

FIELDWORK CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT

For those not familiar with the UK climate and/or with fieldwork, here is a suggested 'shopping list' of clothing & equipment that you'll need for the fieldwork sessions. Fieldwork can be quite 'static' - i.e. standing or sitting in one place for quite a while, making measurements and running equipment. Geological fieldwork can involve much walking around from outcrop to outcrop. Hence you need to dress *very* well if the weather's bad. Treat it like hill- or mountain walking.

1. **Waterproof jacket AND overtrousers: Essential** – Goretex™ or other “breathable but waterproof” fabric is good – a good set costs £150-200. Jacket should have a full hood and plenty of pockets.
2. **Jacket/jumpers: Essential** - fleeces are lightest and warmest, usually. Multiple thinner layers are warmer and more versatile than one very thick one. Good fleece jackets are £50+ each
3. **Shirts:** Get thick ones, with plenty of pockets for pens etc. **NEVER WEAR DENIM FOR FIELDWORK.**
4. **Trousers:** Strong, windproof, with 'cargo' pockets. **NEVER, EVER, WEAR DENIM FOR FIELDWORK.**
5. **Thermal underwear:** Top and bottoms - a good idea for the colder weather and for trips where there is a lot of standing around, especially if you are unused to British weather.
6. **Footwear: Essential:** Good hill walking boots with ankle support & good soles (Vibram) are best. Budget about £100. Wellingtons can be useful but may result in cold feet in cold weather! **DON'T use industrial boots with steel toecaps:** they ruin some geophysical survey measurements!
7. **Socks:** Thick woollen or synthetic walking socks are best, maybe with a thin inner 'liner' sock too.
8. **Hat, gloves: Essential** in cold weather. Wool or microfleece hats that covers the ears, windproof mittens or gloves. Have a warm hat with you on all trips, even in summer.
9. **Rucksack:** A small-to-medium sized (25-35 litres or so) “day sack” to carry spare clothes, waterproofs, work items, food – fully waterproof, of course, with side pockets etc., for easy access to small items. You may be away from support vehicles for parts or all of a working day.
10. **Other very useful items if you wish:** Thermos flask for hot drinks (unbreakable ones are best), simple personal first aid kit, torch
11. **Shops:** [Cotswold Outdoors](#)¹ (just off the Headrow) is very good – also [Blacks](#), [Snow&Rock](#), [Mountain Warehouse](#), and [Go Outdoors](#) (but not all are in the city centre). Individual brands such as [North Face](#) and [Rohan](#) have retail outlets but tend to be pricey. General 'sports' outlets might offer cheaper options – but check quality. There are also plenty of on-line retailers, e.g. [Musto](#), too.

'Industrial' PPE (hard hat, high-visibility jacket (which must be *yellow*) work gloves, safety goggles, ear defenders) and GPS units will be supplied where necessary *on* the relevant field class. Some of these may need to be 'individual' and arrangements may be made in Induction Week to buy them for you.

Vocational Master's courses with a fieldwork element to them usually have activities outside normal classroom teaching – field classes, workshops, short courses given by visiting industry professionals, and such. These may, of necessity, be scheduled both outside the two 'teaching terms' (i.e. in the Christmas and Easter vacations) and at relatively short notice.

On the MSc Exploration Geophysics specifically, we intend to keep a 3-week period, in the vacations and prior to each examination session, free of all activities and deadlines – but otherwise, ***you must be in Leeds and available for mandatory activities, for at least 1 week after the end of the teaching terms.*** Anyone wishing or needing to book flights, or make other travel plans, *before* joining the course are strongly advised to contact the Admissions Office or the Programme Manager before doing so. [Others of our Master's programmes will probably have different scheduling plans.]

¹ ***SEE has discount arrangements with this retailer – take your student card – and also arranges special access evening(s)***
[MSc Exploration Geophysics](#)