Geography & Physical Geography
The Department of Geography
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MAJORS OFFERED:
Bachelor of Arts in Geography
Optional Emphasis in Geographic Information Science
Bachelor of Science in Physical Geography

Geography is a complex discipline allied to the social, biological, and physical sciences, concerned with the physical environment and the human element that operates within that environment. Modern geographers work with highly sophisticated equipment and master techniques to deal with pressing problems that have environmental, social, political, and economic implications. UCSB’s emphasis on the technology and theory of Geographic Information Science (GIS) is at the forefront of the field.

At UCSB, faculty and students in the Geography Department investigate topics ranging from satellite remote sensing of deforestation in Brazil, to the role of rapid transit systems in the spread of urban areas, to spatial and geographic cognition in virtual environments.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH GEOGRAPHY?
The Geography major prepares students for careers in business, government, and education, as well as for graduate study in theoretical and applied geography. UCSB’s Geography majors have career opportunities in state and local government offices, with the federal government (for example, the U.S. departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Interior, Transportation, and NASA), and with international organizations. Geography students also establish careers in specialized areas such as remote sensing, aerial photography, and cartography and pursue employment in resource evaluation and management, environmental impact analysis, and urban and regional planning.

WHY IS GEOGRAPHY AT UCSB A GREAT CHOICE?
• UCSB’s Department of Geography is at the forefront of the recent revolution in both geographical theory and methodology, and is the lead institution in the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis.
• The department’s faculty and resources offer excellence in all areas of the field ranging from natural resource management, to climatology and meteorology, to mathematical modeling of geographical dynamics.
• Geography students develop the fundamental skills of scientific inquiry and acquire the computing, cartographic, and remote-sensing skills necessary to succeed in the field.
• The emphasis in Geographic Information Science offers deeper study of the science behind spatial information technologies, such as Google Earth and similarly influential tools.

LINKS FOR EXPLORATION
About the Department
http://www.geog.ucsb.edu/undergrad/about-us/what-is-geography/
Undergraduate Study
Meet the Faculty
http://www.geog.ucsb.edu/people/faculty/
FAQ on Geography
http://www.geog.ucsb.edu/undergrad/about-us/faqs/

USEFUL CAMPUS SERVICES
Advice on Choosing a Major
http://www.lsugeducation.ucsb.edu/advising/major
UCSB Catalog
http://my.sa.ucsb.edu/catalog
UCSB Career Services
http://career.sa.ucsb.edu/
Campus Learning Assistance Services
http://clas.sa.ucsb.edu/CLAS_services.htm