

Geography Community Tuesdays

What did/do you do?

4-6pm every Tuesday is, for Geography, free of timetabled teaching to allow for Geography Community Tuesday events.

Who is involved?

Alex Jeffrey, DPD in Geography, oversees events organised by different members of staff. This follows a model begun by Helen Jarvis, ex-DPD in Geography.

How do you do it?

Keeping these two hours clear of timetabled teaching means that Geography events can take place without timetable clashes. Geography Community Tuesday events have included:

- SSCs
- presentations to all stage 1 students about field courses
- annual lecture of the Tyneside Geographical Association
- a talk by [Patrick Cockburn](#)
- mentoring events
- a dissertation conference (see separate case study) in which stage 3 students present to stage 2 students
- GeogSoc committee meetings and social events

Why do you do it?

Geography is a large degree programme with a high proportion of students doing joint degrees. Timetabled teaching is scheduled in different buildings across campus: this, and the lack of a student common room, can make it hard to establish a coherent 'Newcastle Geographers' identity. Having a regular, dedicated session for the subject area is a way to help build this sense of community.

Does it work?

From a timetabling and attendance point of view, yes: it makes it more likely that students and staff can attend the events. Attendance still depends on interest in and promotion of each event, but branding them as 'Geography Community Tuesday' events helps foster a subject area identity that would otherwise be made difficult by the (geographic) spread of sessions across the University estate.

Teaching and Learning Case Study

HaSS 'communicating with students' project, 2010/11

Alex Jeffrey,
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Coherent Curriculum theme:

- Student Engagement