What can I do with a degree in… Geography?

UW Department of Geography

“Geography is the science of place and space. Geographers ask where things are located on the surface of the earth, why they are located where they are, how places differ from one another, and how people interact with the environment.”


The median salary for those working as a geographer was $72,800 in May 2010. Most positions in that field require at least a master’s degree. Entry-level positions open to those with a bachelor’s degree often require training in GIS or previous experience in the field.

The job outlook for geographers is expected to grow 30% between 2010 and 2020 which is much faster than average. Most other occupations associated with a geography degree are expected to grow at the average rate of other fields.

Career Options

- Human Geography—studying aspects of geography related to different cultures, especially cultural origins & characteristics of regions
- Physical Geography—studying earth processes such as climate & weather
- Geographic Technology—using various technologies to generate maps as well as store, analyze & interpret map information
- Natural Resource Management—addressing concerns about how human beings use the earth & impact the environment
- Planning—working to ensure that communities develop in an orderly way & have the services necessary to support them.

Employers of Recent Graduates

- Infinity Power & Control
- Wyoming State Geological Survey
- Wyoming Game & Fish
- Bureau of Land Management
- Cowboy Exploration

For More Information

Center for Advising and Career Services
Phone: 307-766-2398
Email: uwcacs@uwyo.edu
Website: www.uwyo.edu/cacs
Potential Employment Fields

- Community Development/
  Redevelopment
- Historic Preservation
- Geographic Information Systems
- Remote Sensing
- Hydrology
- Waste Management & Disposal
- Education
- Academics and Research

Graduate Study?
- A bachelor’s degree will qualify you for entry level positions in government and industry
- An undergraduate degree also provides a broad foundations for a variety of career endeavors
- A Master’s degree will meet the qualifications for advancement in government and industry as well as teaching at the community college level
- A Ph.D. will be required for senior positions in government and industry as well as research and teaching positions in colleges and universities

****Internship Websites

- Student Conservation Association
  www.the sca.org
  Conservation-related internships
- Idealist
  www.idealista.org
  Internships & volunteer opportunities in the non-profit sector
- Making the Difference
  www.makingthedifference.org
  Useful info for finding internships with agencies of the federal government such as Forest Service, BLM NRCS etc.