

GEOGRAPHY

Bachelor of Arts: Geography

Bachelor of Arts: Geography/Global and Regional Studies

Bachelor of Arts: Geography/Environment and Planning

Bachelor of Science: Environmental Science/Geography

Minors: Cultural Geography, 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 a...)

- Investigative - "Thinker"
- Realistic - "Doer"
- Enterprising - "Persuader"

Related skills, values, and qualities

- Spatial thinking
- Abilities in GIS science 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

- Physical 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 and advocacy

For more information about the major

Contact the Geography Department, 105 Graduate Center, 610-683-4364, or visit 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

1ST 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.

DISCOVER

2ND 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.

EXPERIENCE

3RD 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 employment panels, site visits & networking events.
- Attend internship & job fairs.
- Take on a leadership role in a student organization or work.
- Consider graduate school options and prepare for

IMPLEMENT

4TH 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/elevator pitch.
- 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 or luncheon 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.

- Aerial Photo Interpreter
- Agricultural Extension Agent
- Air/Water Quality Control Manager
- Aviation designer
- Cartographer
- Climatologist
- Coastal Zone Manager
- Community Developer
- Computer Mapper
- Computer Programmer
- Diplomat
- Earth Scientist
- Ecologist
- Editor
- Environmental Consultant
- Environmental Impact Analyst
- Environmental Quality Specialist
- 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
- Rural Resource Planner/preservation
- 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.

- Colleges/Universities
- Construction/Building Companies
- Engineering Companies
- Environmental Protection Organizations
- Fuel Companies
- Greenhouses/arboretums
- Heritage Sites
- Museums
- Science/discovery Centers
- Research Laboratories
- Railroads
- Local/State/Federal Government
- Urban/Regional/County Planners
- Wildlands conservancy

Handshake

Handshake is the primary online resource
for preparing and connecting students and alumni with employers.
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/Employment Information

Bureau of Land Management
www.blm.gov Environmental

Careers World Job Bank
www.environmentaljobs.com

Environmental Protection Agency
www.epa.gov

Environmental Systems Research
Institute
www.esri.com

GIS Jobs Clearinghouse
www.gjc.org

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

New Scientist Jobs
www.newscientistjobs.com

Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access
www.pasda.psu.edu

US Geological Survey
www.usgs.gov/ohr

LinkedIn Job Search
www.linkedin.com/jobs

GIS Lounge
www.gislounge.com/gis-job-listings

Professional Associations

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

American Geographical Society
www.amergeog.org

American Planning Association
www.planning.org

American Society for Photogrammetry
& Remote Sensing
www.asprs.org

American Association of Geographers
www.aag.org

GIS Certification Institute
www.gisci.org

Geospatial Info & Techno Association
www.gita.org

Imaging and Geospatial Information Society
www.asprs.org

Pennsylvania Geographical Society
www.thepgs.org

Society of Women Geographers
www.iswg.org

Urban and Regional Information Systems Assoc.
www.urisa.org

Related Area Employers

Babcock and Wilcox Company
BEI Engineering
Berks County Planning Commission
Berks Nature
Blue Marsh Lake
Borough of Emmaus
Borough of Lansdale
City of Reading
Chester County Planning Commission
Element Environmental Solutions
ESRI
Hawk Mountain Bird Sanctuary
Lancaster Area Sewer Authority
Langan Engineering
Lehigh Valley Planning Commission
Lower Macungie Township
PA Department of Conservation and
Natural Resources
Pennoni
Perkiomen Watershed
Schuylkill County Municipal Authority
Tilden Township
Upper Milford Township
Wildlands Conservancy

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, www.linkedin.com/in/geography, 555-555-5555

PROFILE

Interested in a Geographic Information Systems position for the Allentown Township.

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

Kutztown, PA
Fall 20xx-Present

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

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 internships.

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.