Geography & Environmental Science Taster Afternoon

Wednesday 2nd December

Students attending the Geography & Environmental Science taster afternoon will be able to choose their preferred workshop from the following sessions (allocated on a first come, first served basis).

Geography BSc

How much will the climate heat up if humans continue to pollute the atmosphere with carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases? The best way to find out is to use a climate model – a computer simulation of the atmosphere. In this session you will use a simple climate model that runs in Microsoft Excel to predict changes in the planet's future temperature up to the year 2500. After adjusting the model to match recent climate, you will look at different pollution scenarios to find out how much carbon dioxide emissions need to be reduced to avoid dangerous heating of the atmosphere.

Environmental Science BSc

Masters of Disguise: The Secret World of Pollinator Mimicry

In this interactive session, you will get a taste of how environmental scientists study the fascinating world of pollinators. Using real insect specimens, we'll explore the concept of mimicry and why appearances in nature can be deceptive. Students will observe, compare and discuss look-alike species while considering how mimicry shapes survival and interactions between organisms. We'll also reflect on why pollinators matter so much for ecosystems, food production and biodiversity, and how understanding their ecology helps us address wider environmental challenges.

Geography BA

Human Geography in Practice

What do Human Geographers do, and why is Human Geography important for real-world decision making? We face a wide range of challenges, from reviving declining UK high streets, to decarbonising local transport networks, as well as how to best manage global issues like agricultural development. In this session, you will become part of a specialist planning committee that has to make decisions about a politically charged topic. Each development involves complex social, political, economic, and environmental dimensions that you would engage with on a degree programme at Northumbria, and which you will need to evaluate here to come up with appropriate solutions. Get your hard (thinking) hats on and solve the world's problems!