



Geography

Full details about the course are available from

www.geog.cam.ac.uk/undergraduate/

and

www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/courses/geography

The subject at Selwyn

Selwyn does not have a resident Fellow in Geography, but over recent years some of the best students in the Geography Department have come from Selwyn. The library in the College gives students easy access to a good range of relevant books. Supervisions are arranged by our Director of Studies and Selwyn students can expect to have supervisions with students from other Colleges, certainly in their second and third years and perhaps also in their first year.

Selwyn's record of success in the Geography course is determined by the very good candidates that we attract, and the fact that they tend to form a cohesive group and enjoy strong support from the College. The fact that Selwyn is known to encourage smaller subjects is an advantage.

The Ball Travel Fund has recently been created to support Selwyn Geographers who wish to undertake course related travel or other projects. It has already been used to assist with research visits to Iceland and the United States.

The Teaching Fellow

Our Director of Studies for the Geography Tripos is Dr Iain Black, who is Senior Tutor of Clare Hall. His research interests are primarily in Historical Geography.

Qualities we are looking for

Students must be enthusiastic and independent. They must combine a love of Geography with an eagerness to develop and test their own opinions about a variety of topics concerning our physical and human worlds. A lot of the subject matter in Geography is quite contentious and students are expected to develop reasoned views about matters that many people treat only in a prejudiced or superficial way. The course requires students to read a lot and, certainly in the first and second years, it asks them to show competence across a very wide range of subject matter. People who do well in Geography at Cambridge retain the curiosity about environment and society which first interested them in Geography at school.

Subject requirements

It is not necessary for candidates to have taken A Level Geography and some other combination of courses can suit students equally well for the demands the course makes upon them.

Pre-interview assessment

All candidates for Geography are asked to take a pre-interview written assessment, which will take place in schools and other assessment centres on **30 October 2019**. You must be registered in advance (separately to your UCAS application) to take the assessment. The registration deadline is **15 October 2019**. Your assessment centre must register you for the pre-interview assessment (you cannot register yourself).

Interviews

There are two interviews. One is with the Director of Studies for about half an hour. In that interview, the Director of Studies talks to the student about their experience of Geography both inside and outside the classroom, but will also ask questions about a brief piece of literature given to each applicant to read on the day. Students may be asked about any self-directed reading they have done and may also be invited to talk about any project work they have undertaken. Successful candidates will be those who show independence, enthusiasm and intelligence in their answers.

You will also have a shorter general interview. This is intended to let us find out more about your motivation in applying for Geography at Cambridge. It is intended to give us a fuller sense of your aptitude for your chosen course, the maturity of your approach towards academic work, and your interests in and beyond Geography.

Finding out more and Open Days

The Department of Geography will be participating in the Cambridge Open Days on 4 and 5 July. See the insert in our prospectus about this and other open days at Selwyn. Full details are also available on our website.



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