

ABOUT THE MAJOR

Geography is a unique field that bridges the physical and social sciences; geographers study both natural earth systems and human societies, examining the interaction between the two. As a Geography student, you will learn to work with powerful technologies such as Geographic Information Science, digital Earth imagery (remote sensing), and spatial modeling. The University of Utah's Geography program will provide you with a collaborative, integrated approach to understanding complex 21st century challenges such as climate change, globalization, sustainability, urbanization, and living with hazards. You can also focus your studies and pursue an emphasis in up to two of the following areas:

- Climate Change & Landscape Dynamics
- Hazards, Resilience, & Human Security
- Population, Development, & Sustainability
- Remote Sensing of the Environment

Regardless of your emphasis, Geography has a long-standing field tradition that often involves travel to spectacular locations, some of which are in our own backyard. As a Geography student at the U, you'll have plenty of opportunities to get your boots muddy! Our program has a "No Student Left Inside" Initiative that encourages field work and labs where you will gain technical, real world experiences.




LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand the scientific discovery process in the discipline of geography.
- Understand at least one geographic subfield.
- Ability to think spatially and conduct basic spatial analysis.
- Ability to critically understand knowledge communicated in written and cartographic forms.

PLAN & PREPARE

At the U, we plan for our students to have an Exceptional Educational Experience identified by four broad categories we call the Learning Framework: Community, Knowledge & Skills, Transformation, and Impact. This major map will help you envision, explore, design, and plan your personalized Exceptional Educational Experience with the Learning Framework at the core. In addition to assisting you in planning your coursework and navigating the requirements of your major, this map will help you incorporate other kinds of experiences to expand your knowledge, support your development, and prepare you for the future you want.

GET STARTED TODAY

-  Schedule an appointment with an advisor advising.utah.edu
-  Visit ugs.utah.edu
-  Learn more about the Learning Framework ugs.utah.edu/learning-framework



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GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE

climate change & landscape dynamics; hazards, resilience, & human security; population, development, & sustainability; remote sensing of the environment

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES



"The teachers showed their passion about the subjects they were teaching and made me realize how intertwined Geography is across nearly all academics."

GEOGRAPHY & GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE

Use this map to explore, envision, design, and plan your Exceptional Educational Experience.

GETTING STARTED		MAKING PROGRESS		FINISHING UP	
COURSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Meet with an academic advisor- Take GEOG 1000 - Earth Environments and Global Change, GEOG 1005 (Lab) - Earth Environments and Global Change, and GEOG 1400 - Human Geography- Take MATH 1050 and WRTG 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Explore minors, certificates, and dual majors- Learn to generate and read your Degree Audit Report- Consider which one of our emphases is the right fit for you- Take a field course	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Take these courses:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GEOG 1180 - Introduction to Geo-Programming• GEOG 3100 - Intro to GIS¹ & Cartography• GEOG 3020 - Geographical Analysis• GEOG 3270 - Biogeography: Global Patterns of Life• GEOG 3400 - Population Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Take advanced technical courses- Take a geography seminar course- Apply for graduation- Complete your Bachelor's Degree requirements	
COMMUNITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Declare Geography as your major!- Attend Geography Awareness Week activities in November- Join the Geography Club- Explore campus activities on the ASUU² website	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Attend the Geography Weekly Speaker Series- Engage in research opportunities with a geography faculty member- Explore scholarship opportunities through the CSBS³ Ambassador and Solution Scholar programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Attend talks at the Global Change and Sustainability Center; Hinckley Institute of Politics; and Wallace Stegner Center for Land, Resources, and the Environment- Take on a leadership position in a campus organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Explore and join a professional organization like AAG⁴ or GTU⁵- Join Alumni Fire- Network at the AAG or other professional conferences	
KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Become familiar with academic resources: e.g. the Marriott Library, CSBS Computing, and Career Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Explore geography certificates like GIS, Remote Sensing, Hazards and Emergency Management, and Climate Change- Conduct an independent study or research with a faculty member	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Look for an internship; you can find opportunities on the Geography/GIS Canvas internship page, through the email listserv, or by working with the Internship Coordinator for CSBS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Take a capstone course like GEOG 5161 or GEOG 5131- Organize your course projects into a portfolio- Complete an internship	
TRANSFORMATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Meet with an academic advisor, career coach, or pre-professional advisor- Explore Learning Abroad opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Attend a social or cultural event you have never experienced before: e.g. sports event, museum, concert, play, etc.- Learn a language!	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Volunteer on an Alternative Break with the Bennion Center- Travel to a place you've never been before- Spend a semester abroad through Learning Abroad	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Work with your Research Advisor to find opportunities to present at a workshop or conference- Present at CSBS Research Day- Present at Maps on the Hill	
IMPACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Engage in a service opportunity with the Bennion Center and consider the Bennion Scholars program- Volunteer for local non-profits, museums, or mapping sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Explore relevant societal problems by attending a speaker series or other presentations on campus- Give a presentation to a geography class at a local high school	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Apply for a sustainability grant through SCIF⁶- Consider joining the Lassonde+X entrepreneurship program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Complete the "Where are you now?" survey- Present or publish research with a faculty member- Consider writing a thesis	
CAREER	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Get to know your Career Coach at the CPDC⁷- Activate your Handshake account to find jobs, internships, and career events	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Talk with an advisor about career options<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attend career fairs• Develop a resume• Attend graduate school career fairs• Develop a LinkedIn profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Attend the Geography Awareness Week Career Panel- Complete an internship with Hinckley Institute- Explore graduate school programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Practice interviewing at the CPDC- Refine your resume and application materials	

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER GRADUATION?

- Alternative Energy Development Specialist
- Community Development Specialist
- Consultant
- Data Manager
- Data Scientist
- Diplomat
- Emergency Manager
- Environmental Planner
- GIS Analyst
- K-12 Teacher
- Lawyer
- Municipal Planner
- Professor (Higher Education)
- Public Health Analyst
- Public Land Manager
- Public/Government Administrator
- Research Scientist
- Resiliency Planner
- Social Justice Advocate
- Software Developer
- Sustainability Coordinator
- Transportation Planner
- Urban Designer
- Urban Ecologist
- Urban Planning Analyst
- Urban Planning Researcher

¹Geographic Information Science ²Associate Students of the U of U ³College of Social & Behavioral Sciences ⁴American Association of Geographers ⁵Gamma Theta Upsilon Honors Society ⁶Sustainable Campus Initiative Fund ⁷Career & Professional Development Center