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

Career Paths

Students earning the Human Geography certificate learn a wide range of critical thinking, research, and analytical skills that are highly valued by employers. Students with backgrounds in human geography find jobs in all levels of government, nonprofit organizations, and in industry. This is one of several geography-related certificates that students can use to tailor their educational experience in preparation for the job market.

In addition to Human Geography, the geography department offers certificates in Environment and Society Geography; Geospatial Big Data Analytics; Geographic Information Systems; Justice, Ethics and Diversity in Space; Landscape Ecology; and Physical Geography.

Careers

Students earning the certificate in Human Geography are well positioned to find employment with diverse organizations spanning business, government, and nonprofit sectors. Such organizations may include (but are not limited to): American Red Cross; Amnesty International; U.S. Census Bureau; Heifer International; National Geographic Society; National Park Service; Teach for America; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; U.S. State Department; World Bank; 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 WITH A CERTIFICATE IN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (https://www.geog.psu.edu)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

A certificate in Human Geography is useful for students who are interested in pursuing graduate degrees in the social sciences and humanities. Alumni enter graduate and professional studies in a variety of programs, including (but not limited to) geography, planning, international development, urban studies, sustainability, public policy, emergency management, education, and law. 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 Geographic Union (IGU) (https://igu-online.org)
- Society of Woman Geographers (SWG) (http://iswg.org)
- National Council for Geographic Education (https://ncge.org/)
- American Planning Association (https://www.planning.org/)