

Geography at Otago
Course Information 2012



Dunedin Railway Station

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WELCOME TO GEOGRAPHY!

WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY?

Geography is an environmental science concerned with the causes and organization of natural and human phenomena across the globe. It is primarily an integrative discipline aiming to establish knowledge of inter-relationships between and among human and natural systems.

WHY STUDY GEOGRAPHY?

Geography provides a basis for comprehending and managing many of the issues facing New Zealand and the World – environmental conservation and degradation, social and economic structures, development regions, demographic influences on society, the spatial characteristics and problems of cities and rural areas, atmosphere and management of water, soil, air and biological resources. By studying such themes in different contexts and places, geography helps break down insularity and contributes to international understanding while providing its students with a wide range of vocationally relevant skills, for instance, in information gathering, data analysis and critical assessment.

CAREERS IN GEOGRAPHY

Geography graduates have been appointed to positions in a number of Government departments, including the Ministry for the Environment, Treasury, the NZ Tourism Board, Crown Research Institutes, Department of Statistics, and the Ministry of External Relations and Trade. In addition, graduates have secured employment with local government and specialized public agencies such as planning and conservation sections of Regional Councils, and Regional Health Authorities. As a geographer many of the skills you possess have proven valuable in marketing and marketing research, impact assessment, publishing, international trade, the tourism and air transport industries, planning and resource consultancy.

GEOGRAPHY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

Geography has programmes leading to Arts and Science degrees at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. We also administer the Applied Science programme in Environmental Management, and the postgraduate Master's degree in Planning. When complemented by selected courses from other disciplines, geography offers students an opportunity to develop a degree programme that contains a strong or even dominant component focused on environmental concerns: from problem analysis to evaluation, planning and management. The department welcomes and strongly encourages students not only to major in geography but also to join the department's fourth year programme and to consider enrolling for a Master's degree or a Doctoral degree.



Port Chalmers Container Terminal – Inversion Layer

Photo courtesy of Jono Conway – PhD candidate



Students interviewing at Okains Bay Museum, Banks Peninsula

Photo courtesy of Michelle Thompson–Fawcett

ACADEMIC STAFF AND AREAS OF INTEREST

The following briefly indicates current staff research. This gives some indications as to areas of expertise and interest, in terms of both staff research and potential graduate thesis topics.

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT



Associate Professor Sean Fitzsimons

BSc(Hons) (Cant) PhD (Tas)
Email: sjf@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Sean's research interests include Earth surface processes in alpine and high latitude areas; Quaternary climate and glaciations in the Southern Hemisphere.

PROFESSORS



Tony Binns

BA(Hons) DipEd (Shef) MA PhD (Birm)
Email: jab@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Tony's research interests include environment and development; rural change and community based development in Africa; urban agriculture; geographical education.



Richard Morgan

BSc (Lond) PhD (Birm)
Email: rkm@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Richard's research interests include impact assessment theory and practice; environmental management; information and participatory decision-making; human impact on soil and vegetation systems.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS



Claire Freeman

BA (Rhodes) MA (Witw) PhD (Leeds)

Email: cf@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Claire's research interests include environmental planning; biodiversity conservation; community planning; children and planning; environmental education.



Etienne Nel

BA(Hons) (Rhodes) MA (Witw) PhD (Rhodes)

Email: eln@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Etienne's research interests include Urban economic development; urban geography; regional economic studies; export processing zones.



Michelle Thompson-Fawcett

BTP MPlan(Hons) (Auck) DPhil (Oxon)

Email: mtf@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Michelle's research interests include planning practices related to urban form and indigenous resource management; contemporary governance activities at the local scale; participation and identity.

SENIOR LECTURERS



Nicolas Cullen

BSc MSc (Hons) (Cant) PhD (Colorado)

Email: njc@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Nicolas's research interests include boundary layer meteorology and climatology; glaciology; glacier and ice sheet mass balance and climate; polar and applied meteorology; numerical modelling and air pollution; remote sensing.



Douglas Hill

BA(Hons) (ANU) PhD (Curtin)

Email: dph@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Doug's research interests include comparative political economy, especially South Asia; rural development; port sector and maritime trade; common property issues, especially forests; trans-boundary issues related to water resources.



Michael Hilton

MA PhD (Auck)

Email: mjh@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Mike's research interests include coastal management and processes; environmental policy; resource management in NZ; biodiversity and bio-security management.

Wayne Stephenson

BSc MSc PhD (Cant)

Email: wjs@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Wayne's research interests include processes causing landscape development over short to medium time scales, particularly on rock coasts; beach morphodynamics in low energy environments; rock control in geomorphology.

LECTURERS



Charlotte Chambers (Maternity Leave 2012)

BSc(Hons) (Lincoln) PhD (Edin)

Email: cnlc@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Charlie's research interests include nature and society interactions; Pacific geography; social and political dimensions of conservation policy and practice; subjectivity on the politics of environmental and resource management.



Daniel Kingston

BSc (Shef) MSc (E. Anglia) PhD (Birm)

Email: djk@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Daniel's research interests include interactions between large scale climate variations; process cascade linking variation in sea surface temperatures; large scale atmospheric circulation and regional climate to river flow.



Sarah Mager

BSc(Hons) MSc(Dist) PhD (Otago)

Email: smm@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Sarah's research interests include glaciology; understanding contemporary processes in Antarctica; glaciers and climate change within the Quaternary; the behaviour and dynamics of glaciers.



Linda Malam

BSc(Hons) (N'Castle NSW) PhD (ANU)

Email: lm@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Linda's research interests include gender and society; social and cultural geography; Thai culture and society; tourism developments and gender identity in Southeast Asia; field research methodologies; trans-national migration.



John Morrissey

BSc(Hons), PhD (Limerick)
Email: jem@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

John's research interests include a wide range of topics in environmental management and sustainable development fields, including triple bottom line principles and resilient communities through synergies and adaptation capacity.



Simon Springer

BA(Hons) (NBCol) MA(Queens) PhD(BCol)
Email: ss@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Simon's research interests include geographies of violence and non-violence; neoliberalism; governmentality and bio politics; imaginative geographies; Orientalism and othering; radical democracy; emancipation and social justice.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE FELLOW



Rosalind Day

BSc MRRP (Otago)
Email: rhd@geography.otago.ac.nz

Ros has held a range of environmental policy and planning roles across private consultancy firms, central government, and more recently local government. This combination of roles has provided Ros with a broad and varied mix of professional skills.

TEACHING FELLOW



Benjamin Varkalis

BAppSc (Otago)
Email: btv@geography.otago.ac.nz

Ben's role in the department is to organise and assist with the running of GEOG101, GEOG102, ENVI111 and GEOG290. He oversees the practical and tutorial components of these papers and is the first point of contact for students taking first year Geography papers.

EMERITUS PROFESSORS



Blair Fitzharris

BSc (Otago) MA PhD (UBC)

Email: bbf@geography.otago.ac.nz

Research Interests

Blair's research interests include climate change and variability; snow and glacier processes; snow avalanches; topoclimate and mapping.



Peter Holland

MSc (Cant) PhD (ANU)

Email: pgh@geography.otago.ac.nz

Peter is investigating the tools, techniques, plants and animal species used by farmers to establish improved pasture in areas of NZ once covered by closed canopy forests, tall shrub, grassy and wetland communities.

COMMUNICATING WITH STAFF

Most lecturers will see you without an appointment. If they are not in their office and there is no notice of availability on their door, ask at the Reception desk to find out when they are likely to be in. Some Lecturers set aside time during the week when they make a point of being available for students and these times are shown on their office door or in the class hand-outs.

You may leave a written note for a Lecturer in the staff mail boxes at Geography Reception. Students are encouraged to email staff members as this is often the fastest way of getting a response.

GENERAL STAFF



Marlene Robertson

Departmental Administrator

Email: mmr@geography.otago.ac.nz

Marlene's prime function is to assist the Head of Department in all aspects of departmental management and is responsible for the effective and efficient administration of the department.



David Howarth

Head Technician, Health and Safety Officer

Email: djh@geography.otago.ac.nz

Dave is Head Technician for the Department with managerial responsibilities for technical staff, laboratories and workshop facilities.



David McDowall

Computing coordinator

Email: dmm@geography.otago.ac.nz

David is responsible for providing comprehensive, coherent and reliable Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure to meet the department needs.



Tracy Connolly

Maps, Computer Graphics and Illustration

Email: tac@geography.otago.ac.nz

Tracy's role is to produce computer based illustrations and provide training in the use of graphic applications, management of the departmental website and management of the departmental library.

**Nigel McDonald**

Instrument and Field Technician
Email: nam@geography.otago.ac.nz

Nigel helps provide technical support for postgraduate, undergraduate, teaching and research activities in all the different disciplines provided by the department in the laboratory and field environment.

**Julie Clark**

Laboratory Technician
Email: jgc@geography.otago.ac.nz

Julie supervises student use of laboratory space and equipment and provides technical support for the laboratory and fieldwork components in the teaching and research activities of the department.

**Christine Bradshaw**

Administrative Assistant
Email: cnb@geography.otago.ac.nz

Christine's role is to provide administrative support to staff and students within the Department. She is also the Secretary to the Masters of Planning programme.

OVERVIEW OF GEOGRAPHY

What a major in Geography offers:

- ~ An integrated study of the complex and reciprocal relationships between human societies and the physical components of the Earth.
- ~ An appreciation of the evolution and significance of the distinctiveness of place, landscape and environment.
- ~ A heightened curiosity about social and physical environments, discerning observation and an understanding of scale.
- ~ A reasoned view of the rapidly changing world and the ways in which society influences and is influenced by it.

Geography's framework:

- ~ Place, space and time provide Geography's framework: recognising the great differences and dynamics in cultures, social structures, political systems, economies, landscapes and environments across the world, and the links between them.
- ~ Geography provides a bridge between the arts and sciences, addressing pressing issues of the day. These include environmental change, atmosphere, management of water, soil, air and biological resources, vegetation and landscape transformation, regional inequalities, restructuring of the global economy and culture, governance, community engagement, gender relations, rural and urban sustainability, urbanisation, planning, natural hazards, and many more.
- ~ Geography is characterised by: a plurality of ways of knowing and understanding the world, a range of different approaches, disciplinary diversity but also unifying themes, fieldwork and other forms of experiential learning.

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME

At Otago, Geography may be taken as the major subject for the degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Applied Science. In addition many students enrol for undergraduate papers in Geography while pursuing professional studies in Botany, Commerce, Education, Geology, Law, Planning, Physical Education, Surveying and Tourism. The undergraduate programme in Geography provides a firm grounding in the social, economic and physical aspects of the environment.

Students of Human Geography may study theoretical frameworks and contemporary issues surrounding economic, social, cultural and political geography as shown in urban, rural, development and regional contexts.

Students of Physical Geography study the various environmental topics which together make up the fundamentals of this branch of the discipline: geomorphology, climatology, hydrology and biogeography. Each is studied in terms of processes, landscape development and sensitivity to human interference.

Environmental Management has a science focus, with a core of papers on environmental systems, but it also covers the wider social, economic and political contexts, including the requirements of environmental legislation.

GEOGRAPHY MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

To complete a BA or BSc degree, students require passes with a combined value of no fewer than 360 credit points. The degree must include at least 180 points above 100 level, of which at least 54 points must be gained above 200 level, and at least 72 points must be at 300 level in your major subject. Each subject for the degree prescribes what papers must be taken in order for you to major in that subject. The requirements for Geography are listed below.

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

100 level	GEOG101 and GEOG102
200 level	GEOG280 plus two further 200 level GEOG papers
300 level	GEOG380 plus three further 300 level GEOG papers
Plus	198 further points; must include 54 points at 200 level or above. Up to 90 points may be taken from outside Arts.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (BSc)

100 level	GEOG101, GOEG102, STAT110
200 level	GEOG290, one of GEOG281-289, 298, 299 one further 200 level GEOG paper
300 level	GEOG380, two of GEOG387-395, 398, 399 one further 300 level GEOG paper
Plus	180 further points; must include 54 points at 200 level or above. Up to 90 points may be taken from outside Science.

BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE (BAppSc) Environmental Management

100 level	ENV111, GEOG101, GEOG102 one of MATH160, 170, STAT110,
200 level	GEOG216, GEOG290, two of GEOG281-289, 298, 299
300 level	GEOG380, GEOG397, two of GEOG387-395, 398, 399
Plus	144 further points, including either requirements for an approved minor or approved second major subject or other approved papers.

HONOURS PROGRAMME

Unlike the corresponding BA and BSc degrees, both BA(Hons) and BSc(Hons) take four years to complete. In general, Honours programmes involve more intensive study in the major subject during the first three years. In the fourth year, advanced level papers and a dissertation are taken.

Students with very good or excellent results will be invited to apply for entry to the Honours programme at the end of their first year at University. Such students will usually have taken 100 level papers to the value of at least 126 points and will normally have achieved a **B+ average or better** in Geography papers. Students may also apply to join the Honours programme at the 300 and 400 levels according to the conditions outlined in the University Calendar.

BACHELOR OF ARTS with HONOURS (BA(Hons))

100 level	GEOG101, GEOG102 plus 90 further points
200 level	GEOG280, three further 200 level GEOG papers plus 54 further points
300 level	GEOG380, GEOG396*, three further 300 level GEOG papers plus 36 further points
Plus	GEOG490 plus three further 400 level GEOG papers

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE with HONOURS (BSc(Hons))

100 level	GEOG101, GEOG102, STAT110 plus 72 further 100 level points
200 level	GEOG290, two of GEOG281-289, 298, 299, two further 200 level GEOG papers plus 36 further points
300 level	GEOG380, GEOG396*, two of GEOG387-395, 398, 399, one further 300 level GEOG paper plus 36 further points
400 level	GEOG490 plus four further 400 level GEOG papers

* GEOG396 is not available in 2012. Students must enroll for one further 300 level GEOG paper instead.

BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE (BAppSc(Hons)) Environmental Management

100 level	GEOG101, GEOG102, ENVI111, one of MATH160, 170, STAT110
200 level	GEOG216, GEOG290, two of GEOG281-289, 298, 299
300 level	GEOG380, GEOG397, two of GEOG387-395, 398, 399
Plus	GEOG490, GEOG471, GEOG472 plus further 400-level papers worth at least 24 points

An applicant shall not normally be admitted directly to a fourth stage Honours course.



Dry Valleys – Antarctica

Photo courtesy of Abigail Lovett – MSc candidate

UNDERGRADUATE PAPERS AVAILABLE IN 2012

Course	Title	Points	2012
GEOG101	Physical Geography	18	S1
GEOG102	Human Geography	18	S2
ENVI111	Environment and Society	18	S2
GEOG210	Social Geography	18	S1
GEOG215	Urban Geography	18	S2
GEOG216	Resource Evaluation and Planning	18	S1
GEOG228	Uneven Development in Contemporary India	18	S2
GEOG280	Research Methodologies in Human Geography	18	S1
GEOG284	Soils and the Environment	18	S2
GEOG286	Climatology	18	S2
GEOG289	Geomorphology	18	S1
GEOG290	Field Research Methods (Science)	18	FY
GEOG299	Freshwater Resources	18	S1
GEOG328	Uneven Development In Contemporary India	18	S2
GEOG380	Field Research Studies (Arts)	18	FY
GEOG380	Field Research Studies (Science)	18	FY
GEOG381	Social Geography	18	S1
GEOG384	Urban Geography	18	S2
GEOG390	Soils and the Environment	18	S2
GEOG392	Climatology	18	S2
GEOG395	Geomorphology	18	S1
GEOG399	Freshwater Resources	18	S1
ENVI311	Understanding Environmental Issues	18	S1

S1 = Semester One

S2 = Semester Two

FY = Full year

100 LEVEL GEOGRAPHY

Outcomes of first year Geography

Key concepts and theories attained after studying 100 level Geography

- ~ A general understanding of Earth's environmental systems and processes, and the linkages between them and humankind including: the atmosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere.
- ~ A general understanding of key aspects of human environments including economic development, geopolitical affairs, urbanisation, and human behaviour.
- ~ An awareness of current environmental concerns at the global, national and local levels, particularly the relationship between people, their activities, socio-cultural context.
- ~ An understanding of the implications of the Treaty of Waitangi for the geography of New Zealand.
- ~ An introductory understanding of research techniques in geography.

Skills gained from studying 100 level Geography

- ~ After completing one year of study in Geography, students should be able to
- ~ Describe and exemplify the nature of change within human and physical environments.
- ~ Describe and exemplify the reciprocal relationships between physical and human environments.
- ~ Illustrate the diversity of specialised techniques and approaches involved in collecting and analysing geographical information.
- ~ Communicate geographical ideas, principles and theories by written and visual means.

100 LEVEL COURSES

There are no prerequisites for 100 level courses.

GEOG101 Physical Geography (Prof R Morgan)

Lectures: S1: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu: 9am-9:50am
18 points

Labs: *One of* Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri: 10am-12:50pm; 2pm-4:50pm;
Mon, Wed: 6pm-8:50pm

This paper is an introduction to the discipline of Physical Geography which involves both practical and theoretical elements. Physical Geography is the study of the physical environment that promotes the understanding of the interactions between social, earth and physical science. A particular characteristic of Physical Geography is that it is 'hands on' and concentrates on the real world, and to study the real world requires specific skills like mapping, remote sensing, data collection and communication skills.

GEOG102 Human Geography (Assoc. Prof E Nel)

Lectures: S2: Mon, Tue, Wed: 9am-9:50am
18 points

Tutorials: *One of* Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu: 10am-10:50am, 11am-11:50am, 12pm-12:50pm, 2pm-2:50pm, 3pm-3:50pm, 4pm-4:50pm
One of Fri: 10am-10:50am, 11am-11:50am, 12pm-12:50pm

This paper is designed as an introduction to the key concepts and sub disciplines in Human Geography, and in particular, to those aspects of the subject which are studied in greater depth in GEOG200-300 level papers. The paper is structured in five parts covering: social, population, political, the people – environmental interface, and urban geography

ENV111 Environment and Society (Dr W Stephenson)

Lectures: S2: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu: 5pm-5:50pm
18 points

This paper provides an awareness of current environmental concerns at the global, national and local levels. Particular emphasis is placed on understanding the relationship between people, their activities and the biophysical environment, and on developing an informed understanding of the socio-cultural context of environmental problems.

200 AND 300 LEVEL GEOGRAPHY

Outcomes from second and third year Geography

Both second and third year students should achieve the following outcomes. At third year the degree of development of each of these outcomes will be significantly higher and demonstrate greater reflection.

Key concepts and theories attained after completing second and third year Geography:

- ~ Students should be capable of recognising, interpreting, analysing, discussing, evaluating and critically judging geographic concepts and theories related to such issues as:
 - Environment, atmosphere and landscapes.
 - Spatial and temporal scale and variation.
 - Place.
 - Human and physical systems.
 - Environmental and social change.
 - Difference and inequality.
 - Critical applied geography (e.g. urban planning, impact assessment).
 - The history of geographic thought.
 - Disciplinary critical reflection.
 - Diversity of representations of human and physical worlds.
 - The implications of the Treaty of Waitangi.
- ~ Students should be capable of evaluating, and be experienced in the application of geographic research concepts including:
 - Geographical methodological strategies.
 - Geographical analytical and interpretational strategies.
 - Geographical communication and reflection.

Skills gained from completion of second and third year Geography

Knowledge and understanding skills – students should be able to:

- ~ Analyse and evaluate the nature of change within human and physical environments.
- ~ Analyse and evaluate the reciprocal relationships between physical and human environments.
- ~ Analyse and evaluate the diversity and inter-dependence of places at various spatial scales.
- ~ Identify and analyse patterns and causes of difference.
- ~ Evaluate the diversity of approaches to the generation of knowledge and understanding derived from experience of the epistemologies of geography.
- ~ Apply understanding of geographical concepts in different situations.
- ~ Have a systematic approach to accuracy, precision and uncertainty.
- ~ Understand and be sensitive to issues of cultural diversity, equity, gender and disability.
- ~ Contribute the special experience and expertise of geographers to debates on issues of wider community concern.

Research skills – students should have learned to evaluate, deploy and reflect upon research skills specific to the discipline. They should be capable of:

- ~ Planning, designing and executing rigorous research enquiry, including report production.
- ~ Effective and safe fieldwork.
- ~ Safe and well managed work in a scientific laboratory.
- ~ Preparation of effective maps and diagrams.
- ~ Use of appropriate information technologies.
- ~ Recognising and selecting from different theoretical approaches to research.
- ~ Employing a variety of social survey, interpretative, technical and laboratory-based methods.
- ~ Combining and interpreting different types of geographical evidence (texts, imagery, maps, digitised data, laboratory data).
- ~ Effectively interpreting qualitative and quantitative geographical information.
- ~ Developing explanation that integrates different dimensions of physical and human relationships.
- ~ Employing the diversity of specialised techniques and approaches involved in presenting geographical information.
- ~ Recognising moral and ethical issues.

Intellectual skills – students should have learned to interpret, analyse and evaluate. They should be capable of:

- ~ Illustrating and discussing the contested and provisional nature of knowledge and understanding.
- ~ Assessing merits of theories, explanations, policies.
- ~ Analysing and problem solving.
- ~ Formulating and evaluating questions and problems.
- ~ Evaluating approaches to problem solving.
- ~ Decision-making.
- ~ Critically judging and evaluating evidence.
- ~ Critically interpreting data and text.
- ~ Abstracting and synthesising information.
- ~ Developing a sustained and reasoned argument.
- ~ Evaluating the strengths and weaknesses in the arguments of others.
- ~ Presenting clear, written, visual and oral communications.
- ~ Responsibility for own learning and reflection.
- ~ General Skills:
 - learning and study
 - time management
 - written and visual communication
 - verbal presentation
 - numeracy and computation
 - spatial awareness and observation
 - field and laboratory approaches
 - information technology
 - information handling and retrieval
 - interpersonal communication and respect

Interdisciplinary skills – students should be well placed to contribute to the development of interdisciplinary aspects of knowledge.

Personal skills – Students should have developed skills in:

- ~ Motivation, self-awareness and self-management.
- ~ Empathy, insight and intellectual integrity.
- ~ Ability to work independently and collaboratively.
- ~ Awareness of responsibility as a local, national, international citizen.
- ~ Interest in lifelong learning.
- ~ Flexibility, adaptability and creativity.

200 LEVEL COURSES

Prerequisites and restrictions stated for each paper.

GEOG210 Social Geography (Dr L Malam)

Lectures: S1: Tue, Wed: 11am-11:50am
18 points

Tutorials: *One of* Thu: 11am-11:50am, 1pm-1:50pm; Fri: 1pm-1:50pm, 2pm-2:50pm, 3pm-3:50pm

Prerequisites: GEOG102 or 108 points

Restrictions: GEOG381

This paper is organised to achieve two objectives: to identify key theory and debates in social geography and to critically review geographies of difference, identity formation, unequal power relations and social action. In taking this paper you will gain an appreciation of the nature of geography as a social science; become familiar with the theoretical traditions of social geographic thought; gain an understanding of the major debates and concepts in contemporary social geography; demonstrate an appreciation of how social geography can intersect with everyday life.

GEOG215 Urban Geography (Assoc. Prof M Thompson-Fawcett)

Lectures: S2: Tue: 11am; Wed 2pm-2:50pm
18 points

Tutorials: 5 tutorials
One of Wed, Thu, Fri: 10am-10:50pm; Wed: 12pm-12:50pm

Prerequisites: GEOG102 or 108 points

Restrictions: GEOG384

The paper will survey histories, structures and practical dilemmas of contemporary urban planning and city transformation via case studies from around the world. It grapples with the formulation and implementation of transformative plans that will significantly affect the lives of people. It requires that you think analytically and creatively about the city making process.

GEOG216 Resource Evaluation and Planning (Dr J Morrissey)

Lectures: S1: Tue, Wed: 12pm-12:50pm
18 points

Tutorials: *One of* Mon, Fri: 9am-10:50pm, 11am-12:50pm; Tue, Thu: 9am-10:50pm

Prerequisites: GEOG102 or 108 points

This paper reviews major environmental debates, environmental management philosophies and tenets, international and New Zealand administrative and legislative approaches and major tools for environmental management.

GEOG228 Uneven Development in Contemporary India (Dr D Hill)

Lectures: S2: Tue, Thu, Fri: 3pm-3:50pm
18 points

Tutorials: *One of* Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 9am-9:50am; Mon, Fri: 11am-11:50am

Prerequisites: GEOG102 or 108 points

Restriction: GEOG328

This paper reviews the major economic, political and social processes and trends which have both characterise and shaped India in the post-colonial period.

GEOG280 Research Methodologies in Human Geography (Dr S Springer)

Lectures: S1: Mon, Tue: 2pm-2:50pm
18 points

Workshop: *One of* Wed: 9am-10:50pm, 11am-12:50pm

Prerequisites: GEOG101 and GEOG102

The objective of this paper is to introduce second year students to the research questions, methods and resources of human geography. The paper is built on the premise that good research in human geography comprises seven core activities:

1. Identifying the research problem
2. Designing an effective research strategy
3. Locating potentially useful detail
4. Evaluating the collected information
5. Summarizing the research findings
6. Concluding the research
7. Communicating the research results

GEOG284 Soils and the Environment (Professor R Morgan)

Lectures: S2: Mon, Tue: 10am-10:50am
18 points

Practicals: *One of* Mon, Tue: 2pm-4:50pm

Prerequisites: GEOG101

Restriction: GEOG390

This paper develops an understanding of the soil from an ecological perspective, as the basis for appreciating the nature and implications of human impacts on soils at the local, national and international scales.

GEOG286 Climatology (Dr D Kingston)

Lectures: S2: Thu, Fri: 10am-10:50am
18 points

Practicals: *One of* Wed, Thu, Fri: 2pm-4:50pm

Prerequisites: GEOG101

Restriction: GEOG392

This course aims to give a detailed insight into micro and meso scale climate processes (i.e. those operating within the planetary boundary layer). This should enable each student to gain an understanding of fundamental atmospheric processes near the Earth's surface and how these processes influence and are in turn influenced by natural and anthropogenic conditions and activities.

GEOG289 Geomorphology (Assoc. Prof S Fitzsimons)

Lectures: S1: Mon, Tue: 10am-10:50am
18 points

Practicals: *One of* Mon, Tue: 2pm-4:50pm

Prerequisites: GEOG101

Restriction: GEOG395

The objective of this course is to understand the form of the earth's surface and the processes which create it and to provide experience in the analysis of landforms and earth surface processes.

GEOG290 Field Research Methods (Dr S Mager)

Labs: FY: Tue, Wed, Thu: 2pm-4:50pm
18 points

Field Camp: 16-22 April 2012

Prerequisites: GEOG101 and GEOG102

This paper provides experience in a range of statistical, computing and field investigation techniques. It involves an introduction to some of the University's computing systems and appropriate packages for word processing, statistical analysis, geographical information analysis and modelling.

GEOG299 Freshwater Resources: Monitoring and Management (Dr Sarah Mager)

Lectures: S1: Thu, Fri: 10am-10:50am
18 points

Labs: *one of* Thu, Fri: 2pm-4:50pm

Prerequisites: GEOG101

Restriction: GEOG399

This paper develops an understanding of the physical and human processes affecting water quality of rivers, groundwater and wetlands.



Masons Bay Stewart Island

Photo courtesy of Phil Petersen – BAppSc Honours Student

300 LEVEL COURSES

Prerequisites and restrictions stated for each paper.

GEOG328 Uneven Development in Contemporary India (Dr D Hill)

Lectures: S2: Tue, Thu, Fri: 3pm-3:50pm
18 points

Tutorials: *One of* Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 9am-9:50am; Mon, Fri: 11am-11:50am

Prerequisites: 54 GEOG points

Restriction: GEOG228

This paper reviews the major economic, political and social processes and trends which have both characterise and shaped India in the post-colonial period.

GEOG380 Field Research Studies (Science) (Dr D Kingston)

Lectures: FY: Wed: 4pm-5:50pm
18 points

Prerequisites: GEOG290

This paper will provide experience of field investigation and reporting of a realistic problem in some chosen topic area in the context of a small group. The topics are set by the Lecturers concerned and may include: coastline processes, glaciated landscapes, climatology biogeography, soil nutrients and fluvial geomorphology. Field work may be undertaken as day trips or as a short residential field trip depending on the project work you are assigned to.

GEOG380 Field Research Studies (Arts) (Dr L Malam)

Seminar: FY: Mon: 3pm-3:50pm
18 points

Field School: *To be Confirmed*

Prerequisites: GEOG280

This paper introduces students to human geography field research. Students are divided into small groups and undertake research preparation and then field work as members of those groups. The groups continue to operate until final individual research reports are written. Group projects cover a range of human geography topics and recent topics have included: sustainable urban environments, tourism and recreational planning, community identity, housing for the elderly, class and access to health care, and gender division of labour on farms.

GEOG381 Social Geography (Dr L Malam)

Lectures: S1: Tue, Wed: 11am-11:50am
18 points

Tutorials: *One of* Thu: 11am-11:50am, 1pm-1:50pm; Fri: 1pm-1:50pm, 2pm-2:50pm, 3pm-3:50pm

Prerequisites: 54 GEOG points

Restrictions: GEOG210

This paper is organised to achieve two objectives: to identify key theory and debates in social geography and to critically review geographies of difference, identity formation, unequal power relations and social action. In taking this paper you will gain an appreciation of the nature of geography as a social science; become familiar with the theoretical traditions of social geographic thought; gain an understanding of the major debates and concepts in contemporary social geography; demonstrate an appreciation of how social geography can intersect with everyday life.

GEOG384 Urban Geography (Assoc. Prof MThompson-Fawcett)

Lectures: S2: Tue: 11am; Wed 2pm-2:50pm
18 points

Tutorials: 5 tutorials
One of Wed, Thu, Fri: 10am-10:50pm; Wed: 12pm-12:50pm

Prerequisites: 54 GEOG points

Restrictions: GEOG215

The paper will survey histories, structures and practical dilemmas of contemporary urban planning and city transformation via case studies from around the world. It grapples with the formulation and implementation of transformative plans that will significantly affect the lives of people. It requires that you think analytically and creatively about the city making process.

GEOG390 Soils and the Environment (Professor R Morgan)

Lectures: S2: Mon, Tue: 10am-10:50am
18 points

Practicals: *One of* Mon, Tue: 2pm-4:50pm

Prerequisites: 54 GEOG points

Restriction: GEOG284

This paper develops an understanding of the soil from an ecological perspective, as the basis for appreciating the nature and implications of human impacts on soils at the local, national and international scales.

GEOG392 Climatology (Dr D Kingston)

Lectures: S2: Thu, Fri: 10am-10:50am
18 points

Practicals: *One of* Wed, Thu, Fri: 2pm-4:50pm

Prerequisites: 54 GEOG points

Restriction: GEOG286

This course aims to give a detailed insight into micro and meso scale climate processes (i.e. those operating within the planetary boundary layer). This should enable each student to gain an understanding of fundamental atmospheric processes near the Earth's surface and how these processes influence and are in turn influenced by natural and anthropogenic conditions and activities.

GEOG395 Geomorphology (Assoc. Prof S Fitzsimons)

Lectures: S1: Mon, Tue: 10am-10:50am
18 points

Practicals: *One of* Mon, Tue: 2pm-4:50pm

Prerequisites: 54 GEOG points

Restriction: GEOG289

The objective of this course is to understand the form of the earth's surface and the processes which create it and to provide experience in the analysis of landforms and earth surface processes.

GEOG399 Freshwater Resources: Monitoring and Management (Dr Sarah Mager)

Lectures: S1: Thu, Fri: 10am-10:50am
18 points

Labs: *one of* Thu, Fri: 2pm-4:50pm

Prerequisites: 54 GEOG points

Restriction: GEOG299

This paper develops an understanding of the physical and human processes affecting water quality of rivers, groundwater and wetlands.

ENVI311 Understanding Environmental Issues (Prof R Morgan)

Lectures: S1: Thu: 11am-11:50am; Fri: 11am-12:50pm
18 points

Prerequisites: ENVI111 or 108 points

This course is an examination of contemporary environmental issues using concepts of scientific understanding, social, political and cultural construction contestation, intervention and transformation strategies.



Hoophorn Spur, Canterbury

Photo courtesy of Casey Beel - MSc Candidate

POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMES

The Geography Department encourages study at the Master's and Doctoral levels and has staff and facilities to support advanced research in a number of fields.

The Department has particularly well equipped laboratories and extensive holdings of field equipment permitting a wide range of studies in environmental processes, and there are good facilities for data analysis. The Department also has good collections of maps, aerial photographs and planning documents, as well as access to advanced computing facilities, including GIS. There are also available a number of audio recorders and a transcriber for interviewing.

Admission dates are flexible for the PhD. Applications to enrol for Post-graduate Diploma in Arts/Science or MA/MSc/MAppSc degrees should reach the appropriate Divisional Administrators by 10 December or by 1 October in the case of overseas applications. Late applications will be considered but decisions may be delayed. Overseas applicants who apply late may find it difficult to obtain a study permit in time to commence their study at the beginning of the academic year (i.e. late February).

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN ARTS/SCIENCE (PGDip)

Above average students who have not entered the Honours programme may apply for the Postgraduate Diploma courses after completing the corresponding Bachelor's degree. Students require an overall grade of **B** in their third year (GEOG300).

MASTERS (MA, MSc, MAppSc)

Enquiries regarding research topics and supervision should, in the first instance, be made to the Head of Department.

To be admitted to a Master's degree a candidate must normally have attained an average grade of **B+ or better** for all papers in the final year of study for the qualifying degree, or its equivalent. If the degree is by thesis only, candidates are encouraged to finish within 18 months of admission. For admission by:

- **papers and thesis** candidates must normally have completed a corresponding degree, a Diploma for Graduates course in the subject concerned or an appropriate related subject. Under this option, five GEOG400 papers are taken in the first year. One of these papers must be GEOG470 'A Research Topic in Geography'. In the second year a thesis is prepared.
- **thesis only** candidates must normally have completed an Honours degree, or a Postgraduate Diploma, or its equivalent.

Masters students should familiarise themselves with the regulations for their degree, as set out in the University of Otago Calendar.

MASTER OF PLANNING (MPlan)

The Master of Planning course is based in the Geography Department. It integrates vocational teaching with academic learning. The perspective adopted is directed towards formulation, implementation and evaluation of policies and programmes. The local and regional dimension of the public policy process is emphasised because this is the framework within which most societies are organised and function.

The closing date for applications is 20 November of the year prior to admission. Students wishing to enter the programme may discuss their eligibility with the Programme Director at any time prior to the closing date for applications. Requests for further information should be sent to:

The Secretary
MPlan Programme
Geography Department
University of Otago
Tel: 64 3 479 8773
Fax: 64 3 479 8706
Email: mplan@geography.otago.ac.nz.

DOCTORATE (PhD)

The PhD is open to both full-time and part-time candidates. Every candidate for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy must be a University graduate, and must produce evidence satisfactory to the Senate of their ability to proceed to the degree. The Head of Department must also be satisfied that the candidate's training and ability are adequate for an advanced course of study, and that appropriate supervision is available.

POSTGRADUATE PAPERS AVAILABLE IN 2012

Course	Title	Points	2012
GEOG457	Advanced Urban Geography	24	S2
GEOG459	Biogeography	24	S2
GEOG460	Climatology	24	S2
GEOG461	Mountain Hydrology	24	S1
GEOG464	An Approved Course in Geography	24	S1
GEOG465	A Special Topic in Geography	24	S2
GEOG470	A Research Topic in Geography	24	FY
GEOG471	Environmental Impact Assessment	24	S2
GEOG472	Developments in Environmental Management	24	S1
GEOG473	Contemporary Geographies of South East Asia	24	S1
GEOG474	Coastal Management	24	S2
GEOG475	Sustaining Rural Livelihoods in Developing Countries	24	FY
GEOG490	Dissertation	48	FY
GEOG495	Master's Thesis Preparation	24	FY

S1 = Semester One

S2 = Semester Two

FY = Full year

400 LEVEL COURSES

GEOG457 Advanced Urban Geography

(Assoc. Prof M Thompson-Fawcett & Assoc. Prof E Nel)

Lectures: S2: Tue, Thu: 2pm-3:50pm
24 points

This paper will explore geographical approaches to a selection of key issues in contemporary urban policy and planning. A core focus will be on understanding the dimensions and causes of, and responses to, specific problems at a range of spatial scales of which cities are part, namely from the local to the regional to the global. Case studies will be drawn from New Zealand, other developed countries and the South.

GEOG459 Biogeography (Lecturer to be confirmed)

Lectures: S2: Tue: 10am-11:50am
24 points

This paper will explore approaches to vegetation analysis, past and present vegetation patterns, plant strategies for survival in stressful environments and anthropogenic vegetation.

GEOG460 Climatology (Dr N Cullen)

Lectures: S2: Wed: 9am-11:50am
24 points

The objective of this paper is to give students an opportunity to advance their knowledge of research approaches in climatology and to establish a better understanding of modelling techniques used to characterise atmospheric processes. Emphasis in this course is placed on the methods and techniques used to investigate atmospheric processes over snow and ice covered surfaces at different locations, ranging from the high latitudes to tropical regions. In particular, modelling techniques used to characterise surface-atmosphere exchanges at different spatial and temporal scales are examined.

GEOG461 Mountain Hydrology (Dr S Mager and Dr D Kingston)

Lectures/Practicals: S1: To be arranged
24 points

This course will introduce two different approaches to hydrology: modelling and empirical observations. These two methodologies are critical to understanding the epistemology of modern hydrology, that is, how knowledge is generated about hydrological problems. Hydrological models are the cornerstone of understanding hydrological exchanges and the outcomes of these models are critical to managing water resources. Models offer the advantage of determining exchanges or processes not readily observable or quantifiable in the field, as well as projecting into the future. Empirical studies, on the other hand, are equally as valuable as these establish baseline measurements and quantify parameters that are needed to feed into numerical models, and can be used to validate model outputs. This course is structured around two modules that employ each of these methodologies to different conceptual problems in hydrology, one exploring climate change impacts on water resources and the other hydro-geomorphology.

GEOG464 An Approved Course in Geography (Dr S Springer)

Lectures: S1: *Times to be arranged*
24 points

This paper focuses on the two-way relationship between space and power. It investigates how political processes shape human geography, and conversely, how assumptions about geography underscore global politics. We will examine the key themes, concepts, & theories that define the study of politics from a geographical perspective. Students will gain a critical understanding of and appreciation for the historical and contemporary challenges of sovereignty, territoriality, governmentality, identity, citizenship, difference, violence, genocide, colonialism, and war. The module culminates with the themes of resistance, emancipation, direct action, and anarchism, which will allow students to consider alternative configurations of space and power in keeping with the paper's critical approach.

GEOG465 Special Topic in Geography (Ron Lister Fellow)

Lectures: S2: To be arranged
24 points

An occasional paper on a topic of current interest to visiting Ron Lister Fellow.

GEOG470 A Research Topic in Geography

Lectures: FY: To be arranged
24 points

The aim of this paper is to foster research skills using documentary and/or electronic sources; to use these sources critically; to produce a coherent account of the topic and to present that account in a professional report.

GEOG471 Environmental Impact Assessment (Prof R Morgan)

Lectures: S2: Mon, Thu: 12pm-1:50pm
24 points

The objectives of this paper are to: develop an understanding of the intentions and role of IA in environmental management, in the context of sustainable management; to highlight the importance of methodology in IA activities, and in particular to clarify the relationship with scientific studies; to set out a coherent and consistent framework to guide IA studies; to emphasise the importance of public involvement in the IA process, at various stages, and for various purposes; to recognise the importance of quality control in the IA process; to develop practical skills and confidence, in understanding impact assessment studies and to identify areas of IA where further investigation is urgently required.

GEOG472 Developments in Environmental Management (Dr J Morrissey)

Lectures: S1: Mon: 2pm-3:50pm; Thu: 10am-11:50pm
24 points

The purpose of this paper is to develop a critical awareness of the evolution of environmental management in response to contemporary issues. It builds on and extends materials covered in the two undergraduate papers in Resource Evaluation and Planning (GEOG216) and Environmental Management (GEOG397), to provide an advanced perspective on major environmental concerns.

GEOG473 Contemporary Geographies of South Asia (Dr D Hill)

Lectures: S1: Wed: 2pm-3:50pm
24 points

This paper focuses on urban issues in contemporary India. It traces the historical background of attempts to plan India's cities and examines the current challenges of sustainable development during a period of unprecedented urbanisation and change. These issues are contextualised with reference to a variety of approaches to the socio-spatial transformation of urban India.

GEOG474 Coastal Management (Dr M Hilton & Dr W Stephenson)

Lectures: S2: Wed: 2pm-3:50pm
24 points

Field Trip: 23-26 March 2012

This paper examines the environmental dimensions of problems affecting a range of coasts and possible solutions, with a focus on coasts in southern New Zealand. Topics include the avoidance and mitigation of coastal hazards, coastal evolution, biodiversity management, managing subdivision and development and invasive species management. The course is taught using a mix of lectures, a field-based course, case study evaluation and student research.

GEOG475 Sustaining Rural Livelihoods in Developing Countries (Prof T Binns)

Lectures: FY: Tue: 2pm-3:50pm; Thu: 12pm-1:50pm
24 points

This paper considers the varied nature of rural livelihood systems in poor countries and critically examines past, present and possible future approaches to rural development. The primary (although not exclusive) focus is Africa south of the Sahara. Strategies for future sustainable poverty alleviation among rural communities are evaluated.

GEOG490 Dissertation (All Staff)

FY: Seminars to be arranged
48 points

The paper's objective is the production of a research dissertation to meet the requirements of Honours and PGDipArts.

GEOG495 Master's Thesis Preparation (Dr D Hill)

FY: Seminars to be arranged
24 points

The objective of this course is to help prepare first year MA/MSc students for their research through a series of seminars and the production of a thesis proposal developed in consultation with a supervisor.

ASSESSMENT

Course assessment normally involves prepared presentations – essays, seminar papers and research reports – together with a final examination at the end of the first or second semester. In Geography, academic performance is assessed using a variety of criteria notably: originality and initiative – displayed in preparing essays and seminars. The quality of scholarship is assessed in terms of expertise with which a student prepares research, critically evaluates relevant information and arguments, organises material, and presents statements in class. The University has adopted a standard grading system for assessment purposes (see page 60). Examination papers and the dissertation at 400-level are also assessed by an external examiner in another University in New Zealand.

Master's theses are assessed by two examiners, at least one of whom is external to the University. For the PhD degree, the thesis is submitted to three examiners appointed by the Senate. One examiner is from outside New Zealand, one from within New Zealand, but external to the University of Otago, and one from within the University.

INTERNAL ASSESSMENT

1. Internal assessment requirements for individual papers will be confirmed in writing, at the start of each semester.
2. Other than in exceptional circumstances, time extensions for assignments or exemption from tests will NOT normally be given
3. Enquiries about possible extensions referred to in 2 above, may be made where one or more of the following apply:
 - (a) Illness.
 - (b) Bereavement.
 - (c) Representing your country of origin in a cultural or sporting event at short notice.
 - (d) Jury Service, or a similar unavoidable activity beyond the control of the student, and which occurs at short notice.

Note: all applications made under one or more of the conditions listed under (a) to (d) above, must be accompanied by certificates and/or supporting documentation and must be lodged with the Departmental Administrator as soon as possible.

Enquiries for extensions made under section 3 above should normally occur at least three days before the due date for the assignment or written test concerned. In the case of GEOG490, such enquiries should be made at least 2 weeks before the due date for the submission of the dissertation.

Enquiries about possible extensions/exemptions under conditions specified in 3 above should normally be made to the appropriate member of staff as follows:

- ~ GEOG100: the teaching fellow in charge of the tutorial and lab programme.
- ~ GEOG200/300/400 (except GEOG490): the Lecturer responsible for the paper concerned.
- ~ GEOG490: In the first instance, the candidate's supervisor, who will then discuss the enquiry with the Head of Department.

DISHONEST PRACTICE

Dishonest practice in relation to work submitted for assessment (including all course work, tests and examinations) is taken very seriously at the University of Otago. All students have an obligation to understand the requirements applying to particular assessments and also to understand and follow acceptable academic practice. Any breach of established requirements or of acceptable academic practice whether intentional or arising through a failure to take reasonable care – will result in action being taken against those involved.

Plagiarism is one form of dishonest practice. Plagiarism is defined as copying or paraphrasing another person's work and presenting it as one's own – whether intentionally or through failure to take proper care. Being party to someone else's plagiarism (by allowing them to copy your work or by otherwise helping them plagiarise work for an assessment) is also dishonest practice.

All students have a responsibility to be aware of acceptable academic practice in relation to the use of material prepared by others, and for taking all steps reasonably necessary to ensure that no breach of unacceptable practice occurs. Part of your study at the University is about developing your own thoughts and ideas. Where you use other people's words or ideas in your work, it is vital that you reference these correctly. The Student Learning Centre offers a course to assist you with this if you want one.

Any student involved in dishonest practice is liable to be proceeded against under the University's regulations. A range of penalties is established by those regulations, including forfeiture of marks for the piece of work submitted, a zero grade for the paper, or in extreme cases, exclusion from the University.

If you are ever in doubt concerning what may be acceptable practice in relation to an assessment you should clarify the situation before submitting work or taking the test or examination involved. For further information, please see the University's policy at: www.otago.ac.nz/study/otago001533.html

NON-SEXIST LANGUAGE

Use of sexist language is not acceptable. The University provides guidelines for the use of non-sexist language if you are unsure of the alternatives.

STUDENT SUPPORT

COURSE ADVICE

During course advising periods all staff are available to provide course advice during rostered hours. Three chief advisors are available outside these times: Associate Professor Etienne Nel (Arts); Professor Richard Morgan (Applied Science); and Associate Professor Sean Fitzsimons (Science).

ADVISOR OF STUDIES

The principal function of Advisors is to help undergraduate students to gain maximum benefit from their University studies. The role embraces academic and pastoral duties and has three main aspects. They are:

- ~ Advising students about their choice of course(s).
- ~ Helping students to overcome study difficulties.
- ~ Guiding students, with pressing and personal problems, towards specialist help.

Advisors are well informed about academic and welfare procedures and sources of information and guidance.

SUPPORTING DISABILITY AND SPECIAL NEEDS

If you have a disability and feel you require support with access to any part of the curriculum, or with other aspects of student life at the University, you should contact your course coordinator. The Geography Department is committed to making reasonable adjustments that will facilitate the participation of students with disabilities in our courses. The Department recognises that students with mental health conditions, specific learning difficulties, medical conditions, visual, hearing and mobility impairments, and those who are deaf, may require assistance while studying. Reasonable adjustments will be made when students with disabilities are placed at a substantial disadvantage compared to others, for a reason relating solely to their disability. For more information please visit: www.otago.ac.nz/disabilities/

STUDENT LEARNING CENTRE

The Student Learning Centre offers a range of services to assist all students to improve their study and learning skills. Workshops are held regularly on a wide range of topics designed to make your study more manageable and enjoyable.

Topics include writing to university standards, surviving examinations and skills for success. All services are free to enrolled students. They are located on the ground floor of the Information Services Building.

SUPPORTING EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The Geography Department is dedicated to equality of opportunity for all of its students. It supports fully the University's 'Equal Opportunities' policy which seeks to eradicate unfair and discriminatory practices wherever they occur in the University and to encourage a diverse community in which all individuals may contribute as fully as possible. As this suggests, diversity is highly valued and its capacity to enhance experiences of both teaching and learning is recognised. All people regardless of any irrelevant distinction – things such as age, disability, gender or gender reassignment, colour, 'race', ethnic or national origin, religious or political beliefs, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, trades union membership or family circumstances – must be treated fairly and must not be discriminated against in any area of University life.

If anyone feels that they have been subject to unfair or discriminatory treatment, or if they have either witnessed or been informed of such treatment, their concerns can be raised with the class representative, course organiser, Head of Department, or directly with the Equality and Diversity Advisor or the Disability Office as appropriate.

HARASSMENT

Harassment or abuse of authority within the University is unacceptable. Harassment generally includes the abuse or improper assumption of power and in particular the abuse of authority (academic, supervisory, or administrative) by one person over another.

Sexual harassment is unwelcome attention of a sexually oriented nature which is objectionable to the recipient and which the other person knows or ought to have known would have the effect of interfering with employment or academic performance or of creating an offensive, intimidating or hostile employment or academic environment. It may include comments, gestures, physical contact or demands.

Harassment on campus means everywhere including Halls of Residences and all people of the University community. To deal with harassment the University has established a policy on Ethical Behaviour

www.otago.ac.nz/humanresources/policies/EthicalBehaviour/index.php

A network of CONTACT PERSONS has been set up and these people will respond to complaints promptly and with sensitivity, provide general advice and advise the complainant of action that may be taken. TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY is preserved by all contact persons. Complaints may be made to the Head of Department, the Registrar, Pro Vice-Chancellors or the Vice Chancellor.

MĀORI STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The Māori Centre is a support service for all students of iwi decent. The Centre aims to encourage iwi Māori to participate and succeed in tertiary education. The Centre offers support for academic, cultural and social needs from pre-enrolment through to graduation and operates from kaupapa Māori base (Māori philosophy). The Māori Centre will also give you the opportunity to meet other Māori students and whanaunga studying at Otago.

For further information please visit www.otago.ac.nz/maoricentre/

Within the Department of Geography our Kaiawhina is

Associate Professor Michelle Thompson-Fawcett
Room 4C17 – 4th floor Richardson Building
Email: mtf@geography.otago.ac.nz

PACIFIC ISLAND CENTRE

The Pacific Island Centre runs a mentoring programme for students and you are encouraged to contact the Centre for support such as

- ~ Getting academic assistance via extra tutorials, academic mentoring, study groups
- ~ Meeting other Pacific students
- ~ Coming together over tea and coffee, using the internet or having a comfortable place to study, and lots more

The Pacific Island Centre looks forward to meeting you and to helping you succeed here at the University of Otago. For further information please visit www.otago.ac.nz/pacific/

GEOGRAPHY LIBRARY RESOURCES

The Department of Geography has modest library resources. These are housed on the fourth floor (room 4N5) of the Richardson Building. There you will find copies of theses and dissertations produced by Geography graduates, the *New Zealand Geographer* and the *Journal of Geography* (both produced by the NZGS), a collection of topographical and other maps of New Zealand and other parts of the world, and a number of atlases. Lending from the Library is on a trust basis. Enquiries should be directed to Ms Tracy Connolly, *Maps, Computer Graphics and Illustration Technician*, in charge of room 4N5 and drafting facilities located there.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Within the Geography Department, we endeavour to make students feel welcome as an integral part of an academic community. There are plenty of opportunities to interact with other undergraduates, with postgraduate students and with staff beyond the confines of lectures and tutorials. There is a variety of formal and informal ways in which you can talk to staff about your course and learning.

TUTORIALS

For those students who are required to attend tutorials, at the beginning of a semester you will be assigned to a tutorial group and lists will be posted on the notice boards (5th floor of the Richardson Building). The tutorials usually begin during the second week of the semester and at this first meeting you will be given full details of future tutorial meetings and assessment requirements. Please ensure you attend this first meeting. Tutorials are an essential part of your learning process. You should attend the tutorial classes offered in your papers and you should endeavour to participate. Those who learn to participate derive considerable and increasing benefit for themselves as their oral skills develop, and at the same time, they contribute significantly to the success of the small group method. Most professional occupations require the kind of verbal communication required in tutorial participation.

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

At the beginning of each paper, all classes elect a class representative who acts as a link between students taking the paper and the Department which runs the paper. Class representatives attend meetings with senior staff. Before these meetings they let their class know that the meeting is going to take place so that students can raise any issues of concern beforehand. After the meeting the class representatives report back to the class.

SEMINARS AND PRESENTATIONS

All students are urged to attend the Departmental Seminars. They present a valuable opportunity to learn more about the work of our colleagues, methods of communicating the results of research and the nature of geography.

THE NEW ZEALAND GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY – OTAGO BRANCH

The NZGS is an association that is open to everyone with an interest in geography, and members include students, teachers, academics, other practicing geographers, retired geographers and those who simply have an interest in the discipline. The Otago Branch is now one of the fastest growing branches in the country. Students are warmly encouraged to become members, and to participate in the affairs of the Branch by volunteering to serve on the Branch Committee. Student membership is available for a reduced fee and entitles you to receive copies of the *New Zealand Geographer*. The Otago Branch organises regular events, which are open to everyone, such as talks, slide shows, teacher-academic contact meetings and field trips. The Branch also sponsors prizes (including an award for best third year student in geography). For more information about the Branch and how to apply, see the notice board on the 5th floor, or talk to one of the following Branch Committee members, Tony Binns (President), Guil Figgins (Treasurer and past President).

STANDARD UNIVERSITY GRADING SCALE

The following are the cutting marks for grades in Geography papers

A+	90 – 100
A	85 – 89
A–	80 – 84

B+	75 – 79
B	70 – 74
B–	65 – 69

C+	60 – 64
C	55 – 59
C–	50 – 54

D	40 – 49
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E	0 – 39
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This handbook is published annually. Every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in this handbook is correct at the time of publication. However, in all matters the University Degree Regulations and Programmes of Study take precedence and the information contained herein will under no circumstances form part of any contract between the University of Otago and the student. Geography reserves the right to continually update and modify courses and procedures and such changes will be brought to the attention of students as early as possible.
