Don’t worry about the future. 
**Fix it.**

Global Sustainable Development

Undergraduate Programmes
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Are you ready for GSD?

Global Sustainable Development (GSD) is “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”*. Our innovative undergraduate programmes challenge you to think critically about some of the world’s big questions and to consider practical solutions to these problems.

In 2005, the United Nations (UN) World Summit affirmed the concept of the three pillars of sustainability – economic, social and environmental – and our degrees are structured around these three pillars. This means that our modules provide an opportunity to engage critically and creatively with the UN Goals.

Our courses examine global issues from a variety of perspectives in order to fully investigate and understand issues; they look at and evaluate the different solutions offered, their implications, limitations and interconnectivity, and they give you the chance to explore your own alternative solutions. Along the way you’ll develop knowledge and understanding of a range of global sustainable development debates, as well as a host of valuable skills that will enhance your employability prospects and support your future as a global citizen. We’ll prepare you to be able to contribute to, stimulate and lead the debate on complex issues such as; what constitutes global citizenship and good governance, sustainable resource use, and the determination of ecological limits.

You can choose to study either our single honours GSD degree or select from our increasing range of joint honours degree programmes which combine the study of GSD with that of another, more traditional academic discipline.

**Why study GSD at Warwick?**

**Unique BASc degrees**

Our Bachelor of Arts and Sciences (BASc) degrees take a transdisciplinary approach that equips you to pursue careers in a variety of fields using skills that range across social sciences, sciences and the arts.

**Transdisciplinary approach**

The world faces a number of unprecedented challenges with widespread human and ecological ramifications. The consequences of which will occur across social equity, individual wellbeing, cultural cohesion, migration, governance, environmental change, and the production, distribution and use of food, material and resources. These challenges are interconnected and can’t be solved in isolation.

All of our degrees offer a transdisciplinary approach which will allow you to confront issues from a diverse array of perspectives in order to identify innovative solutions.

**For more information on how you’ll learn see page 6.**

**Research communities**

Warwick’s Global Research Priorities (GRPs) undertake pioneering interdisciplinary research across the globe.

The GRPs respond to complex multi-faceted global problems that can only be tackled through collaborative research excellence. They unite academics from different disciplines to address some of humanity’s most urgent questions, and create fertile ground for new ideas to flourish – enabling us to improve the lives of people around the world.

As a GSD student you’ll be able to engage in rich debates beyond your course, with the opportunity to interact with researchers, attend lectures, and engage with events hosted by the GRPs.

**Institute for Global Sustainable Development**

The Department is home to Warwick’s Institute for Global Sustainable Development (IGSD) which contributes to our GSD modules. IGSD provides a focal point for Warwick’s sustainable development research, contributing towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) but still challenging of them. IGSD’s vision is to be at the forefront of knowledge creation, enabling transformations towards a more sustainable, prosperous, healthier and just world for all.

It undertakes path-breaking transdisciplinary research and capacity development to tackle global challenges and enable changes in human-environment interactions. By establishing equitable partnerships with researchers and non-scientific stakeholders across the global North and the global South, IGSD works on challenge-led research projects that cross the boundaries of disciplines in the humanities, natural and social sciences, and achieve impact towards the SDGs.

**Unique study abroad programme**

We’ll support you if you want to extend your learning and broaden your perspective by studying overseas. You’ll have the unique opportunity to spend part of your second year studying abroad at our partner institution – Monash University, home to the Monash Sustainable Development Institute.

**For more information on studying abroad see page 11.**

**Professional development skills**

Employers need graduates who can consider global challenges from different perspectives, understand their complexity and competently contribute potential solutions using a variety of approaches. Our courses address this need by equipping you to work and live in a way that safeguards environmental, social and economic wellbeing in the present and for future generations, and by giving you the skills, knowledge and understanding to enable you to contribute to and lead on international debates at the highest levels on the world’s stage.

For more information on professional development see page 10.

**Dr Jess Savage, Senior Teaching Fellow in GSD**

“We’re empowering our students to engage actively in the sustainable development agenda to help us flip the narrative in global change from negative to positive.”

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**Warwick is ranked 7th overall among UK research universities**

(Research Excellence Framework (REF), 2014, the most recent UK-wide assessment)

**5th in the UK**

(The Guardian University Guide 2020, Geography & Environmental Studies category)

**Warwick is ranked in the UK Top 10**

(The Guardian University Guide 2020)

**Warwick is 77th in the World University Rankings**

(The Times Higher Education Rankings 2020)
How will I study & learn?

Whether you study our single honours degree or one of our joint honours programmes, you’ll have the flexibility to study the areas most interesting to you, as well as gaining a thorough grounding of the fundamental principles surrounding sustainable development.

Practical activities are at the heart of the way in which issues are examined, so there will be plenty of opportunities for you to work with your fellow GSD students – who may have differing views to your own! - to think about how problems within the field of sustainable development could be tackled.

Support

Your personal tutor

You’ll be assigned a personal tutor who you can talk to about any issues or queries you might have about your academic life and student journey. You’ll meet your personal tutor regularly, however, you’ll also be able to contact your personal tutor at any point should you need to.

Our office hours

Our academics allocate several hours a week just so you can arrange to come and see them to discuss your studies.

Directors of Student Experience

GSD has two Directors of Student Experience who are dedicated to helping you get the most out of your time at Warwick and reach your potential in your degree.

Undergraduate Office

Our Undergraduate Office is open throughout the week to answer your general queries.

There’s a pandemic. A rogue state has the cure. Do you trade?

“GSD is unique compared to all other courses as it has some of the most passionate lecturers and encourages its students to not only think critically but also practically about viable solutions to sustainable development.”

Natalya, Politics, International Studies and GSD student

It’s not all about exams and essays...

Of course, exams and essays can be useful assessment tools for testing knowledge, but in the workplace, people don’t often get their point across by means of an academic essay.

We want to prepare you to be effective and successful professionals, so we assess your progress and understanding using different methods designed to correspond with the types of outputs that you’ll be expected to produce in the work environment. For example, you’ll produce research papers, reports, policy briefings, posters, portfolios and presentations.

You’ll contribute to group projects, as well as present your work in a public forum such as the British Conference of Undergraduate Research or the International Conference of Undergraduate Research.

Single honours degree

Our flexible single honours GSD course offers you a unique transdisciplinary and international learning experience in which you’ll examine, in depth, the economic, social, environmental and governance factors that shape our understanding of GSD. Using a range of methods of enquiry from the social sciences, humanities and sciences you’ll explore a number of big problems such as food security and inequality. You’ll engage with the concepts of social justice, ethics and wellbeing to assess how they relate to ecological and economic factors.

The course aims to give you in-depth knowledge of key challenges in sustainable development alongside how they are being and could be tackled; fostering the acquisition of a future facing outlook in which you think about the consequences of actions, and how systems and societies can be adapted to ensure sustainability.

Your core modules in each year of the course are complemented by optional modules that allow you to focus on the issues of sustainable development of most interest to you as an individual, preparing you to make significant, meaningful interventions.

Joint honours degrees

If you choose to study one of our joint honours degrees, your teaching will be equally split between modules in GSD and modules from your chosen discipline. This structure ensures that you’re taught the key principles and theories that underpin your studies and that you’re able to apply them to problems of contemporary significance. You’ll gain both depth of understanding and knowledge, and practical experience in tackling issues - ideal preparation for a global change maker.

You can study GSD alongside the following disciplines:

- Business Studies
- Economic Studies
- Education Studies
- Hispanic Studies
- History
- Life Sciences
- Philosophy
- Politics and International Studies (PAIS)
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Theatre and Performance Studies
Year One

In your first year, regardless of the course you choose, your core modules will teach you the principles of GSD as identified by the UN and will give you the chance to see how those principles apply to a real case affecting a local community through a research project.

The research which you’ll undertake won’t just be desk-based. You’ll be out in the local community speaking to people and using research techniques employed by the professionals. So, you’ll learn the theories and then have an opportunity to put your learning into practice.

This is a key feature of the way in which our courses are taught and it means that you’re developing skills right from the start of your degree that are going to stand you in good stead when it comes to the rest of the course and your life beyond Warwick. Many undergraduate degrees don’t give students an opportunity to do any real research until the final year of the course.

Year Two

In your second year you’re able to start investigating the big problems that concern you as an aspiring global citizen, with the knowledge to execute meaningful interventions. You’ll choose from three GSD modules focussing on food, health, or inequalities – these are complex topics affecting societies across the world which the UN has pledged to address. You’ll learn and use a range of methods from the sciences, social sciences and humanities to delve into the relationships between each and the challenge of sustainable development.

In your second year you can also study other issues of sustainable development as you’ll be able to pursue modules offered both by GSD and other academic departments around the University which are investigating global issues.

Final Year

In your final year you’ll have the opportunity to bring together everything that you’ve learned about GSD in a dissertation by presenting your knowledge, ideas and conclusions on an issue or question which is of particular concern or interest to you – a problem that you want to address. You’ll be supported in your research activity by supervisors with expertise on your chosen topic.
Joint honours degrees

GSD and Business Studies

You’ll learn at the internationally renowned Warwick Business School (WBS), home to some of the world’s leading experts in business studies. In your first year, you’ll acquire an understanding of the key theories and fundamental approaches of business studies. Second-year modules will develop your analytical skills and explore how these can be applied to problems in the world around us.

You’ll also be able to choose from module options offered by WBS according to your individual intellectual interests. Options available to current students include Business Law, Marketing and Managing Organisations. In your final year, you can tailor your module choices to enrich the focus of your GSD dissertation.

“Studying business along with GSD makes you aware of the crucial importance of incorporating the notion of sustainability in contemporary companies. It makes you understand that reforming businesses is the starting point for reforming the world.”

Faisal, GSD and Business Studies alumna

Economic Studies and GSD

Economics modules in your first and second years will develop your understanding of the fundamental concepts in micro and macroeconomic analysis. They will also introduce analytical skills and statistical techniques, including the use of statistical computer packages, and consider how these can be applied to problems in the world around us.

In your final year, core Economics modules explore the key macro and micro economic issues facing developing countries, including poverty, malnutrition, international trade, gender inequalities, healthcare and education. You can also choose modules from within the Economics Department that focus on issues that will inform your research for the final-year GSD dissertation.

“Both Economics and GSD are concerned with wellbeing and allocation of finite resources. On the one hand, economic policy is at the core of sustainable development solutions. On the other hand, economic development has long been pursued without considerations of social justice and environmental sustainability. Undoubtedly, the combination of Economics and GSD allows you to critically consider this complicated relationship, while providing you with a set of highly complementary skills, ranging from advanced mathematical and statistical techniques to critical thinking and analytical skills.”

Dr Marta Guerriero, Associate Professor in GSD

Education Studies and GSD

In your first year, core Education Studies modules introduce you to the contested nature of education, state of the art theorising within the field and creative approaches to teaching and learning. In your second year, you’ll develop a deeper understanding of the role of education within society, both nationally and internationally. You’ll have the opportunity to undertake a unique, integrated work placement module, allowing you to explore future career pathways and possible real world application of your broader learning. In your final year, you’ll be focusing on either society, culture, creativity or learning, while following core modules that develop the theoretical and research-based underpinnings of the subject.

“Taken in its entirety, this degree offers students an in-depth understanding of the contemporary social-economic and environmental challenges that face our world, but also how education might be conceived and practiced, in a manner that ultimately realises its long touted potential to respond. Education must be a core component of the Sustainable Development agenda, and this degree will well equip students to make sure of this!”

Dr Alastair Smith, Senior Teaching Fellow in GSD

Hispanic Studies and GSD

Modules in your first year will help you develop your knowledge of the Spanish language either from a beginners’ level or from a more advanced level (GCSE, AS or A level). You’ll also learn about Hispanic cultures and societies through the Hispanic cultural modules. In your second and final year, your modules will be divided between core language modules and a selection of optional Hispanic cultural modules, where you’ll be able to develop in-depth knowledge in topics of your interest about the Spanish-speaking world, while at the same time acquiring excellent communication and research skills. Cultural module choices available to our current students include topics such as film, human rights, and nature in Hispanic countries.

“This course offers you a unique opportunity to study a language and its cultural context from a different but complementary perspective. You’ll spend time looking at Latin America and the Caribbean, examining topics such as environmental issues, economic inequalities, and human rights violations. Using a problem-based approach, you’ll explore current issues while taking into consideration their respective cultural and linguistic context.”

Dr Stéphanie Panichelli-Batalia, Associate Professor in GSD and Head of the School for Cross-faculty Studies

History and GSD

First-year core modules introduce you to a variety of approaches to the study of history as you consider the subject from the points of view of culture, identity and the environment. You’ll develop your historical knowledge of the modern world from the mid-18th century and explore the practice of history through the research process - from primary sources through to the presentation, dissemination, manipulation and consumption of historical interpretation. In your second year, you can choose module options according to those aspects of early modern history which interest you most. In your final year you’ll be able to choose optional History modules from a wide range of topics, such as the history of gender and food.

“History and GSD has combined my interests in my world’s past, present, and future. This allows me to explore and understand how culture, science, politics, money, and our ever-changing environment shapes the decisions we make. By studying a joint degree, I can better understand topics such as the global economic situation by drawing on the history of colonialism and slavery, and what impact these chains of events are having on global sustainability.”

Emily, History and GSD student
Life Sciences and GSD
Your Life Sciences modules will provide you with crucial knowledge of biological theories and ecological processes that underpin our natural world. You’ll be introduced to evolution, genetics, population studies, and a range of other theoretical frameworks. You’ll also take part in hands-on workshops, innovative labs, and thought-provoking field trips. As the modules are approved, they will be included in the core modules for Life Sciences are currently second year of this degree for 2021 entry. The unique opportunity. This one-of-
GSD simultaneously is a truly “Studying both Life Sciences and also a number of opportunities to get in Biology, Principles of Development, Management, Exploiting Innovations Our current students are taking options such as Social Learning and Management, Exploiting Innovations in Biology, Principles of Development, and Science Communication. There are also a number of opportunities to get involved with key research projects. “Studying both Life Sciences and GSD simultaneously is a truly unique opportunity. This one-of-a-kind course empowers students to bridge the gap between the sciences and the interdisciplinary global sustainability agenda.” Dr Jess Savage, Senior Teaching Fellow in GSD

Philosophy and GSD
A first-year introductory module examines the ideas and arguments of some of the major philosophers in the history of the subject, and addresses key issues at the frontiers of philosophical debate and research. In your second year, you’ll focus on developing a range of analytical skills and considering how these can be applied to problems in the world around us. Throughout your degree you’ll also be able to select from a range of optional modules offered by the Department of Philosophy, enabling you to focus your degree on the areas or issues that you want to explore more fully. Optional modules available to our current students range from ethics to the philosophy of terrorism and religion. “Marcus Aurelius wrote that ‘the soul becomes dyed with the colour of its thoughts’. This defines what it means to study Philosophy and GSD. Philosophy is the foundation of everything we do; if we do not first understand how to think, we cannot understand how to act. The more we learn of ourselves, others, and the universe, the more connections our souls can make; this interconnectedness is perhaps how we might learn to live beyond ourselves.”
Elizabeth, Philosophy and GSD student

PAIS and GSD
During your first year, core modules introduce the main issues, theoretical perspectives, processes and core concepts in the study of politics. You’ll also gain an overview of international politics and the theoretical and empirical study of international relations. Second-year core modules examine the political philosophy of some of the most important European writers from 1640 onwards.
A final-year core module on Issues of Political Theory analyses and assesses opposing arguments in political philosophy and relates those arguments to contemporary political and social issues. In your second and third years, you’ll also be able to choose from a variety of optional PAIS modules. For current students these include Politics of International Development, International Security, and Gender and Development – enabling you to examine specialised topics in depth.
“I have found PAIS and GSD to interlink so much, and any time I feel like I’m struggling with one side, I find the reading from the other somehow always links and helps me with my understanding of what I’m learning. I feel really lucky to work with students from a broad range of disciplines, in seminars we constantly critically analyse global challenges and solve problems from different perspectives, which for far too long have been separate discourses.” Hollie, PAIS and GSD student

Psychology and GSD
Your first year provides a general introduction to the subject of Psychology, its core topics and its history, which is designed to stimulate your interest in the discipline. You’ll then explore some of these issues in more depth through your choice of second-year modules. For current students, these options include Language and Cognition, Psychobiology, Social Psychology, and Perception, Planning and Action. In your third year, you’ll contemplate your subject of study by choosing modules that focus on contemporary themes in Psychology, which may enrich the focus of your dissertation. An understanding of how and why people act and react in the way that they do, gained through a study of Psychology, can support the change in human attitude and action that is required in order to positively impact the planet and secure its future survival.
“We are the vital key to understanding how to deal with all other dimensions affecting the success of humanity. It was through learning about the development of the human psyche during childhood and adolescence, how to influence human behaviours using psychology, and how these are all witnessed in real life situations that this understanding was enriched. Being able to see GSD issues through a psychological lens has proved invaluable to me, not only academically, but personally in my own quest to live more sustainably.”
Anna, Psychology and GSD alumni

Sociology and GSD
You’ll build a solid foundation of essential analytical, professional, and research-based skills in your first-year Sociology modules. In your second year, you’ll learn about the development of Sociology as an academic discipline and the approaches taken by key practitioners, as well as different ways societies have been organised. You’ll learn how to assess these and gain practical skills for planning and carrying out social research. In your third year you’ll have a choice of modules. For current students, these options include Social Movements and Political Action, State Crime, Human Rights and Global Wrongs, and Racism and Xenophobia.
“Sociology, as the study of society, is perfectly placed to accompany the study of global sustainable development. Unfortunately, too often sustainability is discussed in terms of its environmental dimensions without enough attention paid to questions about why the current organisation of society might itself be unsustainable, or how we might develop social-environmental relationships that are less environmentally harmful. Studying Sociology and GSD together helps to put you at the forefront of the study of sustainability in addressing these neglected questions.”
Dr Leon Sealey-Huggins, Assistant Professor in GSD

Theatre and Performance Studies and GSD
First-year modules will introduce you to the key issues and theoretical concepts underpinning the study of theatre and performance. You’ll also explore how these intersect with politics and culture, and look at the practical techniques and skills required to perform to an audience. In your second and third years, you can choose from a variety of modules offered by Theatre and Performance Studies to explore those issues that interest you most. Your third year choices can be tailored to feed into your chosen dissertation topic. Second and third year options available to current students include Writing for Theatre and Performance, Theatre and National Identities and Performing Gender and Sexuality.
“Whenver I tell anyone that I study Theatre and GSD, there’s always this sense of incredulity, followed by a pleasant surprise that it exists. Having such a unique combination has allowed me to view the world from different perspectives, but more importantly apply different approaches to timely issues. It is also this that encourages me to push for more creative and innovative solutions that affect a wider range of people.”
Dr Leon Sealey-Huggins, Assistant Professor in GSD and GSD student

* Please note, we are making changes to the second year of this degree for 2021 entry. The core modules for Life Sciences are currently undergoing approval through the University’s rigorous academic processes. As modules are approved, they will be included in the module list on our website. If you have any queries, it is very important that you check our webpage for the latest information before you apply and prior to accepting an offer.
Core GSD modules

Year One

Economic Principles of GSD
Why and how do economists address issues of global sustainable development? In this module, you’ll learn about the relationship between economic activity, social justice and environmental sustainability, the economic theories that underpin sustainable development policy interventions and how those theories impact upon policy design.

After studying this module, you’ll be able to apply fundamental economic principles to the analysis of global sustainable development problems. You’ll also understand how economic policies intended to address those problems are developed and be able to offer informed critiques of such policies.

Social Principles of GSD
This introductory module examines in depth the concepts that allow you to analyse and interpret the social and political issues related to global sustainable development. You’ll learn to understand and evaluate the most pressing social and political dimensions of sustainability at national and international levels.

Upon completing this module, you’ll have acquired the knowledge and understanding to be able to offer a well-informed and evidence-based explanation of the social and political dimensions of key challenges such as: inequality, environmental harm, health, and food. You’ll also be able to explain the threats to social cohesion caused by forms of economic development, reflect critically on the reasons why some countries are considered developed while others have stayed poor, and understand and write critically about the continuing challenges of attempting to provide “Education for all” and “Health for all”.

Environmental Principles of GSD
This module is structured around an emerging global consensus that humans are compromising the global biosphere by transgressing nine Planetary Boundaries, the result of which will be fundamental and irreversible change that significantly compromises the safe operating space for human development.

We focus on the natural science of these environmental issues - covering well known topics like climate change and biodiversity loss, as well as less prominent problems, such as biochemical flows. We evaluate existing governance and management efforts, and develop innovative responses of our own. You’ll be taught how to write a policy briefing and will prepare one on your chosen subject aimed at a specific decision-making audience. Then, you’ll convert your brief to a policy pitch, a two minute ‘sell’ of your proposals. By the end of this module, you’ll possess key knowledge of environmental principles and also skills valuable for creating meaningful change in the world of work, governance and/or activism.

GSD Project
This is an innovative and practical module designed to give you crucial research and analysis skills linked to the important issue of sustainable transport. The module is taught by a number of experts in the field and working on your own and as part of a team, you’ll be required to carry out research that will advance your understanding of the application of theories you’ll have studied in your other first-year modules.

Year Two

Security, Sovereignty and Sustainability in the Global Food System
(Optional core module)

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), agreed in 2015, commit the international community to a set of 17 goals to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity. Of these, Goal 2 specifically aims to end hunger, end all forms of malnutrition, and ensure sustainable food production systems by 2030.

The pressing need for such initiatives is stark: we inhabit a world where at least 800 million people are chronically undernourished. The world population is projected to increase to a staggering 10 billion people by 2050, yet who will be responsible for ensuring all these mouths are fed? And can we ever produce and consume food for so many people without causing an unsustainable impact on our environment?

Food security, sustainability and sovereignty are thus crucial issues confronting the world today, and it is these issues which this module seeks to introduce and evaluate. The module is taught in collaboration with active researchers from across various disciplines at Warwick, especially those involved in the University’s Global Research Priority on Food.

Health and Sustainable Development
(Optional core module)

Viable and equitable solutions in health and sustainable development require interdisciplinary and critical thinking. The first part of the module will introduce you to fundamental concepts of global health governance and health systems, and acquaint you with key global health priorities like drug resistance and mental health from the perspective of GSD.

The second part of the module will focus on issues that relate to policies and behavioural change, and are also applicable beyond health, for example in areas like education or technology transfer.

Alongside the module content, you’ll have the opportunity to develop your analytical skills to make independent, critical, and constructive contributions to Health and Sustainable Development.

Inequalities and Sustainable Development: Inclusion and Dignity for All
(Optional core module)

This module focuses on how inequalities shape our societies, economies, environments and politics. Starting with the question Does inequality matter?, you’ll critically reflect on the UN’s decision to integrate inequalities into the Sustainable Development Agenda. You’ll then explore six different dimensions of inequalities (work, politics, environmental justice, societal discrimination, automation and globalisation, opportunities and empowerment) and gain an understanding of the complexities of these problems.

Finally, you’ll appreciate the challenges faced by today’s policy makers who aim to address issues of inequalities while taking into consideration all three pillars of sustainable development.

Can we ever produce and consume food for so many people without causing an unsustainable impact on our environment?
Dissertation
In this final-year module you’ll bring together all of your learning and experiences on the course – the theoretical concepts and principles and your practical know-how – in order to address a specific sustainable development problem of your own choosing. This will be a problem that concerns you most and which you’d like to tackle.

You’ll be supported by an academic supervisor to devise a suitable project and to undertake research to explore the issue, taking a transdisciplinary approach to your investigation in order to produce an original research output. This may be a concept paper, a practical project, a film production, a long essay, an advocacy campaign etc. – use your creativity!

You’ll design a strategy for disseminating your findings (for example at a conference presentation, via online publication or an article in a journal or at a public meeting that you’ve arranged). This provides you with an opportunity to get your voice heard in a forum where it matters and could have lasting impact.

“My favourite aspect of the GSD course at Warwick is the final-year dissertation. This is an opportunity for students to intervene in a genuine real-life issue and the best thing about this is that you can do so in a creative way.”

Rhys,
Single honours GSD alumnus

Realising Sustainable Development
This module aims to stimulate your creativity, vision and flexibility by giving you the chance to engage in small-scale, community-based projects, within the University campus and its locality.

You’ll be putting into practice the theories, techniques and principles that you’ve learned so far, working alongside a range of stakeholders including professionals, volunteers and government officials to diagnose problems and generate ideas for more sustainable approaches.

You’ll gain an appreciation of the complexities inherent in implementation, including the diversity of perspectives on key issues and thus potential trade-offs necessary in order to effect change. Your work on the project is supported by a series of workshops that are led by practitioners. This module provides an ideal opportunity to experience what it might be like to work as a sustainability professional.

Optional GSD modules
We’re continually updating our list of optional modules to reflect the latest research and expertise within our Department. Please visit warwick.ac.uk/gsd for the most up-to-date list of options. For current students, a selection of our optional GSD modules include:

Managing Natural Resources
Oil. Fish. Bananas. Everything about the way our society has evolved and operates relates to the way in which we use such natural resources. While there are myriad global policies and targets to help mitigate the damage caused by humans, these policies are designed to fundamentally alter the way humans interact with their environment.

This module investigates what the different relationships between humans and their environment look like. Tackling different case studies focused on various resources and across a number of global regions, you’ll investigate how policies manifest on the ground, and you’ll critically explore future pathways for natural resource management.

Surviving the Apocalypse
In this highly topical module, we explore the challenges of contemporary social, economic and political disorder, and ecosystems breakdown. You’ll think through contemporary crises in terms of the possibilities and limitations of different, more or less collective, responses. Part of the reason human societies are unable to respond to the crises they face is due to the methods of thinking that dominate. This module aims to provide a space in which we’ll collaboratively explore responses to crises.

Credit: Katharine McEnery,
Life Sciences and GSD,
winner of GSD Student Photo Competition 2017-18
Study abroad

Your university experience could be a truly global one by studying overseas. You can access study abroad opportunities via two routes:

1. Study abroad for part of your second year
   Spend the second and third terms of your second year studying at Monash University, home to the Monash Sustainable Development Institute. Your time at Monash will be part of your degree, so you’ll graduate in three years. You’ll therefore gain the benefits of studying abroad without extending the length of your course. Your academic achievements abroad will count towards your degree awarded by Warwick, meaning your studies will be both rewarding and rewarded! This is a unique opportunity exclusively available to you as a GSD student.

   You’ll have the chance to enhance your global outlook as you experience Monash’s approach towards issues of global sustainable development. You’ll learn to appreciate that different corners of the world have different concerns and priorities for sustainable development, as well as different ways of tackling issues. You’ll be able to broaden your learning in new and exciting ways by taking modules beyond the ones offered at Warwick.

2. Year-long study abroad
   If you want to extend your learning and broaden your perspective by studying abroad for a year, Warwick has partnerships with universities across the world. You’ll spend your first and second years at Warwick, studying abroad in your third year. You’ll then return to Warwick for your final year. Your year abroad won’t count towards your overall final mark (but it will be recorded on your Higher Education Achievement Report), giving you the freedom to take chances with your module choices and push yourself outside of your comfort zone with your learning. Depending on your destination, you’ll have the opportunity to learn a new language and immerse yourself in a new learning context.

   “Whilst my aim in picking modules was to be related to what I study back at Warwick, I really wanted to make use of the diversity and interdisciplinarity of courses in Canada, and take modules that wouldn’t be available when I get back home.”

   Meredith, Sociology and GSD student, Intercalated study abroad placement at Queen’s University, Canada

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“Living abroad has certainly benefited my attitudes, mostly due to the interaction with very international people. Although both Warwick and Monash attract many international students, very few students at Monash are European. Instead, the great majority come from India, China, Canada, and the US. This leads to the interaction with very different cultures and points of view, and the desire to understand these more profoundly.”

Josefa, GSD and Business Studies alumna

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We continually see our students immersing themselves in their Monash experience: GSD alumni, Hannah and Liam studied at Monash and joined Monash SEED, a society empowering students to create a positive social impact. On returning to Warwick, Hannah and Liam co-founded Warwick SEED: a society promoting social impact careers and global collaboration. In 2019 Hannah and Liam were jointly awarded Warwick’s Outstanding Student Contribution Award for the significant difference they made to our community through Warwick SEED.

“When I studied at Monash University in my second year, we had an introductory week where I came across ‘Borrow Cup’, a free reusable cup sharing system which cuts down on waste from campus coffee shops. The project was a student-led enterprise, supported by the University and its sustainability team. This was a great opportunity to get involved with something that I was passionate about and that was related to GSD.”

Maddie, PAIS and GSD student

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“Whilst my aim in picking modules was to be related to what I study back at Warwick, I really wanted to make use of the diversity and interdisciplinarity of courses in Canada, and take modules that wouldn’t be available when I get back home.”

Meredith, Sociology and GSD student, Intercalated study abroad placement at Queen’s University, Canada
Professional development

We acknowledge the importance of employability skills and we’ve embedded them as part of your studies.

Our degrees have been designed to develop the core skills that employers seek in graduates. You’ll have the opportunity to complete unique professional development certificates and engage in different work placements.

Professional development certificates

We offer a series of certificates outside of the curriculum as a way of continuing your professional development. These certificates will help you enhance the skills identified by employers as being vital for success in the workplace. Your achievement will be recorded on your Higher Education Achievement Report which you can show to employers.

Certificate of Sustainability

The primary focus of this certificate is the process of institutional environmental auditing. You’ll research an aspect of sustainability on campus, undertake a sustainability audit, explore ways of addressing the problem and design solutions which will be presented to the University.

Certificate of Coaching Practice

This certificate aims to develop your ability and confidence to conduct effective coaching conversations. You’ll have the opportunity to practise the key skills required for effective coaching as well as the importance of building rapport with clients. These skills are useful in many other contexts, including teaching, consultancy and managing people.

Certificate of Professional Communication

This certificate aims to develop your professional communication skills and promote your understanding of the working environment. It’s designed to make the link between communication and employability, which is pivotal for your personal and professional growth. Workshops will explore theories and concepts around communication in relation to the world of work. Using this preparation, you’ll undertake a short work placement which concludes the certificate.

Work placements

We encourage you to undertake a work placement as part of your study programme. This will enable you to engage in the world of work and learn about the professional environment. It’s an opportunity for you to apply theory to practice, develop skills, learn from industry professionals as well as explore a future career path. This ultimately supports you in developing your employability skills and prepares you for future employment.

As part of your degree you’ll have the option to take part in both short and long work placements which are formally recognised on your Higher Education Achievement Report. The two work placement options are:

- Intercalated year-long work placement
- Short work placement

Short work placement

As part of the Certificate of Professional Communication, you’ll undertake a short four-week work placement which takes place during the summer.

Our students have been successful in securing work placements with employers from the private, public, and third sectors. This includes Research Institutions, Governmental Bodies, NGOs, Intelligence Agencies, Environmental Consultancies, and many others. They have undertaken diverse roles from Marketing Assistant, Sustainability Officer, Intelligence Analyst, and Researchers.

Support

We have a dedicated Employability and Placement Manager who’ll provide you with one-to-one careers guidance. They work in collaboration with employers, so you’ll be supported in securing appropriate work placements. You’ll have access to specialist pre-placement advice, guidance and preparation, as well as on-going support during your placement.

You’ll also have access to the University’s Student Opportunity resources (including careers counselling, employment advice, and job fairs).

3rd most targeted university by the UK’s top 100 graduate employers

(Thomas 2020, High Fliers Research Ltd.)

"I decided to do a placement primarily because I wanted to gain experience in an area that I was considering working in after university. Placements are a great opportunity to gain experience in a professional environment, and enable students to develop a range of skills and see how your degree could fit into the real world."

Alice, GSD and Business Studies student, intercalated work placement at Outcomes Based Healthcare

"A placement year is a key part of a degree in my opinion and equips students with experiences which alongside their degrees will help them stand out from the crowd after graduation."

Tom, City Year UK
Beyond the classroom

Like you, our students recognise the importance of making a practical difference. That’s why they’re actively involved in our communities. You too can be part of these changes by getting involved.

Is it worse to openly deny that climate change exists, or to acknowledge it but fly long distance anyway?

Warwick GSD Society

Warwick GSD Society is the social home and discussion panel for all Warwick students who are interested in the present and future social, economic, and environmental challenges of sustainable development. The society aims to promote and educate students about sustainable development and organises academic discussions and talks and various social activities for its members.

@GSDSoc

GLOBUS Warwick

GLOBUS is an online magazine created and run by GSD students. It features articles, videos, news and advice which address aspects of our culture, society, science and the arts that raise issues of sustainability, as well as items about what it’s like to be a GSD student at Warwick.

Food Intercept

Our students are involved in Food Intercept, a social enterprise that develops creative solutions to reduce food waste. The team collects edible food waste from the local area and delivers it to a kitchen in Coventry. The kitchen employs single, minority women, providing them with financial and social security. The food waste is turned into meals which are sold on campus. Profits from the sales help the single, minority women who need it most.

@foodinterceptwarwick

Warwick Cup

Inspired by their time spent studying abroad at Monash University, our GSD students have launched Warwick Cup on campus. This is a student-led social enterprise which aims to end campus dependency on single-use cups by creating a closed-loop sharing system.

@warwickcup

Entry requirements

Please note all our courses require a minimum of grade B or grade 6 in English Language and Mathematics at GCSE or equivalent.

BASc Global Sustainable Development (LBA1)
A level: AAA
We make differential offers to students in a number of circumstances at AAB
IB: 38 to include English and Mathematics

BASc GSD and Business Studies (LUN1)
A level: AAA
We make differential offers to students in a number of circumstances at AAB
IB: 38 to include English and Mathematics

BASc Economic Studies and GSD (L1L8)
A level: A**A to include A in Mathematics
We make differential offers to students in a number of circumstances at AAB including grade A in Mathematics
IB: 38 to include Mathematics (either ‘Analysis and Approaches’ or ‘Applications and Interpretation’ at Higher Level 6) and English

BASc Education Studies and GSD (XL3B)
A level: AAB
We make differential offers to students in a number of circumstances at ABB
IB: 38 to points to include English and Mathematics

BASc Hispanic Studies and GSD (R4L8)
A level: AAB to include a modern or classical language
We make differential offers to students in a number of circumstances at ABB including Spanish
IB: 36 to include a modern or classical language at Higher Level 5, and English and Mathematics

BASc History and GSD (V1L8)
A level: AAA to include History
We make differential offers to students in a number of circumstances at ABB including grade A in History
IB: 38 to include History (at Higher Level 6), English and Mathematics

BASc Life Sciences and GSD (C1L8)
A level: A**A to include A in Mathematics
We make differential offers to students in a number of circumstances at ABB including grade A in Mathematics
IB: 36 to include Mathematics

BASc Politics, International Studies and GSD (L2L8)
A level: AAA
We make differential offers to students in a number of circumstances at ABB
IB: 38 to include English and Mathematics

BASc Psychology and GSD (CBL8)
A level: AAB
We make differential offers to students in a number of circumstances at ABB
IB: 36 to include English and Mathematics

BASc Sociology and GSD (L3L8)
A level: AAB
We make differential offers to students in a number of circumstances at ABB
IB: 36 to include English and Mathematics

BASc Theatre and Performance Studies and GSD (W4L8)
A level: AAB
We make differential offers to students in a number of circumstances at ABB
IB: 36 to include English and Mathematics

IB: 38 to include English and Mathematics

We welcome applications from students taking a wide range of qualifications. For more information please visit warwick.ac.uk/ugoffers
How to apply

Applications are made through UCAS ucas.com

Should you meet or are predicted to meet our entry requirements, we will ask you to submit a second personal statement to Warwick outlining why you are interested in the course. For more information please visit warwick.ac.uk/gsdentry

If you are made and accept an offer, and meet all conditions we will confirm your place and look forward to welcoming you at the start of your life here at Warwick.

For more detailed information about how we process applications please visit warwick.ac.uk/admissions

Overseas applicants

At Warwick, we welcome applications from across the globe, and have dedicated teams available to advise and support, as well as a global network of Agents and Representatives. For more information on applying from your country see warwick.ac.uk/io

Student fees and funding

We want to ensure that, wherever possible, financial circumstances do not become a barrier to studying at Warwick. We provide extra financial support for qualifying students from lower income families. warwick.ac.uk/studentfunding

Accommodation

Warwick Accommodation has around 7,000 rooms across a range of well-managed, self-catering residences. We also have an excellent network of support staff in the Residential Life Team. warwick.ac.uk/accommodation

Discover more

To find out more about the University, including opportunities to visit and engage with your department of choice, visit warwick.ac.uk/undergraduate/visits/

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This course information was accurate at the time of publication (June 2020). Our course and module content and schedule is continually reviewed and updated to reflect the latest research expertise at Warwick, so it is therefore very important that you check the relevant course website for the latest information before you apply and when you accept an offer. For full terms and conditions, please visit warwick.ac.uk/ugtermsandconditions