

## 2BA Handbook 2021/22

Discipline of Geography 2 <sup>nd</sup> year timetable 2021/2022			
Semester 1			
ECTS	Second Year	Coordinator	Day, Time
5	TI251 Theory & Practice (core)	Dr Kevin Lynch	Tues 1pm: IT250 Theatre Wed 5pm: AMB 1022 Fottrell Theatre
5	TI254 Space, Place & Irish Landscape	Prof Ulf Strohmayer	Mon 10am: Joseph Larmor Theatre Fri 9am: SC005 Tyndall Theatre
	<b>OR</b> TI216 Weather & Climate	Dr Audrey Morley	Fri 9am: Fottrell Theatre Fri 10am: Fottrell Theatre
5	TI235 Biogeography	Dr Terry Morley	Wed 3pm: IT 250 Theatre First Floor Thurs 10am: IT 250 Theatre First Floor
	<b>OR</b> TI229 Political & Cultural Geography	Elaine Williams	Mon 1pm: AMB 1023 Mairtin O tNuthail Theatre Wed 3pm: AC213 – Lecture Room
10	TI2102 Introduction to GIS	Dr Chaosheng Zhang	Mon 10am: IT125G Ground Floor
Semester 2			
5	TI252 Theory & Practice (core)	Dr Kevin Lynch	Mon 1pm: Anderson Lecture Theatre Wed 5pm: AUC G002 Theatre Aras Ui Chathail
5	TI258 Rural Environments	Dr John McDonagh	Mon 10am: IT250 First Floor Tues 1pm: Fottrell Theatre
	<b>OR</b> TI2104 Marine Spatial Planning	Dr Liam Carr	Mon 10am: IT125 Ground Floor Tues 1pm: IT125 Ground Floor
	<b>OR</b> TI2108 Introduction to Palaeoclimatology	Dr Aaron Potito	Mon 10am: Tyndall Theatre Tues 1pm: MY129 Lecture Hall 2
5	TI248 Coastal Environments	Dr Eugene Farrell	Wed 3pm: IT250 Theatre, First Floor Fri 10am: AMB1023 Mairtin O'Tnuthail Theatre
	<b>OR</b> TI230 Economic Geography	Dr Pat Collins	Wed 3pm: AM150 Mairtin O Tnuthail Theatre Fri 9am: Anderson Lecture Theatre

**\*15 ects are required for each semester**

## Key contacts in Geography

Head of Geography	<a href="#">Dr John McDonagh</a>
Geography Administrator	<a href="#">Christina Costello</a>
Senior Technician/Cartographer	<a href="#">Dr Siubhan Comer</a>
2 BA Programme Coordinator	<a href="#">Dr Kevin Lynch</a>
BA International / Visiting Students / Erasmus	<a href="#">Dr Chaosheng Zhang</a>
Staff-Student Liaison Officer	<a href="#">Dr Siubhan Comer</a>
Plagiarism Matters	<a href="#">Dr Una Murray</a>
Safety Officer	<a href="#">Dr Siubhan Comer</a>

Academic Year 2021-2022	
<b>2021</b>	
Orientation 1st years	Dates to be confirmed for Orientation
Start of teaching - 1 <sup>st</sup> Years*	Monday 27th September
End of teaching - 1 <sup>st</sup> Years*	Friday 17th December (12 weeks of teaching)
Start of teaching all other years	Monday 6th September
End of teaching all other years	Friday 26th November (12 weeks of teaching)
Study week	Monday 29th November to Friday 3rd December
Semester 1 exams start	Monday 6th December
Semester 1 exams end	Friday 17th December (10 days of exams)
Christmas Holiday	Saturday 18th December
<b>2022</b>	
Start of teaching	Monday 10th January
End of Teaching	Friday 1st April (12 weeks of teaching)
<b>Easter</b>	<b>Good Friday 15th April to Easter Monday 18th April</b>
Field Trips	Monday 4th April to Friday 8th April
Study Week	Monday 11th April to Friday 15th April
Semester 2 Exams Start	Tuesday 19th April
Semester 2 Exams End	Friday 6th May (13 days of exams)
Autumn Repeat Exams	Tuesday 2nd August to Friday 12th August (9 days of exams)
<b>Holidays</b>	<b>Easter: Good Friday 15th April to Easter Monday 18th April 2022</b>
<b>Bank Holidays: Monday 25th October 2021 / Thursday 17th March 2022 /</b>	
<b>Monday 2nd May 2022 / Monday 6th June 2022 / Monday 1st August 2022</b>	

## 2BA Geography Module Outlines 2021/2021

**Module:** TI 251 - Theory and Practice I (compulsory)  
**Lecturer:** Dr Kevin Lynch

The aim of this module is to further develop your understanding of the various aspects of doing geographical research and producing geographical knowledge. The focus is on four existing research clusters prioritised by Geography at NUI Galway: 1. Environmental Change; 2. Rural Change and Development; 3. Geopolitics and Justice; 4. Planning and Sustainability. You will be introduced to key concepts pertinent to each research cluster, supported by empirically- and theoretically-based case study examples of research being conducted by Geography academic staff at NUI Galway. You will gain a deeper understanding of the integration of theory and practice in geography. This module aims to provide a basis to develop your undergraduate research (dissertation) projects in your final year, and through this, a foundation for potential future study in Geography's postgraduate programmes.

Upon completion of this course, you will have:

- a deeper understanding of knowledge production in geographical research;
- a critical understanding of contemporary theoretical and methodological approaches to doing research in geography;
- the ability to think critically about what it means to 'do' geography.

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**Module:** TI 229 – Political and Cultural Geography  
**Lecturer:** Elaine Williams

This module provides a critical analysis of key concepts in political and cultural geography. Drawing on key geographic concepts the module provides a framework for understanding contemporary events with respect to culture, politics and the nation-state. It is divided into a series of distinct sections. The course begins with an analysis of issues linked to territoriality and the concepts of nationalism and the development of the nation-state. It progresses to examine focal events and issues associated with religious nationalism, racism, discrimination and the evils of genocide. This module also provides an introduction to the arenas of classical and critical geopolitics, interrogating aspects of a post 9/11 world. It will conclude by looking at the powerful position that the media holds in the transmission of knowledge and the legitimisation of action. A number of political and cultural geographies will be examined to illustrate concepts from the lectures and key readings, including: the construction of national identity in Ireland; division and conflict in Israel/Palestine; genocide in Bosnia and Rwanda; and the globalisation of terror.

**Module:** TI 216 – Weather & Climate

**Lecturer:** Dr Audrey Morley

This course is designed to provide students with applied example of weather and climate phenomena that have a strong impact on human activities. Each week will focus on an acute environmental problem that will be explained and analysed in in-class exercises. Case studies will focus on weather (e.g. storms, hurricanes, drought, flooding) and climate (e.g. past climate change and future global warming) events to provide students with context.

(Language of instruction: English)

*Learning Outcomes*

- Sketch and explain simple diagrams, maps, or figures relating to weather and climate related environmental issues.
- Explain extreme weather events (including storms and heat waves) in Ireland.
- Explain risks associated with global warming for Ireland and Europe.
- Discuss mechanisms controlling global and regional climatologies (e.g. Monsoons, El Niño)
- Diagram and explain positive and negative feedbacks in climate systems
- Use examples from Earth history to explain how Earth's climate changes on a variety of different timescales
- Comprehend a basic weather map

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**Module:** TI 248 – Coastal Environments

**Lecturer:** Dr Eugene Farrell

Most of the character of our shorelines is the result of the interaction of tides and waves operating on a platform of changing sea levels. If we consider sea level to be constant there are three primary variables driving coastal evolution: tides, waves, and sediment availability. The interaction of these processes impacts a wide range of coastal applications including sediment budgets, shoreline morphodynamics, long-term stability of beaches, coastal evolution, and assessing the impact of sea-level rise on coasts.

This module focuses on these themes by conducting

- a critical analysis of different coastal environments in Ireland,
- analyses of the different methods used in scientific experiments of coastal systems,
- an in depth analysis of sediment exchange along the nearshore-beach-dune continuum and
- assessments of how national climate policy impacts coastal management at community levels.

**Module:** TI 254: Space, Place and the Irish Landscape

**Lecturer:** Professor Ulf Strohmayer

This jointly taught module aims critically to explore the historical and contemporary complexities of Irish culture, place and landscape through select case-studies, thematic and/or locational, and through a range of theoretical concerns from both Archaeology and Geography. The module engages the key challenge of carefully contextualising and historicising understandings of landscape, heritage and environment, and exploring urgent contemporary questions of landscape/environment sustainability, governmentality and management. The module will provide an introduction to the various ways in which human societies interact(ed) with their environment, and will be able to provide both chronological depth and thematically-specific case-study knowledge of key sites and spaces across the island of Ireland.

*Key Learning Outcomes:*

The course aims to promote

- the ability critically to read the rich diversity of landscape, culture and heritage across the island of Ireland and to understand its key historical contexts
- the proficiency to deconstruct the various political, cultural, economic and symbolic significances of a range of Irish urban and rural landscapes
- the capability to see landscape, memory and heritage as concepts which are fluid, politically and socially constructed and reproduced, and ultimately contested the capacity to interpret representations of historical and contemporary landscapes from a range of theoretically informed and multi-disciplinary perspectives.

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**Module:** TI2102 - Introduction to GIS

**Lecturer:** Dr Chaosheng Zhang

*Module Objectives/Learning Outcome:*

- Understand basic concepts in GIS
- Solve basic GIS application problems
- Acquire computer skills in GIS, including data collection, editing, database management, basic analysis, and map design
- Produce professional GIS maps
- Analyse geographical data using GIS

This course covers the basic concepts and applications of a geographic information system (GIS). The topics of GIS data concept, data modelling, attribute management, data input and analysis are explained. GIS software ArcGIS is selected as the main training software package for computer practical in this course. Students will have general knowledge of a GIS and acquire the basic techniques of GIS software to independently produce professional maps and carry out spatial queries and GIS analyses. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to independently complete a simple GIS project.

*Lecture content*

- Introduction: overview, definition
- Spatial data concept
- Spatial data modelling
- Attribute data management
- Data input
- Data analysis

*Computer practical content*

- Getting started; Interacting with data; Coordinates; Symbolizing; Classifying

- Labelling; Layout design; Table joining; Selecting; Editing; Querying; Analyzing; QGIS

Practical: 44 hours Computer practical (AC 216 GIS Lab, Arts/Science Building)  
Extra hours Tutorial (Optional, for students needing help for the assignments)  
4 hours (2h on Monday/Tuesday + 2h on Tuesday/Wednesday) per week  
Due to Covid-19 restrictions, students are separated into 3 groups.  
Sign-up sheet will available via Blackboard in Week 1.  
Mon 12-2, 2-4, Tues 10-12, 12-2, Wed 9-11, 11-13.  
Computer practical starts from Week 2.

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**Module: TI 252 - Theory and Practice 2 (compulsory)**

**Lecturer: Dr Kevin Lynch**

The intention of this course is to develop students' understanding of the various traditions of doing geographical research and producing geographical knowledge. The course introduces students to both theory and practice in geography, focusing in particular on relationships between geographical concepts and the practices of geographical research. Geographical thought will be considered through lectures and assignments that examine the wide range of interconnected theoretical and methodological assumptions that underwrite analysis and evidence gathering in the discipline. In addition, the course aims to familiarise students with the different ways that geographers do research. Critical analysis of all approaches to geographical knowledge will be stressed. Particular emphasis is put on developing a critical understanding of what it means to do geography and make geographical claims.

Key Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students are expected:

- to gain an understanding of the history and practice of the discipline;
- to gain a critical understanding of the different theoretical and methodological approaches to all knowledge production in geography;
- to develop the ability to think critically about geography and what it means to 'do' geography.

**Module:** TI 258 - Rural Environments; Sustainability and Management  
**Lecturer:** Dr John McDonagh

**Module Outline:**

Rural areas are spaces of opportunity, engines of growth in a world of economic uncertainty. Rural areas are challenged in terms of their role in providing safe and secure food supplies; they are lauded and criticized in terms of climate change and mitigation. Alongside the decline in traditional activities there is equally a growth in terms of new demands being placed on rural environments, demands for quality food production, public amenity space, conservation and environmental protection. The multiple scales of these discussions, global to local, and the intensity and increased volume of rural debate that has emerged, sees rural geographers occupy a very interesting space in terms of conceptualisations, engagement and understanding of rural livelihoods and rural sustainability. Through the lens of agriculture and related spheres, this course seeks to explore some of these challenges as they are played out in contemporary society. The course uses national and international examples to explore such issues as agricultural policy particularly CAP, landscape management, conservation and sustainability. The aim of the course is one of encouraging students to view the rural as a combination of forces that interact within and between different systems to produce the complex environment in which we live. This course engages with key issues that focus on: CAP; Rural Policy and Strategy; Issues of Governance; Management issues; Multifunctionality; the *Family Farm*, Rural Tourism, Agri-environmental Policies and Rural Futures

*Key Learning Outcomes:*

- To understand the rural landscape its policy, governance and management
- To improve critical and analytical skills;
- To link theoretical observations with practical examples;
- To assess the principal methods and approaches that can be employed to develop our understanding of the rural landscape.

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**Module:** TI 235 - Biogeography  
**Lecturer:** Dr Terry Morley

This class provides an introduction to the study of biogeography. Bridging the fields of biology (particularly ecology) and geography, biogeography is the study of the spatial patterns of biological diversity and its causes. We will identify how historical, physical, and biological factors affect present and past distributions of individuals, species, populations, communities, and ecosystems. The actions of humans are a critical force impacting other species, and the human influence on past, present, and future species distributions is a central topic in this module.

*Key Learning Outcomes:*

This course offers a survey of the basics of biogeography and introduces students to various methodologies used in biogeographic research. Hands-on field, lab, and data analysis exercises will allow students to put learned concepts into practice, and give students experience working with the techniques used by biogeographers. The following learning outcomes are expected upon completion of this course:

- To identify and differentiate the basic principles and theories of biogeography
- Application of standard field methodologies and data analysis techniques used in biogeography to analyse and examine applied problems
- To assess and evaluate human impacts on species distributions and apply modern conservation strategies to these issues

**Module:** TI230 - Economic Geography  
**Lecturer:** Dr Pat Collins

Economic geography offers a unique perspective on many of today's key issues. From the economic restricting resulting from a global pandemic to the ongoing globalisation experiment, the aim of this course is to offer students an alternative viewpoint that comes from the plurality of approaches in economic geography.

The course will introduce you to some of the key thinking in economic geography, which seeks to explain the clustering and unevenness of economic activity throughout the world. It will explore the process of globalisation and the role of transnational corporations and foreign investment in that process.

An underlying theme of the course will be the impact of technology on the evolution and changing nature of economic activity. From infrastructure investments to smart phone, the new geography of economic activity is changing rapidly. Throughout the course you will be reminded of policy relevance of economic geography. In addition to examining regional development challenges, attention will also be given to the challenge faced by peripheral rural areas in exploiting the benefits of new technologies. The approach taken in this course will be very applied and related to the policy issues focused on by government agencies in Ireland such as the IDA Ireland, Enterprise Ireland and case studies of emerging industries (App developers and craft beer brewers). The course will consider economic geographies of recession as well as focus on the rise of creative and cultural economic geographies.

*Key Learning Outcomes:*

- An understanding of key issues in today's global economy
- An ability to critically engage with current debates on uneven development
- An understanding of the theory – policy – reality continuum and the place of academic thought.
- Exploration of case studies of particular industrial sectors
- A consideration of the lasting impacts of COVID 19.

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**Module:** TI 2104 - Marine Spatial Planning  
**Lecturer:** Dr Liam Carr

Marine spatial planning is promoted as a means of managing multiple human uses of the marine environment in a more sustainable manner than other approaches. This module focuses on the historical importance and context of the marine sector in securing economic and cultural goods, critiquing various single- and multi-sector management regimes and policies. Using case studies both from Ireland and abroad, this module covers: social-ecological systems, the social construction of the marine environment, ocean governance and citizenship, drivers of marine spatial planning, ecosystem-based management, and the collaborative planning of marine resources.

*Key Learning Outcomes:*

- Identify formal and informal institutions which structure human uses of the marine environment
- Interrogate formal and informal institutions through the application of appropriate geographic theories and concepts to develop an informed and intellectually grounded critique
- Apply geographic theories and concepts to marine and coastal social-ecological systems
- Creatively analyse, synthesise and present results and conclusions effectively and comprehensively, both orally and in written form

- Contribute effectively to the existing body of geographical and environmental knowledge through discussion, reading interpretation and analyses, and formative writing
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**Module:** TI 2108 Introduction to Palaeoclimatology

**Lecturer:** Dr Aaron Potito

This module introduces students to the field of palaeoclimatology (the study of past climates). Climate change is not a modern phenomenon, as Earth's systems are dynamic and rarely stable over extended periods of time. Climate variability occurs across multiple spatial and temporal scales, but we generally lack long enough scientific or historical records to directly measure most long-term patterns of climate change. Palaeoclimatology fills this void by offering evidence of environmental conditions across timescales, providing a broader context for studying modern environmental phenomena.

Key Learning Outcomes:

- Demonstrate an understanding of palaeoclimatology as it relates to modern environmental systems
- Critique the array of methodologies which are used in reconstructing past environments
- Assess long-term human-environment interactions through time
- Apply theoretical concepts in a real-world context through hands-on lab-based instruction

## Aspire modules

### Semester 1

- [BSS2103 Introduction to Sustainability: Tuesday 9-11am](#) Venue: Alice Perry Building, CE342  
(Module Co-Ordinator: Gesche Kindermann, School of Natural Science)

### Semester 2

- [BSS2104 Introduction to Sustainability:](#) (venue & time TBC)  
(Module Co-Ordinator: Gesche Kindermann, School of Natural Science)
- **AJ2114 Communicating Through Storytelling:** (venue & time TBC)  
(Module Co-ordinator: Tom Felle, Discipline of Journalism and Communication)

**Module:** **BSS2103) Introduction to Sustainability 1 (semester 1)**

**Module:** **(BSS2104) Introduction to Sustainability 2 (semester 2)**

**Lecturer:** **Gesche Kindermann, School of Natural Sciences ([gesche.kindermann@nuigalway.ie](mailto:gesche.kindermann@nuigalway.ie))**

The module is future oriented and explores the concept of sustainability in the face of global change. It encompasses a wide range of theory and practice, including social, economic and environmental issues, and links international examples to local context and relevance. The module will challenge students to critically reflect on sustainability and current approaches to sustainability.

**Module:** **(AJ2114) Communicating Through Storytelling**

**Lecturer** **Tom Felle, Discipline of Journalism and Communication ([tom.felle@nuigalway.ie](mailto:tom.felle@nuigalway.ie))**

Writing well is a foundational skill for graduates, and professional communication capacities are now essential requirements for the working world. This module will develop your understanding of communication giving you the capacity to weigh evidence, distil and prioritise information cogently, tell effective stories, make persuasive presentations and influence decisions. Module activities include lectures, practical classes, group work and an industry-based project. You will develop your digital literacy capacities via practical workshops.



NUI Galway  
OÉ Gaillimh

## School of Geography + Archaeology

*Scoil na Tíreolaíochta agus na Seandálaíochta*

### Geography Compulsory Cover Sheet

It is compulsory that you attach this cover sheet to your work. If you hand in a group assignment please use the table below on the right to list the other students in your group.

**Please:**

1. Use 12 font Times New Roman
2. Use 1.5 spacing
3. Ensure text is justified
4. Ensure all pages are securely stapled.

**Thank you.**

Group Assignments	
Name	I.D. No

Student I.D. Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: 1<sup>st</sup>  2<sup>nd</sup>  3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>

Module Code: TI\_\_\_\_\_ Module Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Course Tutor: \_\_\_\_\_

Assignment Title/Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of pages: \_\_\_\_\_ Word count: \_\_\_\_\_

Bibliography attached?  Yes  No

**I hereby certify that I understand what plagiarism is and that this essay is entirely my own work. Neither the paper in its entirety nor parts thereof have been published elsewhere in either paper or electronic form unless indicated through referencing.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Student ID in pen (handwritten)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**Result**

**%**

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