



Sophie Laggan



What is your job title?

Research Fellow

Who do you work for?

UWE Bristol - Department of Geography and Environmental Management

What do you do?

I make the case for the value of the social sciences in sustainability. I help young people develop vital skills like teamwork and how to speak with diverse audiences. I also train organisations in climate communications, relationship building, and advocacy





What can you recall learning at school which helps you with your job now?

“GCSE Geography and GCSE Science helped me understand natural processes, land management, plate tectonics and earth processes.

For A level Environmental Science we took a trip to Belize! This helped me understand the concept of symbiosis, and the impact of culture and decision making on the environment.”



Temple of the Jaguar at Lamanai, Belize



How does your work relate to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

“UWE Bristol has a Climate Action Hub that connects staff and students with communities for Climate Action (SDG 13).

The communities we work with select a resource (e.g., land, water, energy, waste, transport) that is the biggest priority for them, and we work on it together.”



What is your working day like?

Watch Sophie explain what she does:

- when she's on campus <https://youtu.be/woiVZcA51Xk>
- when working from home <https://youtu.be/iIRPhb0WMHs>



How does your job help you deal with how you feel about the environment and the consequences of climate change?

“When I left university I didn't know what to do about environmental problems and climate change...

...now I have clarity and purpose, and experience great joy in 'doing the work'”



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