Jenny Keenan
Global Challenges

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During my first year at university, I studied a module called **Global Challenges**. I initially was not sure what to expect due to the ambiguous title. However, as I delved into the module, I realised how fascinating and diverse the subject of Geography really is.

I was able to explore the integrated nature and grand challenges in meeting the 17 UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) by 2030. I had never heard about the SDGs prior to university as they were relatively new. However, I believe that GCSE and A Level Geography were able to provide me with a backbone of knowledge to be able to fully understand the topic.

The module incorporated both human and physical geographical elements, such as forced migration and water shortages. It also examined how all the SDGs are integrated. What really made this module interesting for me is that it didn't just leave it there; I was able to learn about pathways to manage and stop such challenges from further damaging our Earth.

Within the module I was able to work both individually and within a team to produce a poster and presentation concentrating on one of the SDGs. I enjoyed being able to focus and research one topic in great depth and to discover what interested me the most. This module inspired me to choose my dissertation topic of plastic consumption which is related to SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production). I cannot recommend studying a subject as diverse as Geography enough at university!