



University of  
BRISTOL

Erasmus+ Study Guide  
2019/20  
Geographical Sciences

## School of Geographical Sciences

### **GUIDE FOR INCOMING ERASMUS STUDENTS 2019-20**

#### Welcome to the School

The School of Geographical Sciences has a world-class reputation for integrated teaching and research across a wide range of physical and human aspects of Geography and offers a friendly and supportive environment for international students from Europe and beyond.

Our mission is to combine the highest possible quality of research with teaching excellence that is as student-friendly as it is stimulating. We are the only UK geography department to have been ranked in the top category (5\*) in every UK national research assessment exercise that has been held.

#### 2018/19 Academic Calendar and Structure

The teaching year is split into Teaching Block 1 (Autumn semester) and Teaching Block 2 (Spring semester). These will run between the following dates:

- **Teaching Block 1:** 30 September 2019 - 20 December 2019 (Weeks 1-12)
- **Teaching Block 2:** 27 January 2020 – 8 May 2020 (Weeks 13-24)

Examinations are held during the follow periods:

- **TB1:** 13 January 2020 - 24 January 2020
- **TB2:** 18 May 2020 - 5 June 2020

#### Units and Credits

You can browse the full list of Geography units in the [Unit Catalogue](http://www.bris.ac.uk/unit-programme-catalogue) ([www.bris.ac.uk/unit-programme-catalogue](http://www.bris.ac.uk/unit-programme-catalogue)).

Information about these units is arranged by "Level":

- Level C/4 units are for students entering the University system in the UK
- Level I/5 units are for students who have a basic university level knowledge of the topic
- Level H/6 units are for students finishing their 3-year BSc studies in the UK system

You are free to choose units at any level, but do consider whether you have the necessary background, particularly for the level H/6 (Year 3) units. If in doubt, speak with the Academic Erasmus Coordinator (see below). Also, timetabling may mean it is not possible take a particular combination of units. The number of units taken depends upon how long you are staying. If you are here for up to one semester, we recommend you do units which total 60 credit points (equal to 30 ECTS credits). If you are here for an academic year, you are required to take units equivalent to 120 credit points (equal to 60 ECTS credits). The teaching block in which a unit will be run is given in the unit catalogue. TB4 means the unit spans both teaching blocks.

**Note:** Some courses may be unavailable to Erasmus students due to facilities that restrict the number of students. In addition, Erasmus students are not eligible to participate in the Level L/5 (Year 2) residential fieldwork courses.

### School/Dept policy for Erasmus students from other areas wishing to take units

Erasmus students assigned to other departments around the institution are welcome to study units within the School of Geographical Sciences depending on availability. Students registered at the School will be given first choice of the units available.

### English Language Skills

If you need to develop your academic English language skills, you can take optional units at CELFS (the Centre for English Language and Foundation Studies). These units focus on listening and speaking, reading and writing, and advanced grammar. Visit the CELFS website to register for these units: [www.bristol.ac.uk/english-language/study/current-students/for-undergraduate/open-units/](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/english-language/study/current-students/for-undergraduate/open-units/)

### School / Department contact information

When you arrive at the University of Bristol, you will be given the chance to meet with the department's Academic Erasmus Coordinator to discuss your unit selections. They will also act as your Personal Tutor during your time in Bristol.

**Academic Erasmus Coordinator:** Dr Rory Bingham [rory.bingham@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:rory.bingham@bristol.ac.uk)

In the meantime, please direct any queries you may have to the School Office via the dedicated mailbox for students: [geog-ugadmin@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:geog-ugadmin@bristol.ac.uk)

The School Office can also provide support with organising your unit registration, and any additional welfare and educational requirements you may have.

We look forward to welcoming you to our School.

Amy Durbin  
Geography Erasmus Administrator  
School Office  
Geographical Sciences  
University Road  
Bristol BS8 1SS

Global Opportunities Team  
[global-opportunities@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:global-opportunities@bristol.ac.uk)  
+44 117 39 40207