

GEOGRAPHY FACT SHEET

Kutztown University of Pennsylvania Department of Geography ...making a world of difference

The diverse discipline of geography exposes students to the multitude of ways in which geographers study the world. Geographers study human-environment interactions and their spatially varying expression. Numerous tools and techniques are employed in geographic research including cartography (the art and science of map making and use), geographic information systems (GIS), satellite imagery and air photo interpretation, surveys, and mathematical modeling and statistical analysis.

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geography: Major Tracks

General: This track offers the broadest possible training in geography for students interested in graduate school or who are interested in teaching careers in the Social Sciences.

Applied: This technically orientated track is designed to prepare students for employment in industry or in government. An internship is required.

Environmental: This track is designed for students seeking careers in environmental analysis, conservation, or in environmental planning. An internship is required.

Globalization: This track focuses on the spatial aspects of the social, economic, and environmental forces reshaping cultures at the global, regional, and local levels.

Additional Opportunities

The department of geography also offers a minor in geography.

Kutztown University offers Bachelor of Science degrees in Elementary Education, Secondary Education, and Environmental Science with concentrations in geography.

As part of their list of concomitant course concentrations, the Telecommunications Department recognizes a sequence of geography courses called **Broadcast Meteorology**. The sequence is designed for Telecommunications majors interested in becoming on-air weather personalities.

The department of geography also hosts the *Gamma Psi Chapter of Gamma Theta Upsilon*, the International Geographical Honor Society. GTU members are recognized internationally for their academic excellence and are afforded two additional GS levels for jobs with the **Bureau of Land Management**, the **National Geospatial-Information Agency**, and the **US Geological Survey**.

The Department of Geography's **Computer Cartography and GIS laboratory** currently supports twenty PC's, digitizing capabilities, and large format color printing.



Visit us on the web at <http://www.kutztown.edu/acad/geography>

Carrie Babb Scholarship

A permanent endowment to recruit and retain geography majors who demonstrate excellence in academic ability and achievement has been established at Kutztown University by the estate of the late **Carrie Babb**. The scholarship is intended to defray costs of a recipient's tuition for up to four years. For further information, please contact Dr. Richard S. Courtney, Chair, Department of Geography, Kutztown University of PA, Kutztown, PA 19530; phone (610) 683-4364.

Student Internships

A vital part of the training applied and environmental track geography majors receive is on-the-job as part of the geography department's internship program. A few of the businesses and agencies that have hosted our interns are **Adams County Agricultural Land Preservation Program**, Adams County, PA; **Allegheny National Forest**; **Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation Board**, Leesport, PA; **Bonn Data**, Hummelstown, PA; **Clinton County GIS Department**, Lock Haven, PA; **Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission**, Philadelphia, PA; **Lebanon County Conservation District**, Lebanon, PA; **Lehigh Valley Planning Commission**, Allentown, PA; **Montgomery County Planning Commission**; **National Park Service**; **Natural Resources Conservation Service** of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bucks County Conservation District; **City of Reading Planning Department**, Reading, PA.



Graduate Job Placement

Graduates of the Kutztown University geography program are in ever increasing demand. Examples of businesses and agencies that have hired our recent graduates include **AAA Mid-Atlantic**, Philadelphia, PA; **Adams County Agricultural Land Preservation Program**, Adams County, PA; **Alfred Benesh and Company**, Pottsville, PA; **Bentley Systems**, Exton, PA; **Buckeye Pipe Line Company**, Emmaus, PA; **Carson Services Inc.**, Aerogravity Division, Perkasie, PA; **Charles E. Shoemaker, Inc.**, Abington, PA; **CIA**; **Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission**, Philadelphia, PA; **Environmental Consulting, Inc.**, Norristown, PA; **IRS**; **Lancaster County GIS Department**, Lancaster, PA; **NASA**; **NOAA Research Vessel Rude**, Norfolk, VA; **Pennsylvania Department of Transportation**, Harrisburg, PA; **Upper Merion Township**, King of Prussia, PA; **Wilbur Smith & Associates**, Lexington, KY.

GISjobs.com lists entry-level **GIS analyst jobs** ranging from \$35,000 to \$60,000 annually (with 2 to 3 years job experience for the upper end of the salary scale). The sky's the limit!

In the field with the Department of Geography's Global Positioning System (GPS) mobile satellite antenna and hand-held receiver.

Student Life

Students are encouraged to become active on campus and in the larger community by joining the **Kutztown University Geographical Society**, and the **Outdoor Club**. Past activities have included field trips, participation in the annual Earth Day celebration, and visitations to local primary schools.

The Geography Faculty

Richard S. Courtney, Ph.D. The Ohio State University.
Richard A. Crooker, Ph.D. University of California, Riverside.
John D. Frye, Ph.D. University of Georgia.
Mathias Le Bossé, Ph.D. University of Wisconsin at Madison.
Robert N. Martin, Ph.D. Indiana University.
Steven M. Schnell, Ph.D. University of Kansas.
Robert C. Ziegenfus, Ph.D. Rutgers University.

