

# GEOGRAPHY

What can I do with this degree?

AREAS	EMPLOYERS	PREPARATION
<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL GEOGRAPHY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental geographers are concerned with how human beings use the earth and impact the environment</li> <li>• Environmental Management</li> <li>• Conservation</li> <li>• Waste Management</li> <li>• Environmental Regulation</li> <li>• Emergency Management</li> <li>• Outdoor Recreation Management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal and state government: Environmental Protection Agency, Departments of Agriculture, National Forest Service, National Park Service</li> <li>• Real estate developers</li> <li>• Scientific and research groups</li> <li>• Waste management companies</li> <li>• Chemical companies</li> <li>• Firms specializing in forestry, mining, environmental issues, or surveying</li> <li>• Law firms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Become skilled in related computer technology.</li> <li>❖ Take biology and chemistry courses for environmental management positions.</li> <li>❖ Take electives in plant science, forestry and wildlife management for careers in recreation and forestry management.</li> <li>❖ Join environmental organizations on campus and in your community.</li> <li>❖ Seek environmental-related experience through internships, summer or part-time jobs.</li> <li>❖ Learn federal government job application process.</li> <li>❖ Earn a law degree for work areas such as environmental law and policy.</li> </ul>
<p><b>CULTURAL &amp; HUMAN GEOGRAPHY</b></p> <p>Cultural and human geographers study the aspects of geography that relate to different cultures. They especially focus on cultural origins and movement and the cultural characteristics of regions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural Resources</li> <li>• Historic Preservation</li> <li>• Historical Consultation</li> <li>• Community Development/Redevelopment</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State, regional, and local government</li> <li>• Peace Corps</li> <li>• Real estate developers</li> <li>• Companies dealing with insurance, transportation, communications, and international trade</li> <li>• Scientific and research groups</li> <li>• Museums</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Develop an open mind towards the language, history, customs, and culture of other countries.</li> <li>❖ Learn how to conduct library research, make field observations, and interpret artifacts.</li> <li>❖ Learn a foreign language for field observations in other countries.</li> <li>❖ Participate in cross-cultural groups and organizations.</li> <li>❖ Develop excellent communication and teamwork skills in order to work with historians and archivists in recreating the geography of the past.</li> <li>❖ Obtain related experience in your area of interest through volunteer or paid positions including internships.</li> <li>❖ Become skilled in related computer technology.</li> <li>❖ Learn federal, state, and local government job application process.</li> </ul>
<p><b>GEOGRAPHIC TECHNOLOGY</b></p> <p>Geographers utilize a variety of technologies to generate maps, store, analyze and interpret map information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cartography</li> <li>• Geographic Information Systems</li> <li>• Remote Sensing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal government agencies: Departments of Defense, Interior, Commerce, Agriculture, and State, Defense Mapping, NASA, Central Intelligence Agency</li> <li>• State and regional government agencies: Departments of Transportation or Agriculture</li> <li>• Private industry including telephone, utilities, construction, engineering, energy, environmental planning, and consulting firms</li> <li>• Map publishers</li> <li>• Mapping software companies</li> <li>• Colleges and universities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Take courses in surveying and measurements, photogrammetry, computer systems, database management, technical mathematics, drafting, statistics, optics, remote sensing, art, graphics.</li> <li>❖ Learn to be detail-oriented.</li> <li>❖ Gain experience reading maps and interpreting data sources including geological surveys and satellite images.</li> <li>❖ Seek related experience, such as a part-time job or internship, to develop technical skills.</li> <li>❖ Investigate federal, state, and local government job application process.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>PLANNING</b> Planners ensure that communities develop in an orderly way and that they have the services necessary to support them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City/Regional Planning</li> <li>• Housing Development</li> <li>• Convention/Tourism</li> <li>• Community Development</li> <li>• Demography</li> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• Waste Management</li> <li>• Conservation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• City, county, and regional planning agencies</li> <li>• Local and state government</li> <li>• Federal government agencies including: Agency for International Development, World Bank, Department of Housing and Urban Development</li> <li>• Research organizations</li> <li>• Private business</li> <li>• Banks</li> <li>• Industrial firms</li> <li>• Public utilities</li> <li>• Architecture firms</li> <li>• Real estate developers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Develop team work and communication skills.</li> <li>❖ Participate in student government.</li> <li>❖ Take courses in public administration or public finance.</li> <li>❖ Observe city/county advisory meetings.</li> <li>❖ Seek internship or work experience in a local government office, as they are a large employer in this area.</li> <li>❖ Learn federal, state, and local government job application process.</li> <li>❖ Obtain master's degree in planning.</li> <li>❖ Earn a dual degree in planning and law.</li> <li>❖ Research the certified planning credential obtained through the American Institute of Certified Planners.</li> </ul>
<p><b>PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY</b> Physical geographers study earth processes such as climate and weather. They also Evaluate the impact of natural hazards such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and earthquakes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biogeography</li> <li>• Geomorphology</li> <li>• Natural Hazards</li> <li>• Weather and Climate</li> <li>• Hydrology</li> <li>• Environmental Regulation</li> <li>• Waste Management and Disposal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State and local government</li> <li>• Federal government agencies including: US Department of Agriculture, US Geological Survey, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, The National Resources Conservation Service</li> <li>• TV/Radio stations</li> <li>• Agribusiness corporations</li> <li>• Outdoor recreation companies</li> <li>• Resource management agencies</li> <li>• Research institutes</li> <li>• Insurance companies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Develop strong analytical and communication skills.</li> <li>❖ Take courses in physics, chemistry, soil science, agriculture.</li> <li>❖ Take courses like weather systems, atmospheric dynamics, thermodynamics, physical meteorology for more job options in meteorology/ atmospheric science.</li> <li>❖ Gain experience through part-time jobs, internships or volunteer opportunities related to climate, weather or natural hazards.</li> <li>❖ Be willing to relocate to regions that have job availability.</li> </ul>
<p><b>ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY</b> Economic geographers study the dist. of resources and economic activities within a certain region. They may use this info. to advise orgs on where to build new facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location Scouting</li> <li>• Real Estate Analysis</li> <li>• Transportation</li> <li>• Agricultural Planning</li> <li>• Travel/Tourism Planning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal, state, and local government</li> <li>• Market research firms</li> <li>• Manufacturing, wholesale, and retail firms</li> <li>• Public utilities</li> <li>• Consulting firms</li> <li>• Real estate appraisers and developers</li> <li>• Banks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Develop strong communication skills.</li> <li>❖ Take business courses such as economics, advertising, marketing, finance, statistics to increase marketability in the field.</li> <li>❖ Earn a business minor.</li> <li>❖ Learn to see all sides of a problem, including economic, social, political, and environmental.</li> <li>❖ Observe city/county advisory meetings.</li> <li>❖ Obtain business or planning-related work/volunteer experience to build contacts and increase marketability.</li> <li>❖ Consider earning a master's degree in planning.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>GEOGRAPHIC EDUCATION</b>  <i>Geography teachers may specialize in one or more areas of the discipline or incorporate it into a social science education program.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teaching</li> <li>• Research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elementary/secondary schools, public and private Colleges and universities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop strong communication skills, both oral and written.</li> <li>• Seek volunteer or paid experiences, such as camp counselor or tutor, with target age group.</li> <li>• Research state standards for certification.</li> <li>• Obtain certification/licensure for public school teaching.</li> <li>• Obtain multiple certifications for increased employability.</li> <li>• Specialize in an area such as quantitative research techniques, computer mapping, or natural resource management.</li> <li>• Join National Council for Geographic Education.</li> <li>• Complete a master's degree for community college teaching or a Ph.D. for college/university teaching and research.</li> <li>• Maintain a high grade point average and build strong faculty recommendations to prepare for graduate school.</li> </ul>

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STRATEGIES	LINKS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bachelor's degree qualifies you for entry-level positions in government and industry.</li><li>• Master's degree qualifies you for community college teaching and advancement in industry and government.</li><li>• Ph.D. is required for research and teaching positions in colleges and universities and senior positions in government and industry.</li><li>• Geography provides a broad foundation for future career endeavors.</li><li>• Obtain volunteer, part-time, summer, internship, or co-op experience in your area of interest.</li><li>• Join professional organizations such as the American Geography Society or the National Council for Geographic Education.</li><li>• Become a member of groups directed toward improvement of natural resources or environment and pollution control.</li><li>• Maintain knowledge of current environmental issues including policy, conservation, and industry trends.</li><li>• Computer knowledge is extremely important in geography. Obtain experience with geographic information systems.</li><li>• Develop strong mathematical and statistical skills.</li><li>• Develop skills and interest in mapping, graphics, and charts. An interest in photography may prove beneficial.</li><li>• Develop good communication skills.</li></ul>	<p><a href="#"><u>Association of American Geographers</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>GeographyJobs.com</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>National Park Service</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Teacher – Postsecondary from the Occupational Outlook Handbook</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>U.S. Geological Survey</u></a></p>