

Global Sustainable Development (GSD) Undergraduate live chat

**An opportunity for you to speak to our tutors
and current students about studying
Undergraduate Global Sustainable Development
and life at Warwick.**





Hello and welcome to our Global Sustainable Development live chat, we're looking forward to speaking to you today! I'm Jess and I'm a Recruitment and Communications Officer in the GSD Department. Today you'll be speaking to Romain Chenet, our Director of Undergraduate Studies and Admissions; Bodrun Nahar, our Employability and Placement Manager; and Šimon Michalčík, one of our final-year GSD and Business Studies students. This live chat is a straight forwards Q&A session, so when you're ready please introduce yourself and ask us your questions - we're happy to help 😊



Hi everyone! please do ask any questions you may have about anything to do with GSD and applying to join us. We're here for the hour!



Hello. I wondered what the offer rate is for GSD and Business studies? Additionally, do you guys have any advice regarding writing a personal statement for a joint honours GSD degree.



Hello there everyone! You can also ask anything related to student life in general, happy to share my experience so far as a student and some practical tips.



Hi, so what has been the most interesting module students have studied within the GSD course.

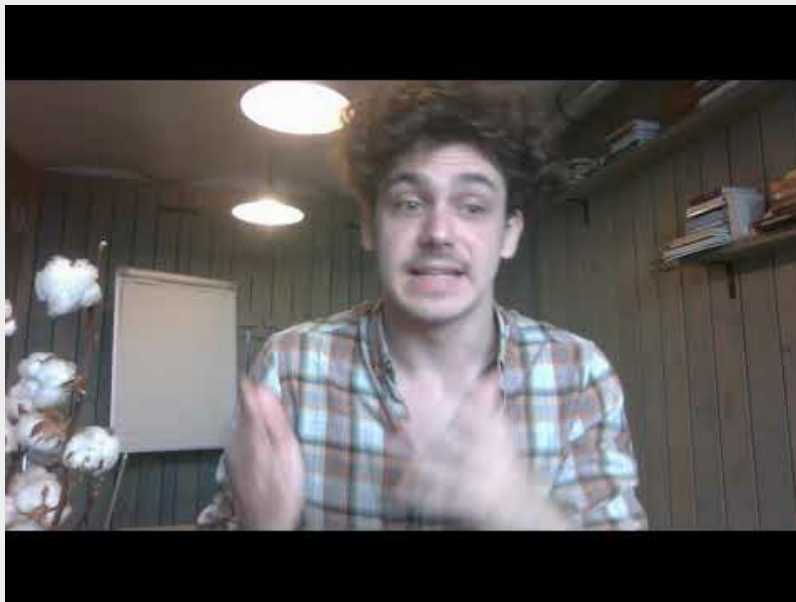


Hi and welcome everyone! Please do ask any questions around employability, careers, work placements and we will be happy to answer them.



As Šimon is here with us today, we'll play a short video he filmed for us a while ago about his degree. Meanwhile we'll respond to the questions so far - thank you for these

GSD and Business Studies: Šimon



GSD and Business video

<https://youtu.be/hmfVBMGP4r0>



What are you looking for specifically in a personal statement?



^^^



Hello. I wondered what the offer rate is for GSD and Business studies? Additionally, do you guys have any advice regarding writing a personal statement for a joint honours GSD degree.

Hi Elamin,

Do you mean how many offers we make for this joint honours? We assess all candidates equally on their own merits and qualifications, so there is not a quota necessarily. We usually have about 20 students on this joint honours annually.

About the application, the aim is for you to address aspects of the joint honours in brief for the main statement, and if your application would benefit from a further opportunity to write a second statement, we would ask you for this.



Hello. I wondered what the offer rate is for GSD and Business studies? Additionally, do you guys have any advice regarding writing a personal statement for a joint honours GSD degree.

Hi Elamin, when I did my PS for GSD & Business (the second one that Romain mentioned), I tried to establish an argument for how do these two disciplines complement each other and why I particularly want to study this combination. But overall I focused mainly on sustainability throughout the PS. :)



What are you looking for specifically in a personal statement?

It depends on the course applied for, we understand that GSD may sit amongst other UCAS choices where you need to write a general statement that 'fits' all of them. If you can have a few sentences at least pertaining to sustainable development and sustainability, that helps us note that you've looked into our degree. We may also ask for a supplementary statement if we're unable to make a decision without hearing more from you, and you'd have the time to then write a more customised statement for GSD.



Hi, so what has been the most interesting module students have studied within the GSD course.

That's of course very subjective, but in my opinion, you don't wanna miss the Challenges of Climate Change in 2nd or 3rd year! Also, I really enjoyed Inequalities. :) Any module in particular that interest you?



Hello Šimon what did you apply for apart from GSD and business?



Welcome slide



Hello Šimon what did you apply for apart from GSD and business?

Elamin, that's ancient history for me now, but I remember applying for quite a wide range of different courses at the other Unis, including International Business, International Relations or different variations of Development/Sustainability Studies. I think you'll find yourself in a similar situation, as GSD & Business really is a unique course not found anywhere else (according to my knowledge).



Fair enough



Hello Šimon what did you apply for apart from GSD and business?

Yeah it is a pretty unique course. For this reason I understand it makes it seem challenging to write a statement that applies to it in addition to idk international business or a similar sounding degree at another uni. But remember that you will have the chance to write a second statement if needed to further review your application, it just won't be at the time of initial application (in case you would already get an offer based on your overall profile!)



Fair enough

You might worry about making the first PS applicable to all your selected courses. In that regard, I'd say do not worry, as you're only talking specifically about GSD in the second statement. So even if your 5 selections include different courses, just try to make the content somehow applicable to all. :)



Fair enough

Glad to see Romain's seconding this! :)



Fair enough

Exactly Simon, and we understand that we are just one of the 5 unis on UCAS, so even just a sentence or two with some points relevant to us in the personal statement are fine



So for the study abroad option it's mentioned that you encourage students to take this opportunity, I read that you provide two options of either studying in Australia or Malaysia which I think is pretty cool, would you be taught the same modules in each place?

International opportunities

Study abroad

1. Integrated

- » Unique to GSD
- » Terms 2 and 3 of second year
- » Monash University in Australia or Malaysia
- » Counts towards overall degree
- » GSD focused modules

2. Intercalated

- » Four year course, study abroad in third year
- » Remain a Warwick student
- » Doesn't count towards overall degree
- » Recorded on your Higher Education Achievement Report (HEAR)



International opportunities



So for the study abroad option it's mentioned that you encourage students to take this opportunity, I read that you provide two options of either studying in Australia or Malaysia which I think is pretty cool, would you be taught the same modules in each place?

Hi Sandeep, no it would actually be depending on which modules the university there offers that are related to GSD. They do vary even if it's Monash and technically the same uni.

I don't know if you've seen but there's two options for study abroad - see this slide.



Oh I see thank you.



We'll play the Monash video now :)

GSD: Unique Study Abroad Programme



<https://youtu.be/lWOa6EvzmKo>



If any other questions on any topics, please feel free to ask!



That was very helpful thank you



Are there any GSD related jobs students can do during their studies?

GSD: Undergraduate Work Placements



GSD Work Placements

<https://youtu.be/LGYp2MIWGlC>



Are there any GSD related jobs students can do during their studies?

Hi Sandeep, I can see that Bodrun and Simon are replying to your message now. Meanwhile, we will play our work placement video for you, featuring Bodrun 😊



Are there any GSD related jobs students can do during their studies?

Hi Sandeep, you can do work placements during your study programme that can be related to GSD. This can be a short work placement in the summer or a long one which is commonly known as a sandwich or industrial placement where you do a 4 year degree instead of a 3 year degree.



Are there any GSD related jobs students can do during their studies?

Definitely! I know people doing part-time positions within the University's Sustainability office, many GSD students further promote GSD as GSD Ambassadors (here I am), and there are other opportunities, for example with Warwick Enterprise (where I worked this Autumn on organising a climate change event). Then obviously, there are plenty opportunities outside of Uni, either for summer jobs or part-time jobs while studying.



Hi Bodrun, I am looking to apply for education studies with GSD, what work placements would you recommend?

Work placements

1. Certificate of Professional Communication *with work placement*
2. Year-long work placement

Both recorded on your Higher Education Achievement Report



"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 alumna

Work placements



Hi Simon, could you tell me more about your climate change event



Hi Bodrun, I am looking to apply for education studies with GSD, what work placements would you recommend?

Work placements are designed to provide you with the opportunity to explore your interests.

So I only recommend you pursue an area of work/profession that is of interest to you and we will support you in trying to achieve this. Studying GSD with any joint degree will give you the skills to test out many professions.



Hi Simon, could you tell me more about your climate change event

Happily! Together with a couple of other student part-timers, we organised an open-mic event, where different performers both from within and outside of university performed poetry, music, or speeches, that related to climate change. :)



For the education studies with GSD what have previous students taken on for work placements?



Awww that sounds like it was a lot of fun, did you perform?



Sadly not, I was quite sick that day, but otherwise I would have!



For the education studies with GSD what have previous students taken on for work placements?

We don't have this data at the moment, but students from GSD have gone on to do placements in the education, finance, intelligence, health and fashion sectors. If you decide to study education with GSD, it will not limit your chances to enter these sectors. There will be many options available to you.

GSD students: Be the change you want to be



<https://youtu.be/ulrYdqSLbnU>



Awww that sounds like it was a lot of fun, did you perform?

GSD students seem super sociable, I often get invited to events or stuff like that!



Awww that sounds like it was a lot of fun, did you perform?

Sometimes also to club nights but I decline those as it's less appropriate, nobody needs to see me bust a move :D



So students taking different joint GSD degrees are we in the same lectures for the GSD modules.



Yes.:)



So students taking different joint GSD degrees are we in the same lectures for the GSD modules.

oh absolutely, we have a very strong cohort rapport and identity. GSD is all of our students' home department. Joint honours just do half their classes in the other side of the course.

Final Year

Dissertation/ Long Project	Single honours Optional modules from within the GSD Department <i>and</i> optional modules with a GSD focus from across the University Examples: The Energy Trilemma; Debt, Money and Sustainable Development; Human Rights and Social Justice in Latin America and the Caribbean	Joint honours Approved module(s) with a GSD focus, including from within the GSD Department and other departments across the University <i>and</i> core <i>and/or</i> optional partner department modules
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Please visit warwick.ac.uk/gsd for the most up-to-date list of our modules

Course structure Final Year

Year One

Economic Principles of Global Sustainable Development	Environmental Principles of Global Sustainable Development	Social Principles of Global Sustainable Development	Global Sustainable Development Project
Single honours Approved optional modules with a GSD focus, from within the GSD Department or across the University Examples: Biodiversity and Ecology, Living With Water		Joint honours Core and/or optional partner department modules	

Please visit warwick.ac.uk/gsd for the most up-to-date list of our modules

Course structure yr 1



So students taking different joint GSD degrees are we in the same lectures for the GSD modules.

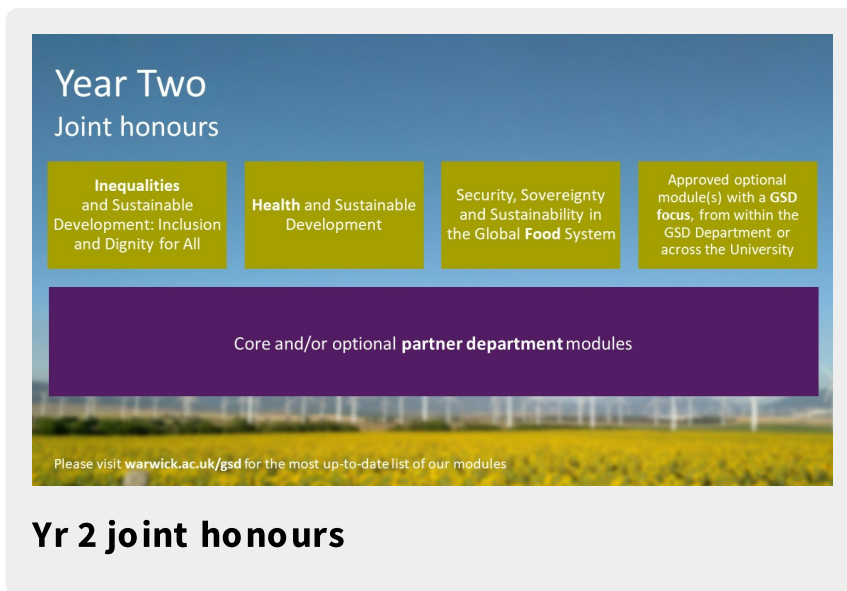
This slide for the first year shows the modules all students in single and joint honours study together



Cool!



So how do option modules work within the degree?



Year Two
Joint honours

Inequalities and Sustainable Development: Inclusion and Dignity for All	Health and Sustainable Development	Security, Sovereignty and Sustainability in the Global Food System	Approved optional module(s) with a GSD focus, from within the GSD Department or across the University
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Core and/or optional **partner department** modules

Please visit warwick.ac.uk/gsd for the most up-to-date list of our modules

Yr 2 joint honours



So how do option modules work within the degree?

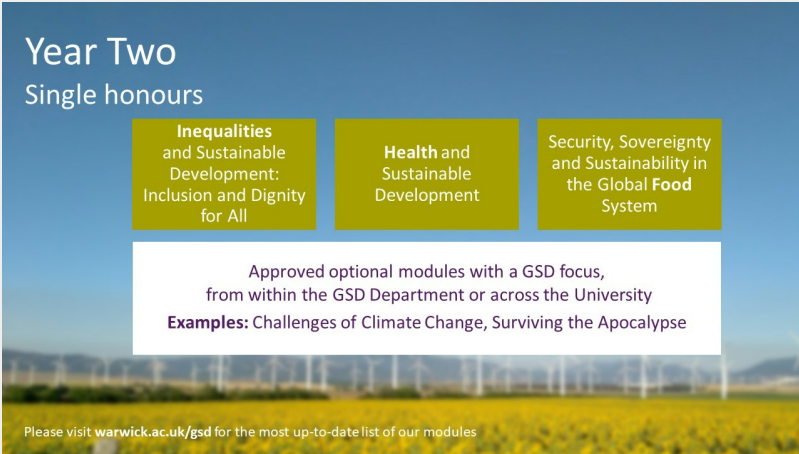
Each year, you have specific amounts of CATs that you can dedicate towards optional modules. You are free to select whichever most attract you, under certain conditions even those outside of the GSD department. This is however different for every joint degree, for example the Business department is a bit more strict on external modules – but on the other hand they only offered optional modules to GSD & Business students, and hence we got a lot of things to choose from :)



Šimon what modules did you choose for business in first year? And which modules did you enjoy the most



So how do option modules work within the degree?
Agree, it really depends on the degree. GSD single honours has the most flexibility (see slide)



The slide features a blue header with the text 'Year Two Single honours'. Below this are three yellow boxes containing the following text: 'Inequalities and Sustainable Development: Inclusion and Dignity for All', 'Health and Sustainable Development', and 'Security, Sovereignty and Sustainability in the Global Food System'. A white box in the center contains the text: 'Approved optional modules with a GSD focus, from within the GSD Department or across the University' and 'Examples: Challenges of Climate Change, Surviving the Apocalypse'. At the bottom, a small line of text reads: 'Please visit warwick.ac.uk/gsd for the most up-to-date list of our modules'. The background of the slide is a photograph of a field of yellow flowers under a blue sky.

Yr 2 single honours

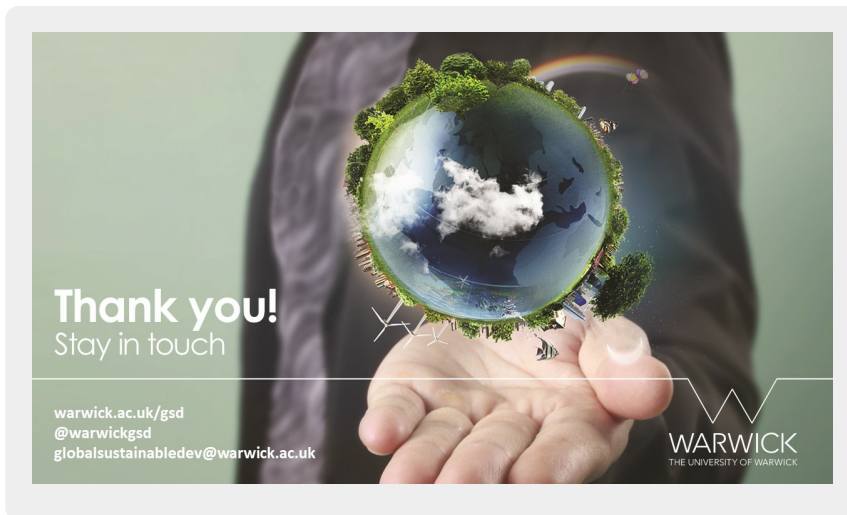


Šimon what modules did you choose for business in first year? And which modules did you enjoy the most

I did Marketing, Management, Strategy (MMS) and Management, Organisation, Society (MOS) in the first year. Personally I did not enjoy those two as much as my 2nd year and 3rd year Business modules though – the one I enjoyed most in WBS was probably Design Thinking for Digital Innovation.



There are just a few minutes left of this live chat today - thank you for your questions. If you have any final questions for us, please let us know. We hope you have found this live chat useful



Thank you very much!



Bye everyone and good luck with your applications!
Feel free to text me on social media if you have any questions that didn't seem appropriate for this space ;)



Please don't hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any further questions:

GlobalSustainableDev@warwick.ac.uk 😊