What to do with a degree in Geography

http://geog.okstate.edu/

The Department of Geography offers two degree options in Geography: a Bachelor of Science (BS), and a Bachelor of the Arts (BA) degree for those students interested in pursuing a more traditional liberal arts program. Both degrees provide preparation for careers in resource management, education, government service, and high-tech and information industries. A Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) consists of 21 hours of GIS and affiliated coursework including database management, computer programming, and quantitative analysis and can be completed concurrently with undergraduate coursework.

Geography majors develop the following skills:

Project Development:
- Plan long term projects
- Develop Project designs
- Maintain records
- Evaluation

Interpersonal:
- Identify value systems
- Observe human interaction
- Understand group dynamics
- Surveying & sampling
- Interview skills

Research and Analysis:
- Gather, examine & organize data
- Computer modeling
- Utilize statistical applications
- Read/construct maps and graphs
- Conduct field studies

Communication:
- Communicate across cultures
- Summarize results
- Understand diverse cultures
- Present/defend position

Get Involved

Gmma Theta Upsilon
Geography Club
Geography Information Systems Club

https://campuslink.okstate.edu

Job and Internship Websites

- American Geographic Society
  http://americangeo.org
- Association of American Geographers
  http://www.aag.org/cs/jobs_and_careers/jobs_in_geography_center/opportunities_for_students
- Chevron
- ESRI
  http://www.esri.com/careers
- Geography Jobs
  http://www.geographyjobs.com/
- Geo Search Inc.
- GIS Careers
  http://www.giscareers.com/
- GIS Jobs
  http://www.mygisjobs.com/Category/gis-internships
- GIS Jobs Clearinghouse
  http://www.gjc.org/
- National Geographic
  http://www.nationalgeographic.com/jobs/
  http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/ngs-geography-internship/?ar_a=1
- SWAAG
  http://www.sw-aag.org/
- USA Jobs
  https://www.usajobs.gov
- US Geological Society
  http://www.usgs.gov/ohr/

College of Arts & Sciences Career Services

213 Life Science East
Tel: 405 744 5658

For appointments and resources:
http://cascareers.okstate.edu
**Urban Planner/Community Development:** Geography is naturally tied with urban or city planning. City planners work on zoning, land use, and new developments. They work with individual property owners, developers, and other officials.

**Physical Geography:** Examine the distribution of earth’s surface features and analyze the processes that create and shape land forms. This requires dealing with problems of air and/or water pollution and managing of disposal of solid, toxic and hazardous waste. They also study the impact of volcano eruptions and earthquakes.

**Cartography:** The news media, book publishers, atlas publishers, government agencies and others are looking for cartographers to help produce maps.

**Geospatial Technologies:** Geospatial technologies, which include Geographic Information Systems (GIS), the Global Positioning Systems (GPS), and Remote Sensing are powerful tools used to store, analyze, visualize, and present spatial information. Together with appropriate cartographic techniques and principles, geographers are using geospatial technologies to better understand the interaction of various factors across space. Anything that can be geo-referenced can be analyzed spatially, which means that geospatial tools can be used in every aspect of the practice of geography.

**Health Geography:** This is the application of geographical information, perspectives, and methods to the study of health, disease, and health care. The health of human populations reflects the complex interplay between population characteristics and the environment. Geographers study where and how these conditions can be mapped and remediated.

**Land Planning:** Land use planning involves the scientific, aesthetic, and orderly disposition of land, resources, facilities, and services with a view to securing the physical, economic and social efficiency, and health and well-being of urban and rural communities. Land use planners are responsible for prescribing short-term and long-range developmental paths that a geographic entity, such as a neighborhood, community, or county will follow. Planners analyze questions related to population growth patterns, traffic patterns and congestion, pollution, recreation, water and waste materials, available resources, social services, land use, and economic issues in order to advance a planning agenda.

**Environmental Management:** Many environmental assessment, cleanup, and management companies exist throughout the world today. A geographer brings excellent skills for project management and the development of reports like environmental impact reports. These positions involve taking care in monitoring the balance between nature and the human use of the earth.

**Human and Cultural Geography:** Focus on aspects of geography that relate to different cultures with an emphasis on cultural origins, movement, and cultural characteristics of region. Field observations are critical and language skills often are an asset.

**Writer/Researcher:** As a geography major you learn how to research and that can be applied to scientific writing, research for books or publications or work as a travel writer for a magazine or newspaper.

### Types of Employers
- US National Forest Service
- Gas and Oil Companies
- Real Estate Groups
- National/State Parks
- Insurance Companies
- US Dept. of Agriculture
- City/County GIS Departments
- Utility Companies
- State Dept. of Transportation
- State Dept. of Natural Resources
- GIS/Remote Sensing Software Companies
- US Census Bureau

### Job Titles
- Cartographer
- Geoscientist
- Surveyor/Surveying Technician
- Air Pollution Specialist
- Airlines Researcher
- Demographic Analyst
- Director of Planning and Zoning
- Community Development Analyst
- GIS Programmer
- Environmental Scientist
- GIS Technician
- Remote Sensing Analyst
- Soil Conservationist
- Agricultural Extension Agent
- Hydrologist
- Tourism Consultant
- Urban and Community Planner
- Transportation Manager
- Forestry Technician
- Hazardous Waste Planner
- GIS Analyst
- Geomorphologist
- Location Expert/Analyst
- Market/Retail Researcher