

GEOGRAPHY, B.A.

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: University Park

Career Paths

There are many potential careers for Geography majors. The Geography major teaches students a variety of useful skills for the marketplace. Employers value the wide-ranging computer, research, and analytical skills that geography students bring to work as employees. Geography undergraduates find jobs in all levels of government, nonprofit organizations, and industry. In preparation for the job market both majors and non-majors can enhance their educational experience by enrolling in one or more of our certificate programs. The geography department offers certificates in Environment and Society, Geographic Information Systems, Geospatial Big Data Analytics, Human Geography, Landscape Ecology, and Physical Geography.

Careers

Very few geography-related jobs have the title of "geographer," but students with geography degrees find employment with diverse organizations including (but not limited to): Amnesty International; BAE Systems; Boeing; Esri; Federal Emergency Management Agency; Heifer International; NASA; National Geographic; National Park Service; Teach for America; United Nations; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; U.S. Census Bureau; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; U.S. Forest Service; U.S. State Department; local, regional, and state planning agencies; environmental and engineering consulting firms; policy research institutes; private corporations; and humanitarian organizations.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES OF THE GEOGRAPHY PROGRAM (<https://www.geog.psu.edu>)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

A Geography undergraduate degree is ideal for students who are interested in pursuing graduate degrees in the computational, environmental, and social sciences. Alumni can enter graduate and professional studies in a variety of programs, including (but not limited to) geography, planning, international development, urban studies, sustainability, environmental sciences, ecology, geographic information sciences, information technology, environmental informatics, geodesign, business administration, supply chain management, emergency management, law, and education. They sometimes begin graduate or professional programs directly after finishing undergraduate studies, but often get several years' work experience before returning to school, either full or part-time.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (<https://www.geog.psu.edu>)

Professional Resources

- American Association of Geographers (AAG) (<https://www.aag.org>)
- American Geographic Society (AGS) (<https://americangeo.org>)
- National Geographic Society (NGS) (<https://www.nationalgeographic.com>)
- International Geographical Union (IGU) (<https://igu-online.org>)
- Society of Woman Geographers (SWG) (<http://iswg.org>)

- North American Cartographic Information Society (NACIS) (<https://nacis.org>)
- ASPRS: The Imaging & Geospatial Information Society (<https://www.asprs.org>)
- National Council for Geographic Education (<https://ncge.org/>)