Geography and the Environment at Staffordshire University has been consistently highly rated in the National Student Satisfaction Survey and the Guardian higher education league tables. In the 2012 NSS, 96% of our students were satisfied with the quality of our courses (8% above the sector average), while in the 2011 survey 100% of our students were satisfied with the quality of our courses, and 100% of our students said our courses had helped them to present themselves with confidence. The Higher Education Quality Assurance Agency has identified more strengths at Staffordshire University than any other geography department in the country. In particular, the QAA recognised the supportive, student-centred learning environment that we provide to meet the diverse needs and competencies of our students. We also have a track record of producing employable graduates – in 2012, 80% of our graduates were in full-time work or study within 6 months of graduation.

We offer a range of innovative and contemporary undergraduate degrees. Our single honours undergraduate Geography awards - BSc Geography (Physical) and BA Geography (Human) – allow students the flexibility to study a wide range of Geographical and Environmental modules. Our BSc Environment and Sustainability award is a specialised award aimed at those who wish to pursue a career in environmental management and policy. Our BSc Geography with Mountain Leadership award is unique to our department – the only programme in the UK allowing students to graduate with both a full honours degree in Geography and as a qualified mountain leader with the UK’s Mountain Leadership Training Board. If you are thinking of applying to us and would like some more information, please contact the Geography undergraduate admissions tutor Dr Allan Watson at a.watson@staffs.ac.uk

Our postgraduate courses, studied by students from all over the globe by distance-learning. Our postgraduate awards are the MSc in Sustainability and Environmental Management and MA in Governance and Sustainable Development. If you are thinking of applying for a postgraduate award and would like some more information, please contact Dr Dave Moreman at A.D.Moreman@staffs.ac.uk

Our excellent teaching and learning is supported by staff who as part of the IESR, have completed research projects for the European Commission, Health and Safety Executive, Earthwatch, local government and the private sector.

Dr Ruth Swetnam is Associate Professor of Geography and leads teaching of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). She is a Chartered GIS specialist and has over 20 years’ experience of applying GIS to Applied environmental issues both in the UK and across the world. She is research active, with strong links to conservation organisations including the RSPB, World Wildlife Fund and the Tropical Biology Association and has conducted research across Europe and East Africa.

At Staffordshire University she leads projects concerned with the mapping of landscape quality and cultural ecosystem services as well as supervising research students working on urban ecology. Wherever possible, she involves her undergraduate students in research placements.