

GEOGRAPHY

WHAT IS GEOGRAPHY?

Geography is the study of the description of the Earth, but it is often considered to include any discipline that includes spatial analysis. Geographers usually study the earth's physical processes and its atmosphere, or humans' social and economic processes. Understanding these processes helps describe and predict distributions of people, resources, hazards, cities, etc. Majors at FHSU usually focus on GIS, urban geography, sustainability, or physical geography, including weather and climate.

GIS: (geographic information systems) computer system for collecting, storing, analyzing, and visualizing geographic (i.e., spatial) information. GIS is used to create dynamic maps in our daily lives, solve advanced research problems, educate students about places, processes, and patterns, and improve efficiency. All major governments and businesses around the world use GIS.

Urban geography is the study of how cities develop and/or should be managed. Urban geographers may study the placement of cities as part of larger systems/networks, or they may study individual cities to determine how to design infrastructure within that unique location best.

Physical geography: the study of spatial relationships and processes of the physical earth and atmosphere. This discipline often overlaps with other disciplines such as geology, biology, meteorology, etc.. Still, physical geographers tend to focus more on the importance of spatial variability and differences in processes according to variations in scale (i.e., size and time).

RELATED CAREER TITLES

Aerial-Photo Interpreter	Earth Scientist	Hazardous-Waste Planner	Project Planner for a county
Air-Pollution Specialist	Emergency Manager	Intelligence Agent	Public-Utilities Specialist
Avalanche Specialist	Energy Analyst	Land-Use Planner	Real-Estate Appraiser
Cartographic Editor/Illustrator	Environmental Consultant	Map Analyst	Recycling Coordinator
Climatologist	Environmental Health Scientists*	Map Curator/Librarian	Regional Environmentalist for DOT
Coastal-Zone Manager	Environmental Manager	Map Editor	Remote-Sensing Analyst
Community Developer	Environmental Quality Specialist	Market-Research Analyst	Risk Analyst in a corporation
Community-Development Analyst	Environmental-Impact Analyst	Meteorologist*	Soil Conservationist
Computer-Mapping Specialist	Foreign Services Officer	Natural-Resource Specialist	Surveyor
Data Analyst for insurance company	Geomorphologist	Outdoor Guide	Teacher*
Demographer	Geopolitical Specialist	Park Ranger	Tourism Developer
Director of Planning and Zoning for a city/town	GIS Analyst in a corporation	Principal Scientist in a corporation	Traffic-Management Specialist

*Career requires additional education

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RELATED CAREER TITLES (CONTINUED)

Transportation Manager	Water-Quality Scientist	Wetlands Conservation Supervisor	Zoning Administrator
Transportation Planner	Water-Resource Planner	Wildlife Manager*	Zoning Investigator
Urban/Regional Planner			

TRANSFERRABLE SKILLS

Computer skills	Organization and attention	Surveying and measuring
Evaluation & presentation	Photography	Team work
Information management	Research	Verbal & written communication
Numerical computations	Statistical analysis	

Attainment and demonstration of [NACE Career Readiness Competencies](#) help prepare for a successful transition into the workplace.

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Department of Geosciences - Tomanek Hall 233 - 785.628.5389

RELATED CAREER EXPLORATION LINKS

Geography job search: jobs.aag.org

FHSU Geosciences Jobs, Internships and Career Opportunities:

www.fhsu.edu/geo/students/opportunities

FHSU Career Development Office: www.fhsu.edu/career/

Occupational Outlook Handbook: www.bls.gov/ooh

 **handshake**
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