MU Library is a popular place to meet, study and research in. We're located in the middle of the campus on the southern side, beside the Kilcock road. Choose from a variety of study spaces; from the open-access area on the ground floor, where food, drink and chat is allowed, with access to over 50 laptops and print facilities, to the quieter areas on levels 1 and 2, with training rooms and meeting rooms. There's a Starbucks located on the ground floor, and even sleep-pods on level 1 if you need to re-charge. Use our bookable group study rooms for your group project-work. MU Library hosts campus exhibitions and events in the foyer during the year, so there's nearly always something new to view.

MU Library is the portal to a vast collection of Geography resources that you'll need for your essays and research. Take a look at the MU library homepage; we've excellent information, training, materials, supports and services that will help you in your studies. We also provide a dedicated Geography space on our webpage that we recommend you bookmark <http://nuim.libguides.com/geography>; it's a great source of subject-specific material and news. Check out the "New2MU" tab in your Geography subject guide containing lots of useful stuff for MU-newbies, whatever your level.



Fig 3. The search-box, LibrarySearch, that searches all the content in MU Library

Use **LibrarySearch** (see Fig. 3 above) on the library homepage to discover everything MU Library holds on your subject and topics. It gives you the location and details of thousands of e-books and e-journals you can read online on your devices, as well as information on books, journal articles, and databases on your subject. We also have online e-dictionaries, encyclopaedias and e-books; basically, everything you need to write successful assignments. If it seems like a lot of stuff, start with your subject guide here <http://nuim.libguides.com/geography> for basic suggestions and help.

You can access the information on LibrarySearch, and e-books, e-journals and databases when you're on or off-campus. You have options for basic and advanced search features to find exactly what you are looking for. Get hacks for running successful searches in our free LIST Online tutorials, and come to our **LIST training sessions** in the library (later in Semester 1) to learn skills that will help in your essays and assignments. If you've any queries about finding material, whether it's online, or on the shelf, library staff are happy to help you; just ask at the Library desk or live "*Library Chat*" box on our homepage. You'll also see us around campus in Semester 1 as we hold "pop-up" events, where you can find out more about what the library can offer you.

Your **MyCard** (student card) entitles you to borrow material from the Library. If you are not sure how many items you can borrow, click on the Using the Library blue box (see Fig. 4 below) on the library homepage for information.

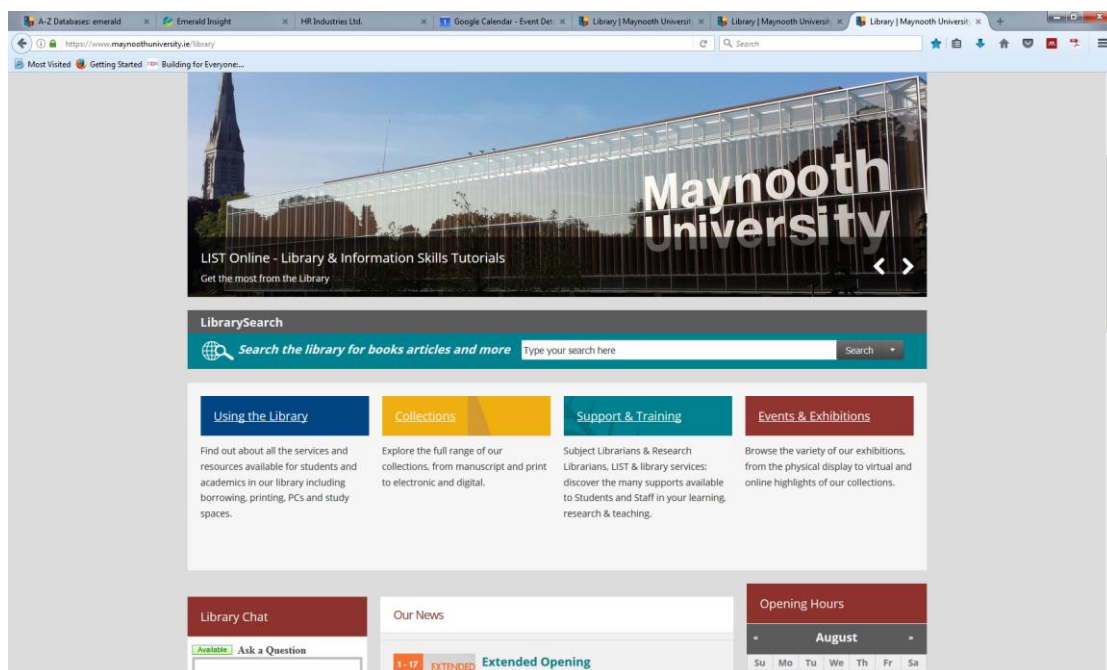


Fig. 4. Library Homepage with arrow to the “Using the Library” section

Explore the green box **Support and Training** for your subject guide, containing suggestions and lots of subject-support. Take our free, short, **online training sessions** in your own time to upskill in information skills that you’ll need in university; see LIST Online (<http://nuim.libguides.com/list-online>). They cover everything from finding items on your reading lists, to using e-books, avoiding plagiarism in your essays, and how to evaluate information – all essential skills for students.

You can borrow a laptop from the laptop-bank, opposite the library desk, to use within the library, or you can log on to one of the library PC’s to do your essays. The Library is wireless so you can use your own laptop in the library too. We have a 3D printer available (ask us at the Library desk) as well as a colour photocopier, in addition to numerous black and white photocopiers. You use your MyCard to load it with credit to print. **IT Services** have a dedicated space at the main library desk too where you can go if you need IT help. The **Maths Support Centre** (ground floor) and **Writing Centre** (level 1) are also located in the library.

Contact us with your **queries** about using the Library, finding information for your studies or how to use any of the online material. There is no such thing as a “stupid question”. We all know it can be a lot to take in when you start in university and we are here to help you!

The Library wishes you every success in your studies and we really look forward to seeing you during your years in MU.

USEFUL LINKS AND CONTACTS:

- Library homepage: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/library>
- Geography Subject Guide: <http://nuim.libguides.com/geography>
- LIST online: <http://nuim.libguides.com/list-online>
- Undergraduates contact: Áine Carey aine.carey@mu.ie, Rachel.hynes@mu.ie and Saoirse De Paor Saoirse.depaor@mu.ie
- Research students contact: Ciarán Quinn, ciaran.quinn@mu.ie
- Academics contact: Helen Farrell, helen.farrell@mu.ie

Experiential Learning

Experience More During Your Time at MU

The routes available to Maynooth students to experience more from their degree programme are diverse, enabling the development of rich learning experiences that connect classroom content with real-world experience. The Experiential Learning Office connects Maynooth students to a range of opportunities in the following areas.

Professional Development and Employability

Experiential learning professional development and employability modules are available to eligible second year students. The key purpose of these modules, involving a number of employers, is to facilitate students in their academic, personal and professional career development, so that they will be well equipped to secure internships and to successfully enter the graduate labour market.

See Skills for Success EX201 and EX202 for more details

Community Based Service Learning

Community Based Service Learning presents a credit-bearing academic experience that empowers students to engage with their surrounding communities, which often results in enhancing student's academic, civic, social and personal development, whilst they contribute to the common good. The experiential learning office facilitates academic staff in offering community based service learning experiences with their students.

For further information, refer to:

Website: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/experiential-learning-office>
Email: Aisling.Flynn@mu.ie
Tel: + 353 1 4747760

*Maynooth University Department of Geography
National University of Ireland Maynooth
Maynooth
Co Kildare*

*Ollscoil Má Nuad Rionn na Tíreolaíochta
Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad
Má Nuad
Co Chilldara*