



# Geography

Degree: Bachelor of Arts

## *Introduction*

Geography is the study of the interrelationship between the earth and its people. It is considered both a social and natural science. The geographer observes and measures the human use of the earth under diverse combinations of natural and cultural environments. Such observations and measurements yield geographical knowledge that will help to understand our changing world and improve the performances of businesses, management, law, education, planning, public affairs, and other professions. Select from three emphases.

One of the fastest growing areas in geography is the use of geographic information sciences (GIS) to generate maps and store-map related information. GIS is a system of computer hardware and software that stores, displays, analyzes, and maps geographic information. Geographers, planners, land developers, real estate agents, utility companies, and municipal officials all use these systems.

Those electing a liberal arts emphasis in geography are generally preparing for careers in middle school teaching, cartography, recreation/travel planning, military or political intelligence or resource management. Examples of specific employment opportunities include map design and construction, international business representative, tour planning/operation and area specialist.

See the Secondary Endorsement Programs Major to Career Guide for more information about the geography secondary teaching emphasis.

## *What are some desirable personal qualities?*

- Get along well with others
- Good communication skills
- Flexibility and adaptability
- Creativity and imagination
- Interest in the natural and social science

## *What are some of the job tasks?*

- Interpret maps, graphs, and charts
- Investigate problems of the physical environment
- Study of:
  - Climate, vegetation, soil, and landforms
  - Effects of environment on health
  - Natural resources and economic activities
  - Physical and cultural aspects of an area

## *What are some potential occupations?*

Biogeographer  
Climatologist  
Environmental Specialist  
Geographer  
Economic            Historical  
Physical             Political  
Regional            Social  
Urban

## *What are some potential occupations? (con't.)*

Geographic Information System (GIS) Specialist  
Industrial Consultant  
International Economist  
Land Use Analyst  
Map Curator  
Map Editor  
Metallurgist  
Natural Resource Evaluator  
Quality Assurance Specialist  
Range Conservationist  
Sedimentation Specialist  
Soil Conservationist  
Urban or Regional Planner  
Weather Briefer  
Weather Information Analyst

## *Who hires?*

- Educational Institutions  
/Textbook Publishers
- Federal and State Agencies
- GIS Consulting Firms
- Insurance Companies
- Manufacturing Firms
- Planning Offices
- Real Estate Developers
- Recreation Associations/Map Publishers
- Transportation Companies
- Travel Agencies
- Water Resources Agencies

## *Additional information*

Volunteer work, part-time jobs, internships, and cooperative education experiences in chemistry provide valuable experience and can lead to full-time employment after graduation.

Career opportunities for chemists who have received advanced degrees seem to be unlimited.

Strongest employment opportunities are anticipated in the pharmacological, petrochemical, and environmental areas.

Those interested in managerial positions in business and industry may benefit from additional course work in business area.

**Path to Ultimate Career Guide**

**<http://www.pakbridge.com>**