Course Information Document: Undergraduate

For students starting in Academic Year 2018/2019

1. Course Summary

Names of programme(s) and award title(s)	BSc (Hons) Geology BSc (Hons) Geology with Work Placement Year BSc (Hons) Geology with International Year (see Annex A for details)
Award type	Single Honours
Mode of study	Full time
Framework of Higher Education Qualification (FHEQ) level of final award	Level 6
Duration	3 years 4 years with International Year or Work Placement Year
Location of study	Keele University – main campus
Accreditation (if applicable)	Our courses are accredited by the Geological Society of London. This revised course, which has a new degree title, is due for accreditation in 2019. For further details see section 12
Regulator	Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE)
Tuition Fees	**UK/EU students:** Fee for 2018/19 is £9,250* **International students:** Fee for 2018/19 is £15,480** The fee for the international year abroad is calculated at 15% of the standard year fee The fee for the placement year is calculated at 20% of the standard year fee
Additional Costs	Refer to section 15

How this information might change: *Please read the important information at http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/. This explains how and why we may need to make changes to the information provided in this document and to help you understand how we will communicate with you if this happens.*

** These fees are regulated by Government. We reserve the right to increase fees in subsequent years of study in response to changes in government policy and/or changes to the law. If permitted by such change in policy or law, we may increase your fees by an inflationary amount or such other measure as required by government policy or the law. Please refer to the accompanying Student Terms & Conditions. Further information on fees can be found at http://www.keele.ac.uk/studentfunding/tuitionfees/*

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2. What is a Single Honours programme?

The Single Honours programme described in this document allows you to focus more or less exclusively on Geology. In keeping with Keele's commitment to breadth in the curriculum, the programme also gives you the opportunity to take some modules outside Geology at Level 4, in other disciplines and in modern foreign languages as part of a 360-credit Honours degree. Thus it enables you to gain, and be able to demonstrate, a distinctive range of graduate attributes.

3. Overview of the Programme

Geology is a fascinating subject that investigates how the Earth was formed, how life arose and evolved, why the Earth looks like it does today, what resources it contains and how we can find them.

Our industrial society is based on the work of geologists in the hunt for natural resources such as oil, gas, coal, minerals, metals, aggregates and water. If it hasn't been grown, then a geoscientist has discovered it. This means that future job opportunities for geoscientists are excellent as society develops increasing needs for these resources.

Geology draws on knowledge from geology, geophysics and geochemistry, and many different aspects of science such as chemistry, biology, and physics as well as other subjects such as geography, environmental studies and economics.

As such Geology is the ideal subject to choose as a single honours degree programme, whilst maintaining Keele's ethos of interdisciplinarity. We will teach you many employability skills that are valuable for everyday work not only in geology, but also in many fields of employment after you graduate.

4. Aims of the Programme

The broad aims of the programme are to:

- enable you to specialise in Geology via a three-year Single Honours programme to obtain a more in-depth experience of the subject, as well as gaining additional experience in independent project work and key skills
- provide a broad-based introduction to Geology at Level 4 that does not require previous knowledge of geology topics, and to utilise the material covered at Level 4 to lay the foundations for detailed study of geological concepts at Levels 5 & 6
- provide an understanding of the structure and composition of the Earth and other planets
- provide an integrated approach to understanding the present and past interactions between the physical, chemical and biological processes operating in the Earth's core, mantle, crust, and surface
- provide an appreciation of the history of the Earth over geological time scales
- promote an awareness of the dual context of the subject in society, as well as providing knowledge and understanding of both the exploitation and the conservation of the Earth's resources
- provide an appreciation of the scientific fundamentals in the geosciences and an adequate knowledge base for a career in research or industry
- emphasise the development of field, laboratory, presentational, writing and information technology skills to prepare graduates for independent work in their professional careers
- provide a fully integrated fieldwork programme, including overseas field courses
- provide appropriate monitoring schemes and feedback for students on their progress
- provide a wide choice of subject options and all-round education

5. What you will learn

The intended learning outcomes of the programme (what students should know, understand and be able to do at the end of the programme), can be described under the following headings:

- Subject knowledge and understanding
- Subject specific skills
- Intellectual skills
- Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Subject knowledge and understanding

Successful students will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- the terminology, nomenclature and classification of rocks, minerals, fossils and geological structures
- geological processes and how they integrate to shape the natural world at different temporal and spatial scales
- the structure and composition of the Earth and other planets
- geological time, including the principles of stratigraphy, the stratigraphic column, dating techniques, rates of Earth processes and major events in Earth history
- the evolution of life on Earth as revealed by the fossil record
- major geoscience paradigms, including uniformitarianism, the extent of geological time and plate tectonics
- the need for both a multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary approach to the development of knowledge in the geosciences
- the different components of the Earth system and how they interact to change the physical world and their impact on society
- different methods used in the observation, analysis, interpretation and representation of geological and geophysical information
- how the geology of a field study area can be used to illustrate and deepen understanding of the geological evolution of a wider region
- modern environments and processes, and use of this knowledge to interpret aspects of the geological record
- issues concerning the exploration, availability and sustainability of natural resources
- geological aspects of human impacts on the physical environment
- natural hazards and their impacts on society
- applications of Geology to the development of knowledge, wealth creation and improving quality of life

Subject specific skills

Successful students will be able to:

- identify a wide range of igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks, as well as a wide range of minerals, fossils and geological structures
- implement three-dimensional analysis with particular reference to the subsurface distribution and relationships of rocks observed at the surface
- collect and record geological and geophysical information in the field, including the production and interpretation of geological maps
- plan, design and execute an independent piece of project work in the geological sciences, including acquisition and recording of geological data in the field, followed by the processing, interpretation and presentation of this data, and the production of a final report
- make safe and effective use of a range of field equipment commonly used by the geoscience profession and develop an understanding of the scope and limitations of such equipment
- undertake effective fieldwork with due regard for safety, risk assessment, rights of access, relevant health and safety regulations and sensitivity to the impact of investigations on the environment

- work safely in a scientific laboratory, with awareness of standard methods and procedures and with due regard for risk assessment and relevant health and safety regulations
- prepare effective maps and diagrams using a range of appropriate technologies
- employ a variety of technical and laboratory-based methods for the collection and analysis of geological and geophysical information
- combine and interpret different types of geological and geophysical evidence using quantitative and qualitative approaches
- appreciate the issues of sample selection, accuracy, precision and uncertainty during collection, recording and analysis of geoscience data in the field and laboratory
- use powers of observation, analysis and imagination to make decisions in the light of uncertainty

Intellectual skills

Successful students will be able to:

- recognise and use subject-specific theories, concepts and principles to make reasoned decisions and solve problems
- analyse, synthesise and summarise data and information critically, including prior research
- collect and integrate several lines of evidence to formulate and test hypotheses, and make critical judgements
- apply knowledge and understanding to address familiar and unfamiliar problems
- assess the merits of contrasting theories, explanations and policies
- recognise the moral and ethical issues of investigations and appreciate the need for professional codes of conduct
- develop an adaptable and flexible approach to study and work
- identify and work towards targets for personal, academic and career development
- take responsibility for their own learning and develop a habit of reflection upon that learning

Key or transferable skills (including employability skills)

Successful students will be able to:

- develop and sustain effective approaches to learning and study, including time management, flexibility, creativity and intellectual integrity
- communicate effectively to a variety of audiences in written, verbal and graphical forms
- work with numerical data using appropriate qualitative and quantitative techniques, as well as computer software packages
- work effectively with a variety of types of information technology to analyse and present information and data, as well as solve numerical problems
- use the internet as a means of communication and a source of information
- demonstrate competence in spatial awareness and observation
- conduct field and laboratory studies
- reference work in an appropriate manner
- work with information handling and retrieval systems using data from a wide range of sources
- work effectively both as an individual and as part of a group or team, recognising and respecting the viewpoints of others
- sustain motivation to work towards a goal over an extended period of time
- recognise responsibilities as a local, national and international citizen

6. How is the Programme taught?

Learning and teaching methods used on the programme vary according to the subject matter and level of the module. They include the following:

- Lectures
- Workshops
- Practical classes
- Field courses
- Individual progress interviews
- Directed reading
- Group presentations and linked discussion
- Independent study and project work
- Use of e-learning/the Keele Learning Environment (KLE)

The directed reading and lecture slides available in advance on the KLE help you prepare for lectures and the practical classes reinforce concepts learned in lectures through problem solving and practical application of geological techniques. Some classes are taught in workshop format integrating both lecture and practical material. Fieldwork provides a deep, immersive learning experience that puts geological processes and their products into their four dimensional context. The independent mapping project provides the opportunity to bring together and demonstrate proficiency in all areas of geology.

Apart from these formal activities, students are also provided with regular opportunities to talk through particular areas of difficulty, and any special learning needs they may have, with their Personal Tutors or module lecturers on a one-to-one basis.

These learning and teaching methods enable students to achieve the learning outcomes of the programme in a variety of ways.

7. Teaching Staff

Currently our core teaching staff members comprises of a number of Senior Lecturers, Lecturers and Postdoctoral Teaching Fellows, who between them have expertise and interests in all major areas of earth sciences as well as complementary vocational disciplines such as computing and forensic science. In addition, members of the Geography and Environmental lecturing staff also contribute to the Geology degree programmes.

All current academic members of staff are active researchers and many have a distinguished track record in publication, the generation of grant income, industrial collaboration and journal editorship. Several staff have particular interests in the development of geoscience education and/or have played an active role in the promotion of UK geoscience activities (e.g. via membership of Geological Society committees). A number of members of staff are Fellows of the Higher Education Academy (F.H.E.A.) and one has an MA in Teaching and Learning. Many have professional qualifications such as Fellow of the Geological Society (F.G.S.), Chartered Geologist (C.Geol), European Geologist (EurGeol), Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society (F.R.A.S.), as well as others. Members of Geology staff have also won both group and individual Keele Teaching and Learning Excellence Awards.

The University will attempt to minimise changes to our core teaching teams, however, delivery of the programme depends on having a sufficient number of staff with the relevant expertise to ensure that the programme is taught to the appropriate academic standard.

Staff turnover, for example where key members of staff leave, fall ill or go on research leave, may result in changes to the programme's content. The University will endeavour to ensure that any impact on students is limited if such changes occur.

8. What is the Structure of the Programme?

The academic year runs from September to June and is divided into two semesters. The number of weeks of teaching will vary from course to course, but you can generally expect to attend scheduled teaching sessions

between the end of September and mid-December, and from mid-January to early May. Field courses and independent mapping can take place outside of these dates.

Our degree courses are organised into modules. Each module is usually a self-contained unit of study and each is usually assessed separately with the award of credits on the basis of 1 credit = 10 hours of student effort. An outline of the structure of the programme is provided in the tables below.

There are three types of module delivered as part of this programme. They are:

- Compulsory modules – a module that you are required to study on this course;
- Optional modules – these allow you some limited choice of what to study from a list of modules;
- Elective modules – a free choice of modules that count towards the overall credit requirement but not the number of subject-related credits.

The Geology programme is modular in structure. Students take 15 credits from an elective at Level 4, but otherwise just take modules in Geology. Students may select to transfer to study M. Geology at Levels 6 and 7 (see M. Geology Programme Specification for details), or continue with the Single Honours scheme at Level 6.

A summary of the total credit requirements per year is as follows, with a minimum of 90 subject credits (compulsory plus optional) required for each year.

Year	Compulsory	Optional		Electives	
		Min	Max	Min	Max
1	105	0	0	15	15
2	120	0	0	0	0
3	60	60	60	0	0

Module lists

Year 1 (Level 4)

It is assumed that students have no previous geological knowledge and therefore the Programme starts from basics. The programme provides a broad-based introduction to geological topics at Levels 4 & 5 with emphasis on the characteristics of rocks, minerals and fossils, together with the processes that govern their formation and development.

You have a free choice of one of the Free-Standing Elective modules offered by all Faculties within the University, including a modern language. An elective module is offered at Level 4 in order to enhance the interdisciplinary nature of the Geology degree course and to provide compatibility with part of the University's philosophy for undergraduate education, which is broadly based rather than over specialised.

Compulsory modules	Credits	Optional modules	Credits
Minerals, Rocks and Fossils †	30	None	
Earth Structure and History †	30		
Geology Data Visualisation, Analysis and Interpretation	30		
The Earth System	15		

† Module contains fieldwork

Year 2 (Level 5)

During Level 5 particular attention is paid to first hand observation, recording and interpretation of geological, geophysical and geochemical phenomena in the field and laboratory. By the end of the level you will have been given a complete grounding in geology that will allow you to carry out your own independent studies.

Compulsory modules	Credits	Optional modules	Credits
Petrology †	30	None	
Field Techniques †	30		
Geology & Society †	30		
Geochemistry	15		
Palaeoclimatology and Quaternary Studies †	15		

† Module contains fieldwork

Work Placement Year

Students taking the 4-year with 'Work Placement Year' undertake their work placement between Year-2 and Year-3 of their degree programme. During the work placement year, students undertake a work placement (minimum 30 weeks full time (1,050 hours) or equivalent) with a geologically-focussed company or organisation. Students take the year-long, non-credit bearing module:

Compulsory modules	Credits
Work Placement Year	n/a

International Year

Information relevant to students taking the International Year is available in Annex A.

Year 3 (Level 6)

This year starts during the summer vacation when students carry out an independent field project, which normally takes 5 weeks. During the autumn semester students prepare a dissertation based upon this field project. In addition, there is a choice of option modules/ programme approved electives from a wide range of geological subject areas. In addition, Geology students can select some Physical Geography option modules. The method and approach to teaching changes emphasis from staff-centred instruction at Levels 4 & 5 to more student- oriented activities, with components of several modules based upon independent or team-based project work.

There is also a change from modules based upon pure aspects of geological study to more applied aspects. It is intended that students should select their option modules according to their interests and career aspirations. Much of the content of these Level 6 option modules is based on research at the forefront of the discipline and helps to strengthen links between teaching and research.

Compulsory modules	Credits	Optional modules (Choose 60 Credits)	Credits
Geology: Independent Field Project †	30	Structure and Geodynamics †	15
Economic Geology †	15	Natural Hazards	15
Advanced Petrology and Structural Geology Field Course †	15	Hydrological and Engineering Geology	15
		Exploration Geophysics for Hydrocarbons	15
		Micropalaeontology: Principles and Applications †	15
		Advanced Topics in Sedimentology †	15
		Glaciers and Glacial Geomorphology *	15
		Global Environmental Change *	15
		Water Resources *	15
		Coastal Environments *	15

* No more than two of these Physical Geography modules may be taken
† Module contains fieldwork

For further information on the content of modules currently offered please visit:
www.keele.ac.uk/recordsandexams/az

9. Final and intermediate awards

Credits required for each level of academic award are as follows:

Honours Degree	360 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at levels 4, 5 and 6. You must accumulate at least 270 credits in Geology (out of 360 credits overall), with at least 90 credits in each of the three years of study, to graduate with a named single honours degree in Geology.
Diploma in Higher Education	240 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher and at least 120 credits at level 5 or higher
Certificate in Higher Education	120 credits	You will require at least 120 credits at level 4 or higher

Geology with International Year: in addition to the above students must pass a module covering the international year in order to graduate with a named degree in Geology with International Year. Students who do not complete, or fail the international year, will be transferred to the three-year Geology programme.

Geology with Work Placement Year: in addition to the above students must pass a non-credit bearing module covering the placement year in order to graduate with a named degree in Geology with placement year. Students who do not complete, or fail the placement year, will be transferred to the three-year Geology programme.

10. How is the Programme assessed?

The wide variety of assessment methods used within Geology at Keele reflects the broad range of knowledge and skills that are developed as you progress through the degree programme. Teaching staff pay particular attention to specifying clear assessment criteria and providing timely, regular and constructive feedback that helps to clarify things you did not understand and helps you to improve your performance. The following list is representative of the variety of assessment methods used within Geology:

- **Unseen closed and open book examinations** in different formats test your knowledge and understanding of the subject. Examinations may consist of essay, short answer and/or multiple choice questions
- **Technical reports** allow you to demonstrate your ability to articulate ideas clearly and concisely in a format used in the geological industry. Technical reports also develop and demonstrate research and presentation skills (including appropriate scholarly referencing)
- **Laboratory reports** – structured proformas and full laboratory reports are formal summaries of work carried out in the geological laboratory and test your understanding of the practical aspects of the programme and develop the skills necessary to enable you to present and analyse your results
- **Class tests** taken either in the geological laboratory or online via the Keele Learning Environment (KLE) assess your subject knowledge and your ability to apply it in a more structured and focused way
- **Dissertations** enable you to explore in depth an area of particular interest through a substantial piece of focused research and writing, and demonstrate a deeper understanding of geological issues

- **Field course exercises** allow you to demonstrate your understanding of geological features encountered in the field. This might include the contents of your field notebook, field sketches, geological logs and maps
- **Oral and poster presentations and reports** assess your subject knowledge and understanding and your ability to articulate this orally and graphically. Group work also tests your ability to work effectively as members of a team, and to reflect on these processes as part of your own personal development
- **Literature Syntheses** of other scholars' work test your ability to identify and summarise the key points of a text and to evaluate the quality of arguments and the evidence used to support them. They also help you provide a background context for your research project work
- **Portfolios** may consist of a range of different pieces of work but on a common theme to allow you to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding via a number of different formats

Marks are awarded for summative assessments designed to assess your achievement of learning outcomes. You will also be assessed formatively to enable you to monitor your own progress and to assist staff in identifying and addressing any specific learning needs. Feedback, including guidance on how you can improve the quality of your work, is also provided on all summative assessments within three working weeks of submission, unless there are compelling circumstances that make this impossible, and more informally in the course of tutorial and practical/workshop discussions.

11. Contact Time and Expected Workload

This contact time measure is intended to provide you with an indication of the type of activity you are likely to undertake during this programme. The data is compiled based on module choices and learning patterns of students on similar programmes in previous years. Every effort is made to ensure this data is a realistic representation of what you are likely to experience, but changes to programmes, teaching methods and assessment methods mean this data is representative and not specific.

Undergraduate courses at Keele contain an element of module choice; therefore, individual students will experience a different mix of contact time and assessment types dependent upon their own individual choice of modules. The figures below are an example of activities that a student may expect on your chosen course by year/stage of study. Contact time includes scheduled activities such as: lecture, seminar, tutorial, project supervision, demonstration, practical classes and labs, supervised time in labs/workshop, fieldwork and external visits. The figures are based on 1,200 hours of student effort each year for full-time students.

Activity	Year 1 (Level 4)	Year 2 (Level 5)	Year 3 (Level 6)
Scheduled learning and teaching activities	40%	44%	29%
Guided independent Study	60%	56%	71%
Placements	0%	0%	0%

12. Accreditation

The course equivalent to Single Honours Geology has been accredited by the Geological Society of London www.geolsoc.org.uk, which is the world's oldest geological society that was founded in 1807 by Royal Charter and is the UK national society for geoscience. It exists to promote the geosciences and the professional interests of UK geoscientists. The main aim of the accreditation scheme is to ensure that geology/geoscience degree courses are underpinned by well-maintained internal standards that satisfy the academic requirements of Fellowship of the Society and Chartered Geologist status.

If you successfully complete an accredited degree course will normally qualify for admission to Fellowship of the Society and for the award of Chartered Geologist status after a specified period of professional development and relevant experience.

Accreditation status was awarded in 2007, followed by successful applications for reaccreditation in 2014. The course is due for reaccreditation in 2019 which will cover the name change of the degree and revised structure.

13. Regulations

The University Regulations form the framework for learning, teaching and assessment and other aspects of the student experience. Further information about the University Regulations can be found at: http://www.keele.ac.uk/student-agreement/

Course Regulations

A student who has completed a semester abroad will not normally be eligible to transfer onto the International Year option.

It is not possible to take both the Work Placement Year and the International Year option.

Work Placement
To be eligible for the Work Placement Year, students must have a good University attendance record and be in 'good academic standing'. They must also have passed all Level 4 and Semester 1 Level 5 modules with an overall module average of > 55%. If a student chooses to start their work placement prior to the September of their placement year, then the student must ensure that they negotiate time off to attend any relevant field courses and fieldwork. Failure to attend field-courses or undertake fieldwork due to a work placement position will not be considered as exceptional circumstances.

Students undertaking work placements will be expected to complete a Health and Safety checklist prior to commencing their work experience and will be required to satisfy the Health and Safety regulations of the company or organisation at which they are based.

Students have the opportunity to apply directly for the 4-year 'with work placement year' degree programme, or to transfer onto the 4-year degree programme at the end of Year-1 and in Year-2 at the end of Semester 1. Students who are initially registered for the 4-year degree programme may transfer onto the 3-year degree programme at any point in time, prior to undertaking the year-long work placement. Students who fail to pass the work placement year, and those who fail to meet the minimum requirements of the work placement year module (minimum 30 weeks full time (1050 hours), or equivalent, work placement), will be automatically transferred onto the 3-year degree programme.

At this time there are no additional course regulations relating to accreditation. However, should these be required by the regulating body in the future, we might have to add programme regulations to maintain our accreditation. Should this be required we will inform you of any changes at the earliest opportunity.

14. Other learning opportunities

Study Abroad (International Year)

A summary of the International Year, which is a potential option for students after completion of year 2 (Level 5), is provided at Annex A.

Other opportunities

Fieldwork
Fieldwork is an essential part of a geologist's training and is intended to supplement and complement formal class teaching and develop the skills of observing and recording. It also establishes professional, social and cultural links outside the institution and develops an external dimension to the School's courses. The Geology programme includes field excursions to classic geological areas within the British Isles, as well as overseas field

courses to enable students to study the evolution of fundamentally different geological regimes. Due to the combined honours structure of Keele, field courses typically have to take place at weekends or during vacation time.

15. Additional costs

Geology Programme Costs

Field Course Costs

We offer a degree pathway where there are no charges to students for travel and accommodation taking field courses as a core part of their programme. The University pays for these costs. At Level 5 (second year), you have the option of attending the Almeria field course for free, or paying the extra cost of going to Utah above the level to which the Almeria field course is subsidised (approximately £850 in 2016/17). The potential additional cost is indicated at the start of the year, with details posted on student notice boards to enable you to make an informed decision on the choices available. In order to help you manage their field course costs, the payments are also spread over the course of the academic year, normally January, March and May. The first instalment is non-refundable due to the need to pre-book accommodation, flights, etc. in advance.

Students are expected to have adequate clothing for field trips including waterproofs and stout shoes. Some field courses are fully or partly catered for, others are self-catered and students are expected to purchase their own food.
All Geology students undertake an independent field project with five-weeks fieldwork carried out during the summer vacation between Levels 5 and 6 (years 2 and 3). Students are responsible for organising their own transport and accommodation as well as paying any costs incurred. These costs are extremely variable and not forecastable as they are dependent on where the student carries out their project. Costs are minimal if the project work is undertaken in the student's local home area.

Work Placement Costs

Students undertaking the work placement year will be responsible for organising their own work placement, with the support of the module tutors. This allows students to choose when and where to carry out their work placement, taking into consideration the potential living and travel expenses incurred and the effect on other times available to earn money. Students are encouraged to consider the potential costs incurred in carrying out the work placements at the time of setting these up.

Other Costs

As to be expected there will be additional costs for inter-library loans and potential overdue library fines, print and graduation.

We do not anticipate any further costs for this undergraduate programme.

IMPORTANT: Costs are only for indicative purposes and correct at the time of printing. Costs are dependent on the options chosen by students and susceptible to changes in the number of students taking field courses and changes in external factors such as flight and accommodation costs outside the University's control. In addition, we reserve the right to change the venues of field courses due to both cost and academic considerations.

These costs have been forecast by the University as accurately as possible but may be subject to change as a result of factors outside of our control (for example, increase in costs for external services). Forecast costs are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure they remain representative. Where additional costs are in direct control of the University we will ensure increases do not exceed 5%.

Activity	**Estimated cost**

Field courses including 1 week in South Wales, 1 week in North Wales and 1 week in Mull.	£0
Either: One-week residential field course to Almeria, Spain …… Or: Twelve-day residential field course to Western USA ……	£0 £850
Equipment: Hard hat, high visibility tabard, safety glasses provided at no cost. Stout outdoor shoes / walking boots and waterproof clothing essential……	Up to £150 if require outdoor clothing.
Total estimated additional costs: Depends on field course chosen and if have to purchase outdoor clothing.	Up to £150 or £1000

16. Document Version History

Date of first approved version (v1.0): 22nd September 2017

Revision history

Version number[1]	Author	Date	Summary of and rationale for changes

[1] 1.1, 1.2 etc. are used for minor changes and 2.0, 3.0 etc. for major changes (as defined in the University's Guidance on processes supporting curriculum changes)

Annex A

Single Honours Geology with International Year

International Year Programme
Students registered for Single Honours Geology may either be admitted for or apply to transfer during their period of study at Level 5 to the Single Honours 'Geology with International Year'. Students accepted onto this programme will have an extra year of study (the International Year) at an international partner institution after they have completed Year 2 (Level 5) at Keele. Students who successfully complete both the second year (Level 5) and the International Year will be permitted to progress to Level 6. Students who fail to satisfy the examiners in respect of the International Year will normally revert to the BSc (Hons) Geology and progress to Level 6 on that basis. The failure will be recorded on the student's final transcript. Study at Level 4, Level 5 and Level 6 will be as per the main body of this document. The additional detail contained in this annex will pertain solely to students registered for 'BSc (Hons) Geology with International Year'.
International Year Programme Aims
In addition to the programme aims specified in the main body of this document, the international year programme of study aims to provide students with: • Personal development as a student and a researcher with an appreciation of the international dimension of their subject • Experience of a different culture, academically, professionally and socially
Entry Requirements for the International Year
Students may apply to the 4-year programme during Level 5. Admission to the International Year is subject to successful application, interview and references from appropriate staff. The criteria to be applied are: • Academic Performance (an average of 60% across all modules at Level 5 is normally required) • General Aptitude (to be demonstrated by application for study abroad, interview during the 2nd semester of year 2 (Level 5), and by recommendation of the student's personal tutor and programme director)
Student Support
Students will be supported whilst on the International Year via the following methods: • Phone or Skype conversations with Study Abroad tutor, in line with recommended Personal Tutoring meeting points. • Support from the University's Global Education Team
Learning Outcomes
In addition to the learning outcomes specified in the main text of this document, students who complete a Keele undergraduate programme with International Year will be able to: • Describe, discuss and reflect upon the cultural and international differences and similarities of different learning environments • Discuss the benefits and challenges of global citizenship and internationalisation • Explain how their perspective on their academic discipline has been influenced by locating it within

an international setting.

In addition, students who complete 'Single Honours Geology with International Year' will be able to:

- Design, plan and critically evaluate a practical investigation within the geology, record relevant information accurately and systematically and be able to reflect upon the data in a critical manner.
- Integrate, apply and develop fundamental geology principles to describe and explain phenomena and solve problems in the context of selected topics within geology.

These learning outcomes will all be assessed by the submission of a satisfactory individual learning agreement, the successful completion of assessments at the partner institution and the submission of the reflective portfolio element of the international year module.

Course Regulations

Students registered for the 'BSc (Hons) Geology with International Year' are subject to the course specific regulations (if any) and the University regulations. In addition, during the International Year, the following regulations will apply:

Students undertaking the International Year must complete 120 credits, which must comprise at least 40% in the student's discipline area.

This may impact on your choice of modules to study, for example you will have to choose certain modules to ensure you have the discipline specific credits required.

Students are barred from studying any Geology module with significant overlap to Level 6 modules to be studied on their return. Significant overlap with Level 5 modules previously studied should also be avoided.

Additional costs for the International Year

Tuition fees for students on the International Year will be charged at 15% of the annual tuition fees for that year of study, as set out in Section 1. The International Year can be included in your Student Finance allocation, to find out more about your personal eligibility see: www.gov.uk

Students will have to bear the costs of travelling to and from their destination university, accommodation, food and personal costs. Depending on the destination they are studying at additional costs may include visas, study permits, residence permits, and compulsory health checks. Students should expect the total costs of studying abroad be greater than if they study in the UK, information is made available from the Global Education Team throughout the process, as costs will vary depending on destination.

Students studying in Erasmus+ destinations may be eligible for grants as part of this programme. Students studying outside of this programme may be eligible income dependent bursaries at Keele.
Students travel on a comprehensive Keele University insurance plan, for which there are currently no additional charges. Some Governments and/or universities require additional compulsory health coverage plans; costs for this will be advised during the application process.