University of BRISTOL

Undergraduate study

Earth Sciences

Key highlights

Hands-on experiments

The whole Earth is our laboratory, and fieldwork is an integral part of our teaching. An exciting programme of field trips is included in your tuition fee.

Global reputation

The University of Bristol is ranked 4th in the UK and 15th in the world for Earth and Marine Sciences (QS World University Rankings by Subject, 2020).

Our environment

Bristol is a major international centre for research and teaching on environmental processes and systems. Join world-leading experts working on some of the biggest challenges of the 21st century.

Why study earth sciences at Bristol?

Join a tight-knit community of dynamic students and world-class experts, working to build a sustainable future and creating talented scientists for a post-carbon world. We are leading the way in addressing some of the biggest environmental challenges facing the world today, from predicting and mitigating the impact of natural hazards; to understanding environmental change; to developing sustainable technologies and management of our energy resources.

Earth scientists work at the nexus of the physical sciences, encompassing an interdisciplinary mix of chemistry, physics, mathematics, geography and biology. We offer a range of degree programmes:

- **Geology**: Study the solid Earth, its physics and chemistry, and life on Earth through time.
- **Environmental geoscience**: Investigate interactions between the solid Earth and the atmosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere. Study issues connected to global climate change and ways to remedy damage caused by human activity and industry.
- **Geophysics**: Learn about the history, structure and dynamics of the Earth system and how inaccessible locations can be studied through remote sensing techniques, such as seismology.
- **Palaeontology and evolution**: Develop an understanding of the evolution of life on this planet through the study of geology and biology.

All our degrees can be studied as a BSc in three years or as an MSci in four years; most MSci courses can also be taken with a year abroad. You'll learn with renowned experts whose research feeds directly into your teaching, placing you at the cutting edge of scientific developments. Challenge yourself to grow your skills and knowledge, and graduate prepared to identify and tackle future global challenges.

No matter where your career takes you, you'll gain the skills and experience needed to succeed. Your studies will embed key scientific and technical skills including coding, modelling, lab skills, mapping, microscopy and data analysis, and transferable skills such as report writing, presenting, communication, creativity and resilience.

Our small class sizes and high staff-to-student ratio mean you'll get plenty of support, and our lively student-led societies mean you'll join a close-knit community from day one. You'll start your degree in the field, helping you get to know your coursemates before lectures begin.

Field classes in carefully chosen locations will give you hands-on experience and are covered by your tuition fees, so there are no hidden costs. Whether you're using Bristol as a natural lab or learning about our planet further afield, you'll be applying the theories learned in the classroom to real-world questions linked directly to your studies.

Find out more

Entry requirements, course structure and units
bristol.ac.uk/ug2021-earthsci

'The School of Earth Sciences has world-leading researchers across all subject fields, and they are always keen for undergraduates to get involved. Staff and students love their work, so it is a very positive atmosphere.'

Sam (MSci Geology with Study Abroad)

Many courses are accredited by the Geological Society of London, enabling you to work towards becoming a Chartered Geologist.

Choose a degree with Study Abroad to spend your third year studying at one of our prestigious partner universities overseas. Current locations include Canada, the US, Iceland and New Zealand.

Find out more: **bristol.ac.uk/go-abroad**

You'll study in the spectacular neo-gothic Wills Memorial Building. Our state-of-the-art facilities include our Geology Museum, which contains more than 100,000 specimens of historical and scientific importance.

Courses

BSc / MSci Environmental Geoscience

MSci Environmental Geoscience with Study Abroad

BSc / MSci Geology

MSci Geology with Study Abroad

BSc / MSci Geophysics

MSci Geophysics with Study Abroad

BSc / MSci Palaeontology and Evolution

Connect with the School of Earth Sciences

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This leaflet contains information for students planning to start university in autumn 2021. We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (May 2020). However, since this information is subject to change, you are advised to check the University's website, **bristol.ac.uk/ug-study** for the latest updates. Any sample units listed are indicative and offerings may change due to developments in the relevant academic field. Unit availability varies depending on staffing, student choice and timetabling constraints.

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