Requirements for an undergraduate certificate may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the certificate.

Program Description

The 12-credit Justice, Ethics, Diversity in Space (JEDIS) certificate helps students to cultivate a diverse set of theoretical and methodological skills that geographers use to engage in a diverse and changing planet. Increasingly as students enter the workforce they will be challenged to not only interact with diverse populations, but will also have to understand the way diverse populations are impacted by a range of economic, political, and environmental challenges. They will also need to be exposed to ethical frameworks that can be productively leveraged within non-academic environments. Students who undertake a JEDIS certificate will take courses across the broad spectrum of human geography and will cultivate the intellectual capacity to address issues of inequality and diversity from an ethically informed perspective.

Learning objectives: recognize and respect diverse experiences and perspectives; apply ethical frameworks to challenging economic, political, and environmental challenges; and think critically about the multiple implications of human choices and practices.

What is Justice, Ethics, Diversity in Space?

The discipline of geography draws from a range of perspectives including traditions in the natural and social sciences as well as humanities. Questions of justice, (in)equality, and diversity across space are core to what human and environment-society geographers study. The Justice, Ethics and Diversity In Space certificate specifically addresses how geographers approach questions concerning uneven power relations, inequalities, justice, social responsibility, and ethics across space and in place; it is more focused than the complementary Human Geography and Environment-Society Geography certificates. Students will learn about different ethical frameworks that can be productively leveraged in the workplace. As a result, students will be prepared to manage and work in diverse settings and to think critically about their position in society.

You Might Like This Program If...

- You care about issues of diversity, ethics, and social justice and wish to understand how geographers explore these challenges in local to global contexts.
- You want to learn about diverse cultures, environmental racism, immigration, and assimilation experiences of marginalized groups.
- You would like to become knowledgeable of people’s biases based on race, ethnicity, culture, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, social and economic status, political ideology, and disability, and how these contribute to discrimination and oppression.