



# GEOGRAPHY

**Bachelor of Arts: Geography-Environmental**  
**Bachelor of Arts: Geography-General**  
**Bachelor of Arts: Geography-Globalization**  
**Bachelor of Arts: Geography-Planning**  
**Bachelor of Science: Environmental Science/Geography**  
**Minors: Geography, Environmental Geography, Planning Geography**  
**Certification: Geospatial Information Technology**

Geography is the study of the interrelationships between the earth and its people. As both a social and natural science, geography focuses on climate, land, water, space, mineral resources, population, changes in the environment and how people adapt to them. 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, mathematical modeling and statistical analysis.

Graduates can find employment in business, government agencies, research, management, non-profits and education fields. Employers recommend one or more internships to be successful and competitive when entering this field.

## **Career types associated with Geography**

*(Is this a good fit for you? Are you...)*

Investigative - "Thinker"

Realistic - "Doer"

Enterprising - "Persuader"

## **Related skills, values, and qualities**

- Spatial thinking
- Abilities in GIScience and cartography
- Data Analysis and presentation
- Sense of complex interactions between humans and the environment
- Sensitivity to the distinctiveness of places
- A global and interdisciplinary perspective

## **Courses Geography majors typically enjoy**

- Earth Science
- Economics
- Business
- Geography (Physical/Cultural)
- Social Science
- Sociology
- History
- Political Science
- Transportation
- Criminal Justice

## **Common interests of Environmental Science majors**

- Visiting natural science museums
- Participating in outdoor activities
- Solving analytical and logical problems
- Hiking, camping, and backpacking
- Exploring and traveling
- Participating in Geography or science clubs
- Reading professional publications
- Environmental Conservation

## **For more information about the major**

Contact the Geography Department, 105 Graduate Center, 610-683-4364, or visit [www.kutztown.edu/Geography](http://www.kutztown.edu/Geography)

## **KU Majors related to Geography**

Environmental Science, Geology

Investigative students may also be interested in: Anthropology, Biochemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Criminal Justice, Economics\*, German Studies, History, International Studies\*, Mathematics, Multicultural Studies\*, German Studies, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Sec Edu- Math/Science, Sociology, Spanish, and Women's Studies\*

\* minor only

# FOUR STEPS TO SUCCESS

EXPLORE

DISCOVER

EXPERIENCE

IMPLEMENT

1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR

- Enroll in the Career Exploration Certificate.
- Attend info sessions to learn about career development and personal branding.
- Take a career assessment to identify and confirm interests.
- Get involved in campus clubs and organizations.
- Develop basic workplace skills through jobs or volunteer work.
- Talk with professors, family, and friends about career ideas.
- Conduct informational interviews with professionals working in fields of interest.
- Develop a relationship with your professors and faculty advisor.

2<sup>ND</sup> YEAR

- Meet with CDC career coach.
- Attend info sessions to learn about resume writing, and externships.
- Confirm your choice of major and consider options for double major or minor.
- Research careers of interest.
- Complete a job shadowing (externship) experience.
- Seek meaningful employment or volunteer work in a field related to your major.
- Explore options for undergraduate research and study abroad.
- Write a resume and have it reviewed by the CDC.
- Manage your online presence.

3<sup>RD</sup> YEAR

- Enroll in the Career Success Certificate.
- Complete an internship and/or undergraduate research.
- Attend info sessions about internships, interviewing, job search strategies, and grad school.
- Build a LinkedIn profile and continue to monitor your online presence.
- Complete a mock interview.
- Build skills through research projects, part-time employment, and volunteer work.
- Participate in Careers Cafe & networking programs.
- Attend internship & job fairs.
- Take on a leadership role in a student organization or work.
- Consider graduate school options and prepare for admissions tests.

4<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

- Attend your senior kick-off and other info sessions to prepare for job search/grad school.
- Update your resume and LinkedIn profile.
- Create cover letter drafts.
- Gain experience through internships and/or undergraduate research.
- Secure references for job/grad school applications.
- Create your "30 second" commercial.
- Meet with CDC to develop job search strategies.
- Research employers.
- Network with professionals through events and social media.
- Join a professional organization in your discipline.
- Attend the senior etiquette dinner.
- Participate in job fairs and on-campus interviewing.

## Sample Career Titles

Geography majors can be found working in a wide variety of career fields. Here are just some career titles that may be of interest. Please note that some jobs may require further education and training.

To learn more about these careers, visit <http://online.onetcenter.org> or [www.bls.gov/oco](http://www.bls.gov/oco).

- Advertising/Marketing
- Aerial Photo Interpreter
- Agricultural Extension Agent
- Air/Water Quality Control Manager
- Cartographer
- Climatologist
- Coastal Zone Manager
- Community Developer
- Computer Mapper
- Computer Programmer
- Diplomat
- Earth Scientist
- Ecologist
- Editor
- Environmental Impact Analyst
- Environmental Quality Specialist
- Environmental Scientist
- Environmental Technician
- Facilities Planner
- Forestry Technician
- Geographic Area Specialist
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

- Specialist/Analyst
- GIS Program Manager
- Geophysics Assistant
- Hazardous-Waste Planner
- Health Services Organization
- Health Services Planner
- Hydrologist
- Industrial Developer
- Industrial Planner
- Intelligence Agent
- International Business Representative
- International Investment Analyst
- Land Developer
- Land Economist
- Land-Use Analyst
- Location Expert
- Map Analyst
- Map Curator/Librarian
- Market Research Analyst
- Natural Resource Specialist
- Operations Manager
- Outdoor Guide

- Park Ranger
- Peace Corps Volunteer
- Planner
- Property Manager
- Public Utilities Specialist
- Remote Sensing Analyst
- Site Researcher
- Soil Conservationist
- Surveyor
- Sustainability Director
- Systems Analyst
- Teacher/Professor
- Traffic Manager
- Transportation Analyst
- Transportation Manager
- Travel Agent/Specialist
- Urban/Regional Planner
- Weather Forecaster
- Wildlife Manager
- Zoning Investigator

## Common Internship Sites and Employers

Geography majors often find internships and employment in the following fields/industries.

- Advertising/Marketing
- Colleges/Universities
- Construction Companies
- Engineering Companies
- Environmental Protection Organizations
- Fuel Companies
- Museums
- Research Laboratories
- Railroads
- Local/State/Federal Government
- Urban/Regional Planners
- Utility Companies



Handshake is the primary online resource for preparing and connecting students and alumni with employers.  
[www.kutztown.edu/handshake](http://www.kutztown.edu/handshake)

## Useful Websites for Geography Majors

Whether you are researching related career fields, applying for internships or jobs, or planning to join a professional association, these websites are for you!

### Industry Information & Job/Internship Search Sites

Bureau of Land Management  
[www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov) Environmental

Careers World Job Bank  
[www.environmentaljobs.com](http://www.environmentaljobs.com)

Environmental Protection Agency  
[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

Environmental Systems Research Institute  
[www.esri.com](http://www.esri.com)

GIS Jobs Clearinghouse  
[www.gjc.org](http://www.gjc.org)

Geography.com  
<http://geography.com>

New Scientist Jobs  
[www.newscientistjobs.com](http://www.newscientistjobs.com)

Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access  
[www.pasda.psu.edu](http://www.pasda.psu.edu)

US Geological Survey  
[www.usgs.gov/ohr](http://www.usgs.gov/ohr)

LinkedIn Job Search  
[www.linkedin.com/jobs](http://www.linkedin.com/jobs)

### Professional Associations

American Congress on Surveying and Mapping  
<http://landsurveyorsunited.com/acsm>

American Geographical Society  
[www.amergeog.org](http://www.amergeog.org)

American Planning Association  
[www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org)

American Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing  
[www.asprs.org](http://www.asprs.org)

American Association of Geographers  
[www.aag.org](http://www.aag.org)

GIS Certification Institute  
[www.gisci.org](http://www.gisci.org)

Geospatial Info & Techno Association  
[www.gita.org](http://www.gita.org)

Imaging and Geospatial Information Society  
[www.asprs.org](http://www.asprs.org)

Pennsylvania Geographical Society  
[www.thepgs.org](http://www.thepgs.org)

Society of Women Geographers  
[www.iswg.org](http://www.iswg.org)

Urban and Regional Information Systems Assoc.  
[www.urisa.org](http://www.urisa.org)

# Building Your Resume for a Career in Geography

Building a strong resume for your career field starts long before you ever start your job search. Employers want to hire graduates who not only have the necessary educational background but also have experience applying that knowledge.

## Giovanni Geography

ggeog000@live.kutztown.edu, 555-555-5555

### COMPETENCIES & SKILLS

- Field Equipment: Garmin GPS, Abrams Stereoscope, Bruton Compass, Radimeter, Laser Level, YSI
- Relevant Software : ArcGIS, MapWindow GIS, SPSS, uDig, TerraView
- Ability to work independently and in a team setting
- Strong research and critical thinking skills
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Experience working with diverse populations

### EDUCATION

B.A. Kutztown University of Pennsylvania  
Major: Geography, Track: Geographical Planning  
Minor: Public Administration  
GPA: 3.73  
Dean's List

Kutztown, PA  
May 20xx

Fall 20xx-Spring 20xx

Related Courses: Introduction to GIS, Advanced GIS, Urban Geography, Environmental Planning, Cartography, Land Use Planning, Planning & Decision Making, Public Policy Making, Public Budgeting & Fiscal Management

### INTERNSHIP & EXTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

Maxatawny Township  
Township Planning Intern  
• Produce maps using ArcGIS and TerraView  
• Geocode addresses and query data  
• Utilize GPS to locate sewage drains  
• Research and gather geographical data for grant applications

Extern  
• Observed daily functions of Urban Planner including development of policies affecting zoning and housing  
• Attended public forum focused on current issues in local land use and community planning

Kutztown, PA  
Fall 20xx-Present

Sept 20xx

### FIELD EXPERIENCE

Costal Water Quality Analysis, Surface and Sub-surface Mapping of Wallops Island  
Dr. Geography, Independent Study in Geography  
• Assisted professorial advisor with GPR surveys and shore sampling  
• Collected and analyzed water quality sample utilizing YSI meter  
• Created geologic maps highlighting structural features including faults and folds

Wallops Island, VA  
Summer 20xx

### CAMPUS LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

President, Geographical Society at Kutztown University  
• Organize and facilitate bi-weekly club meetings  
• Coordinate professional speaker events focusing on geographical research and careers  
• Promote greater understanding of geography in everyday life via on-campus information sessions

Member, Geographical Society at Kutztown University  
Member, Gamma Theta Upsilon, International Geographical Honor Society  
Volunteer, Kutztown University Earth Day Celebration  
Recipient, Career Success Certificate, Kutztown University Career Development Center  
Recipient, Career Exploration Certificate, Kutztown University Career Development Center

Fall 20xx-Present

Fall 20xx-Present  
Spring 20xx-Present  
April 20xx-20xx  
Spring 20xx  
Fall 20xx

### WORK EXPERIENCE

Clothing Inc.  
Sales Associate  
• Resolve customer issues and answer patron inquiries  
• Process cash and credit transactions

Kutztown, PA  
Aug 20xx-Present

Learn more about your field and develop the necessary skills for employment by gaining hands-on experience through clinical practice.

Utilize summer breaks to acquire valuable experience via volunteer or employment opportunities related to your major.

Develop professionally through campus involvement and professional memberships. This illustrates responsibility, leadership abilities and time management skills.