# **UNIVERSITY NEWS**

## A passion for Geography flourishes at the University of Wollongong

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# UOW offers Australia's first Bachelor of Geography

#### ATAR: 75 Course Duration: 3 years

The University of Wollongong acknowledges that never has there been a more exciting or important time to do Geography. There are new global challenges, problems and anomalies emerging that need creative solutions. The University of Wollongong recognised that a Geography degree provides graduates with an eclectic and interdisciplinary skill-set necessary to address these challenges. Graduates will be trained in both the skill sets of a scientist and a social scientist, alongside communication, writing, and analytical skills. UOW Geography graduates will be analytical and critical thinkers toward social, cultural and physical problems and issues. The UOW Bachelor of Geography provides graduates with a broad range of transferrable skills setting up a lifetime of career opportunities.

At UOW undergraduates will work with international leaders in the field of Geography. The degree is taught by staff within The School of Geography and Sustainable Communities, and the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences. The School of Geography and Sustainable Communities was formed 1 February 2016 within the Faculty of Social Science. The formation of a new School of Geography and Sustainable Communities



UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG AUSTRALIA



was in part recognition of the outstanding research track record within Human Geography. The School of Earth and Environmental Sciences continues as one of the UOW research strengths. Staff from the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences will lead a new Australian Research Council (ARC) Centre of Excellence for Australian Biodiversity and Heritage. Staff of the School of Geography and Sustainable Communities in collaboration with colleagues in the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences is very excited to be offering Australia's only Bachelor of Geography.

## The Bachelor of Geography – the degree in brief

The Bachelor of Geography combines physical Geography (natural science such as the study of processes and patterns in the natural environment), and Human Geography (examines interaction of human societies with the biophysical environment and analyses a diversity of cultural, economic, political and social processes across different geographical scales).

## University news

The first year will focus on foundation and introduction. The second year will move on to theory and method. And the third year will have a student centred project, involving field work or an internship.

There are a lot of highlights in this degree, particular around the practical nature of the degree including field trips, internships, and major projects. Excitingly, there is opportunity to go abroad in the third year of study. For the next three years the international fieldwork will provide learning and teaching opportunities in Bali, Indonesia.



UOW fieldtrip, Illawarra coastal region

### Who should do a Bachelor of Geography?

This degree speaks to the passionate geography student who wants to go beyond 'knowing'. The student who wants to delve into the explanation and the passion, who wants to work and study with the world's best, who is passionate about implementing change, and who wants to gain global perspective to apply to any problem or issue that needs a solution or answer.

It also speaks to students who are still in the 'deciding phase', and not quite sure where they want to be, postuniversity. As the learned skill-set is so versatile and transferrable, a Bachelor of Geography graduate can following their passion, or discover new ones!!

This degree is suited to students across the humanities and science streams.

To find out more about the degree and how to enrol, please visit our website: http://coursefinder.uow.edu.au/ geography/index.html

To find out more about the School of Geography and Sustainable Communities, please visit our school website: http://socialsciences.uow.edu.au/dgsc/index.html

### Geography students hold the key to the world's problems

#### Michael Palin

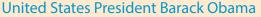
So many of the world's current issues – at a global scale and locally - boil down to geography, and need the geographers of the future to help us understand them. Global warming as it affects countries and regions, food and energy security, the degradation of land and soils from over-use and misuse, the spread of disease, the causes and consequences of migration, and the impacts of economic change on places and communities. These are just some of the challenges facing the next generation, which geographers must help solve.

It is a subject that helps young people into work. Many employers prize the knowledge and skills that studying geography can provide and geography in higher education is thriving. Geography students are among those gaining greatest satisfaction from their studies, and geography graduates have a relatively low level of unemployment.

It's no wonder there is a growing demand to study the subject at university.

See full article at: https://www.theguardian.com/education/2011/aug/18/geography-top-10-alevel-subjects

"The study of geography is about more than just memorizing places on a map. It's about understanding the complexity of our world, appreciating the diversity of cultures that exists across continents. And in the end, it's about using all that knowledge to help bridge divides and bring people together."





Source: https://geographyeducation.org/2012/09/06/president-obama-on-geography-education/



### Promote Geography linked careers in your school

See Study Geography, Careers posters order form on page 44