Global Sustainable Development – Undergraduate live chat

Come and chat to our academic staff and current GSD students about this unique course offering a one-of-a-kind chance to focus on the areas of sustainable development that matter most to you.

Hi everyone! I'm Gioia, Director of Student Experience in GSD [https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/schoolforcross-faculty/studies/gsd/aboutus/people/new/giolapanzarella](https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/schoolforcross-faculty/studies/gsd/aboutus/people/new/giolapanzarella). Welcome!

Dr Gioia Panzarella
Teaching Fellow, Director of Student Experience

What degree are you interested in? Please choose from the single or joint honours courses. If you interested in more than one, please let us know in the chat.

- Single honours - Global Sustainable Development (GSD) 12.50%
- Economics Studies and GSD 12.50%
- GSD and Business Studies 12.50%
- History and GSD 12.50%
- Life Sciences and GSD 12.50%
- Politics, International Studies and GSD 25.00%
- Psychology and GSD 12.50%

Hello!
Hi! How are you? How can I help?

Hi There! Would you mind telling us a bit about the format and modules involved in the GSD course?

How do the modules in GSD compare to the modules in International Studies?

Hello, do you have data on student satisfaction?

Thanks for scheduling the chat. I am in Year 12, IB. One of my HL subjects is Geography and I am very interested in GSD and would like to pursue it. How is it structured academically at Warwick?

Hi There! Would you mind telling us a bit about the format and modules involved in the GSD course?

Hi Sophie, great to hear from you. You can find out all about the degree and specific modules by following this link. Have you any other specific questions? https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/schoolforcross-facultystudies/gsd/prospectivestudents/

Prospective Students
Information about courses, entry requirements, open days and offer holder days for Global Sustainable Development at the University of Warwick

How do the modules in GSD compare to the modules in International Studies?

Hi Annabelle, thank you for your questions. GSD is a transdisciplinary course, which means that we look at big issues from multiple disciplinary perspectives (in particular, in your first year you will learn about the economic, social, and environmental principles of GSD). International Studies is a specific discipline, within social sciences. Does it help?

Hi Peter, thank you for the link! If one was to take a joint honours in GSD and international studies and politics, how would these two courses fit together? Would they be integrated into one or would they be two separate courses taken alongside each other?

Thanks for scheduling the chat. I am in Year 12, IB. One of my HL subjects is Geography and I am very interested in GSD and would like to pursue it. How is it structured academically at Warwick?

Hey Madhavi. Could you be a bit more specific, please? Do you mean in terms of modules, assessments or teaching? Giola has talked about modules a bit to Annabelle but I can expand on this if you like :)

Hi, what are some of the job possibilities after studying GSD?

Hi Kristina, assessments and teaching. Also, how could you please share the course structure for GSD with joint degrees?
Thanks for your response. In terms of the modules, does this mean that in GSD we have classes dedicated to subjects such as economics or sociology, environmental impact... therefore an in-depth knowledge of each of these subjects, or do we study big global issues and within that include the study of various perspectives? (My question may be unclear but I am looking to understand the organization of the classes)

Hello, Do you have data on student satisfaction?

Hi Edward, that's a really good question, we do have a current student here who you could chat to about their on course experience which would give you a specific insight to daily life on a GSD degree. Would that help?

Yes that would thanks!

Good afternoon, I was inspired after speaking about the degree directly at an open day earlier in the year, however I am concerned about applying as I do not fulfill the grade requirements for the course. Is there leniency on the application or am I unlikely to receive an offer if I fall under the requirement.

Also, how many characters is the supplementary personal statement?

*thank you

Hi Peter, thank you for the link! If one was to take a joint honours in GSD and international studies and politics, how would these two courses fit together? Would they be integrated into one or would they be two separate courses taken alongside each other?

Hi Sophie, it's really busy in here, apologies for the delay.

Hi Kristina, assessments and teaching. Also, how could you please share the course structure for GSD with joint degrees?

Hi Madhav, our assessments are very diverse (not the usual essays/exams), for example you will be asked to write a policy brief. You can find more information about our assessments on our website [https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/schoolforcross-facultystudies/gsd/currentstudents/modules/](https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/schoolforcross-facultystudies/gsd/currentstudents/modules/) and let me know if you have a specific question. Course structures can be found here [https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/schoolforcross-facultystudies/gsd/prospectivestudents/jointhonours/](https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/schoolforcross-facultystudies/gsd/prospectivestudents/jointhonours/) are you interested in a specific course?

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Hi, what are some of the job possibilities after studying GSD?

Hi! GSD has a really wide range of job possibilities after graduation as it is a really current and expanding field. I am a final year student and have found the careers support within the department really helpful. We have a specialised careers officer Bodrun who sends regular emails with opportunities in the field and can offer help throughout application processes.

Here is a link to our website with more information about careers: https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/schoolofcross-faculty/studies/gsd/prospectivestudents/careers/

**Career Options**

Don’t worry about the future. Fix it. Explore where a GSD Degree from Warwick could take you.

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Hi, what are some of the job possibilities after studying GSD?

Hi, this might also give you an idea about job possibilities after studying GSD.

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Hi, what are some of the job possibilities after studying GSD?

Career .pdf

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Thanks Gioia

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Hi Peter, thank you for the link! If one was to take a joint honours in GSD and international studies and politics, how would these two courses fit together? Would they be integrated into one or would they be two separate courses taken alongside each other?

You would undertake a joint honours degree with GSD and say, the Politics Department. You would spend about 50% of your time split between the two departments. GSD would be your 'home department' and we would allocate you a personal tutor who would be your first 'port of call' for any academic related questions you had during your degree. That tutor would also be the GSD link officer with the Politics department.

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Thanks for your response. In terms of the modules, does this mean that in GSD we have classes dedicated to subjects such as economics or sociology, environmental impact... therefore an in-depth knowledge of each of these subjects, or do we study big global issues and within that include the study of various perspectives? (My question may be unclear but I am looking to understand the organization of the classes)

Hi Annabelle, have a look at our modules: https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/schoolofcross-faculty/studies/gsd/currentstudents/modules/ you will see that in the first year you will learn about the principles of GSD, and then from the second year on you will be able to apply your knowledge to the issues that we have identified (Health, Food, Climate Change, etc)

**Modules**

Modules

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Sounds great, thank you so much for the information Peter!

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Yes that would thanks!

Hi Ed, its really busy in here today, but Kristina who is a current student will join in very soon to chat with you.
Good afternoon, I was inspired after speaking about the degree directly at an open day earlier in the year, however I am concerned about applying as I do not fulfill the grade requirements for the course. Is there leniency on the application or am I unlikely to receive an offer if I fail under the requirement.

Hello Curtis,
I'm glad to hear that you were inspired after the open day. There is some leniency if you have received grades close to the requirements but this would be looked at on a case-by-case basis. I'd recommend that you really make the most of the second personal statement and be sure to show that you have a real passion for this area of study.

Sounds great, thank you so much for the information Peter!
My pleasure. Have you been to one of our Open Days before?

If I apply to a joint degree, is it possible to only be accepted to one of them?

Also, how many characters is the supplementary personal statement?
Hi Edward, the second personal statement should be no longer than 3000 characters (not including spaces)

If I apply to a joint degree, is it possible to only be accepted to one of them?
Hi Margret, yes, you can apply for more than one course and could receive more than one offer

No, I unfortunately have never been to an open day as I'm an international student. However, this is a course that looks really amazing and definitely something I'm interested in so I may take a trip to visit for an Open Day. In terms of applications if we are applying for a joint degree, what types of grades and content of the personal statement are you looking for?

thank you Kristina, currently I am looking at ABB which potentially could be moved to AAB, which I understand falls by up to two grades below the GSD single honour degree. I would make sure to make the most of the second personal statement.

So if I apply to GSD and psychology as a joint degree, but am only accepted to GSD for example, that is okay?

In regard to the second personal statement, are more offers handed out than there are places? (as I understand the second statements are required after you are accepted)

No, I unfortunately have never been to an open day as I'm an international student. However, this is a course that looks really amazing and definitely something I'm interested in so I may take a trip to visit for an Open Day. In terms of applications if we are applying for a joint degree, what types of grades and content of the personal statement are you looking for?

In terms of entry grades, it depends on what joint honours you apply for. What are you interested in?

Hi, how does the integrated study abroad programme work as compared to the intercalated year abroad? and would it have to be with Monash University?
Hi Margret, sorry, what I meant is that you can apply for more than one course within our department if you wish (joint honours [https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/schoolforcross-facultystudies/gsd/prospectivestudents/joinhonours/] or single honours [https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/schoolforcross-facultystudies/gsd/prospectivestudents/gsdshinglehons/] as they have different ucas codes. If you apply for Psychology&GSD, you will be considered for this course only, if you wish to be considered for the GSD single honours course or the Psychology single honours course you should apply separately. Does this help?

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GSD Joint Honours
Explore our diverse range of Global Sustainable Development Joint Honours Undergraduate degree programmes.

Hi Peter, I think I am most interested in a joint honours in either Politics and International Studies or Life Sciences.

Yes that would thanks!

Hi Ed,
I am a final year GSD student so hopefully, I can give you a bit of insight into the student experience within the department and university in general. Overall GSD has been a really great course to study! The department is on the smaller side, so this means that you get a lot of interaction with your lecturers and tutors - this is really helpful because you can build a productive relationship with them where you feel comfortable to go for advice and with questions. Also, all the tutors are passionate about what they teach and you can really tell this in lectures and seminars where we have very interesting debates and discussions. The department is very friendly and everyone is enthusiastic about the topics we study.

Overall I would say I am very satisfied with the course and the university and will be very sad to leave at the end of the year!

Hi, how does the integrated study abroad programme work as compared to the intercalated year abroad? and would it have to be with Monash University?

Hi, hopefully these two PDFs will help to show the differences between the integrated and intercalated study abroad options

Hi, how does the integrated study abroad programme work as compared to the intercalated year abroad? and would it have to be with Monash University?

And the integrated option
Hi Peter, I think I am most interested in a joint honours in either Politics and International Studies or Life Sciences.

Hi Sophie, for Politics and International Studies see below:

Entry Requirements
A level: AAA
IB: 38 points including English and Mathematics (at Higher Level or Standard Level 5)

General Studies and Critical Thinking are not accepted for this course of study.

Access to HE Diploma (QAA recognised) including appropriate subjects with distinction grades in level 3 units

We welcome applicants with other internationally recognised qualifications. Please see UK Equivalent Scores and WIFP

Hi Peter, I think I am most interested in a joint honours in either Politics and International Studies or Life Sciences.

Hi Sophie, for GSD and Life Sciences see below:

Entry Requirements
A level: AAB including A level Biology
IB: 36 points including Biology (at Higher Level 5), and English and Mathematics (at Higher Level or Standard Level 5)

Applicants must satisfy the University’s General Entrance Requirements

General Studies and Critical Thinking are not accepted for this course of study.

We will consider applicants presenting the Access to HE Diploma (QAA recognised), including appropriate subjects with distinction grades in level 3 units

We welcome applicants with other internationally recognised qualifications. Please see UK Equivalent Scores and WIFP

In regard to the second personal statement, are more offers handed out than there are places? (as I understand the second statements are required after you are accepted)

Hi Curtis! The personal statements are asked for straight after you apply for UCAS. Before any offers are given we read all the second personal statements as they are a key part of the application process.

Hi, how does the integrated study abroad programme work as compared to the intercalated year abroad? and would it have to be with Monash University?

Hi Ubayd, in addition to the file that Jess sent you, please consider that the main difference is that in the integrated study abroad programme your marks count and you graduate in three years. Our partner institution is Monash University. In the intercalated year abroad programme you take a whole year out of Warwick to study in a partner institution, and marks do not count towards your final mark and don’t appear in detail on your final transcripts (but of course we specify that you have completed a year abroad!) and you can have a look at the numerous partnership that Warwick has with Universities from all over the world: https://warwick.ac.uk/study/studyabroad/

Student Mobility - Student Opportunity

Quick Links
Do you take an EPQ into consideration?

Hi Ubayd, we don’t, but often students will refer to what they studied as part of their EPQ in their personal statement.

Yes, thank you Gioia

Hi Peter, thank you! Where can I find the international equivalents of these grades?

Okay, thank you for that Kristina. Best of luck with your final year

Thank you Peter and Gioia :)

Okay, thank you for that Kristina. Best of luck with your final year

Thanks!

Hi Peter, thank you! Where can I find the international equivalents of these grades?

Hi Sophie, this should help but if not let me know. 
https://warwick.ac.uk/study/international/admissions/entry-requirements

International Entry Requirements: What's my degree score equal to?

Entry qualifications and degree equivalences at Warwick for students with international qualifications. GPA entry requirements for British degrees

thank you Kristina, currently I am looking at ABB which potentially could be moved to AAB, which I understand falls by up to two grades below the GSD single honour degree. I would make sure to make the most of the second personal statement.

Dear Curtis, yes please, make sure that your passion and interest for the course comes across in the second statement. As these are predicted grades, we may be able to consider this application. Best of luck!

Thank you Peter! It says we need to have 5 university level courses. does that mean we need to have taken 5 AP courses?

Thank you, Gioia. I will ensure that

Thank you Peter! It says we need to have 5 university level courses. does that mean we need to have taken 5 AP courses?

Hi Sophie, that is one option or can it be 3 APs plus SATs.
Hello there, I was wondering what kind of student do you look for in GSD?

Do you take an EPQ into consideration?

Hi Ubayd.
To add to what Peter said I also did the EPQ at A-Level and talked about it a lot in my personal statement. It is especially useful if it is related to Sustainability then it is definitely worth talking about both the content and the research process as this demonstrates some of the skills applicable to essay writing at University.

Hi Peter, just clarify, we would need to have taken 3 APs and passed the SAT exam?

Hello there, I was wondering what kind of student do you look for in GSD?

Our students are enthusiastic, engaged, passionate, ambitious, ... how does it sound? :)

Any personal statement tips specific to GSD?

Have a look at this video:

GSD: Research to fix the future

https://youtu.be/e9XK_rEYofo

Hi Peter, just clarify, we would need to have taken 3 APs and passed the SAT exam?

Hi Sophie, you can email me for specifics as it depends on whether you want to apply for a single of joint honours but we generally expect 700 in each SAT area. My email is peter.dwyer@warwick.ac.uk

Any personal statement tips specific to GSD?

You get to write a second personal statement for the GSD course, which will be asked for once you have submitted your UCAS application. This is to give you the opportunity to show why you are really passionate about the course. Here you could discuss both academic and extra curricular examples of how you engage with sustainability and current events relating to the course. For example, if you are taking an EPQ and this relates to sustainability or if you have taken part in volunteering activities these would be great to include.

Personally I carried out my EPQ looking into the development of the Swansea Tidal Lagoon and the potential for tidal power in the UK. I talked about this in my personal statement.
Great and you can find out more about all our joint honours courses here: https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/schoolofcross-facultystudies/psd/prospectivestudents/jointhonours/

We also have a new video featuring one of our existing students here: https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/schoolofcross-facultystudies/psd/

**GSD Joint Honours**
Explore our diverse range of Global Sustainable Development Joint Honours Undergraduate degree programmes.

**Global Sustainable Development - University of Warwick**
If you are interested in the world’s problems, want to learn more about them and have a social conscience, then you should study Global Sustainable Development.

Thanks Kristina, my EPQ was titled “Are humans able to make rational decisions”

I think this has great potential to link to sustainability! I think you could link this to many topics which are influenced by human behaviour such as, individuals and climate change or even humans as economic actors (looking at SDG 1 and poverty)... there are plenty of topics to discuss in relation to your EPQ topic Ubayd.

Thank you Kristina!
Have a look at this video:

You can watch videos from our students on the Warwick youtube channel: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9XX_rYof0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9XX_rYof0) and [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uirYdqS1bnu](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uirYdqS1bnu), for example

**GSD: Research to fix the future**

Hear from Rhys, an undergraduate Global Sustainable Development (GSD) student talking about his research into student mental health for his final year disser...

**GSD students: Be the change you want to be**

Hear from Global Sustainable Development (GSD) student Luke about how he’s putting into practice what he’s been learning on his degree. Luke has implemented ...

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Thank you all for being here today, please email us on [GlobalSustainableDev@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:GlobalSustainableDev@warwick.ac.uk), Peter and I will be happy to answer your questions :) Best of luck on your applications

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Thank you!

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Thank you!

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Thank you