

Applied Geography

MAJOR MAP

How to use the map

This map is designed to give you information about your chosen major that will help keep you on track for graduation within 4 years. The introductory sections will help orient you to the “big picture” ideas like the topics and areas of interest inside your major, the kinds of courses you will take, university policies including admissions, and other general topics. The chart on the second page will help you to develop a productive plan to make the most of your 4 years at East Carolina University and prepare yourself for the job market after graduation.

Remember, it is important that you diversify your experiences, both for success in your degree program and for success outside of school. While coursework is important, it should not be your only focus. The chart below will show you how to incorporate other kinds of experiences that will expand your knowledge of your chosen field and make you a more desirable job candidate. The map is only a guideline. Remember to speak with your advisor often to learn about new opportunities, clarify concerns, and develop a plan that is right for you.



Questions?

East Carolina University offers an array of support to help you grow and learn from your first day of orientation until your graduation. New Student Orientation, Pirate to Pirate Mentoring, the University Writing Center, and the Career Center are only a few of the services and centers available to assist you throughout your time on campus.

WORKPLACE SUCCESS

What employers want

A major in Applied Geography will equip you with the tools to examine the connection between human society and infrastructure within the surrounding geographical and environmental context. Skills that allow you to achieve these objectives include:

1. Ability to approach solutions from societal, physical, and technological perspective.
2. Apply technologies to map and locate land forms and cultural resources.
3. Use spatial analysis techniques and spatial statistics.
4. Effectively convey information in written and visual forms.
5. Measure water flow dynamics and water quality.
6. Harness cultural awareness skills to problem-solve.
7. Develop a global perspective on societal and environmental challenges.
8. Be self-motivated and independent.

WHAT CAN I LEARN?

Geography bridges the social and natural sciences. There are two main branches of geography: human geography and physical geography. Human geography examines people, cultures and places and interactions with the environment. Physical geographers study the environment through patterns of climate, landforms, vegetation, soil, and water.

Applied Geography is a field that solves real-world problems of human and environment interactions that have a spatial dimension. Geographic skills and techniques include geographic information science (GIS), remote sensing, field measurements, as well as surveys and interviews for data collection, analysis and evaluation. Applied geographers use their diverse skills to find solutions for environmental and cultural problems including coastal and river processes, water pollution and its relationship to land use, sustainability and development in different locations, physical processes in urban environments, and social justice issues connected to place, gender and resources. Graduates will be employed in fields related to resource management, community or economic development and policy analysis.



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THOMAS HARRIOT COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Applied Geography



ABOUT THE CONCENTRATION

The B.S. degree in Applied Geography in the Department of Geography, Planning and Environment explores the connections between society, land use, landform processes, and climate, linking these disciplines with cutting-edge geospatial technologies. Our award-winning faculty and students work together to understand how spatial patterns, social processes, and environmental forces create challenges and opportunities faced by societies around the world.

Those interested in environmental issues can learn about the physical and human components of such topics as coastal and river processes, water pollution and its relationship to land use, and sustainability of environments and development in different locations. Those interested in societal issues can study urban processes, global interactions, and regional differences, social justice and many others.

DEGREE OPTIONS

With the Applied Geography degree, you will take courses in human and environmental geography as well as geographic information science (GIS). The B.S. degree requires:

- 40 semester hours of general education requirements.
- 7 semester hours of core courses including GEOG 2400 (Spatial Data Analysis), GEOG 2410 (Fundamentals of GIS), and GEOG 4999 (Geography Professional Seminar).
- 15 semester hours of human geography courses.
- 15 semester hours of environmental (physical) geography courses.
- 9 semester hours of Geographical

- Information Science (GIS) courses.
- 18 semester hours in a minor program.
- 3 semester hours of internship.
- Electives to complete a total of 120 semester hours to complete the degree.



ADMISSIONS INFO

You can apply through the Office of Undergraduate Admissions website at www.ecu.edu/admissions. To be considered for admission, freshmen applicants will submit their high school transcript and standardized test scores. Transfer applicants will submit official transcripts from all previously attended institutions. Application deadlines and specific admissions requirements are listed on the website.

COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

The major offers a number of exciting courses. Some of these include:

- GEOG 1000: People, Places and Environment. Provides an overview of the discipline, covering both cultural and physical topics.
- GEOG 1250: The Water Planet. Includes a physical-environment focus.
- GEOG 2100: World Geography: Developed Regions. Provide topical surveys of physical, environmental and cultural characteristics of the countries in each region.
- GEOG 2110: World Geography: Provides a global understanding of the cultures, livelihoods and environments that shape societies around the world.
- GEOG 4250: Environmental Impact Analysis: Evolution of the practice of environmental analysis in regulatory and decision-making contexts, with emphasis on the US National Environmental Policy Act.
- GEOG 4360: Geographies of Global Climate and Environmental Change: Examines social, economic and political aspects of climate change from the perspectives of human-environmental geography.

WHY APPLIED GEOGRAPHY?

The Department of Geography, Planning and Environment offers 4 undergraduate degree so students in the Applied Geography degree will be in classes with others majoring in Atmospheric Science, Urban and Regional Planning and GIST. This cross-fertilization strengthens their ability to work in interdisciplinary teams. Employment in geography is projected to grow over the next 10 years according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Applied Geography MAJOR MAP

DEGREE INFORMATION



FIRST YEAR >>>

SECOND YEAR >>>

THIRD YEAR >>>

FOURTH YEAR >>>

POST-GRAD OPTIONS

THE COURSES YOU NEED

Begin working on General Education requirements. Register for ENGL 1100 and MATH 1065. Take GEOG 1000/1250 in the fall and GEOG 2400 in the spring.

Continue with General Education requirements. Register for ENGL 2100 and GEOG 2250 in the fall, as well as another GEOG course (environmental or language). In the spring, register for GEOG 2410 and two more GEOG courses, (1 environmental and 1 human).

The third year you should finish up your General Education courses and start a minor (if applicable). Register for GEOG 4330 or language and GEOG course (human) in the fall. In the spring, sign up for 3 GEOG courses: GIS/ language, Human & Environment.

Complete the minor with the required courses. Register for GEOG 4803, 4410 or language, and a GEOG Environment and Human course in the fall. Register for GEOG 4999 and the final two GEOG courses, Environment and Human.

Students who graduate with a degree in Geography have a variety of career options. Some of these include:

GAIN RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Explore your major and career options in consultation with your advisor. By the end of your first year you should have developed plans to complete specific internships, develop the experience necessary for the kind of employment you want, or begin to identify potential graduate schools.

Meet with [Career Services](#) often to work on your post-graduation plans. Investigate job-related skills and identify gaps in your résumé so you can address them early. Use the [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#), [USAJobs.gov](#), and/or other resources available through [Career Services](#) to identify common skills in your career field.

Internships, part-time jobs, student leadership positions, and volunteer or community engagement activities can help build your résumé and give you valuable experience. Some common internship placements are with Greenville Utilities, Pitt County Planning, Montgomery Botanical Center, Uptown Greenville, and AMEXCAN, Inc.

Volunteering for political, governmental, or social organizations is a great way to get experience in your field, build your résumé, test your interest in working with diverse populations, and develop your professional network. Consider volunteering for organizations such as the Food Bank, Red Cross or Habitat for Humanity.

- Transportation planner
- Energy services technician
- Peace corps
- GIS technician
- Project manager environmental assessment
- GIS specialist
- Town planner
- Economic development specialist
- Environmental educator
- International relief work
- Work with government agencies
- Businesses in the private sector

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Emails from the department will let you know about upcoming guest lectures, internship opportunities, and special events. Consider attending the departments colloquium series that exposes students to different aspects of the discipline and career options.

Join GeoClub and other student organizations that suit your interests, which may include the Southeast Division of the AAG (SEDAAG) and the [Association of Women in Science \(AWIS\)](#). For a full list of student organizations, visit [OrgSync](#).

Connect with the [Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement](#) to explore local opportunities. Also consider contacting community partners using the [Orgsync](#) directory. To build your professional network, join a professional organization like [American Association of Geographers \(AAG\)](#).

Submit a proposal to present a polished research paper from one of your classes at the Annual Meeting of Southeast Division of the AAG, the North Carolina GIS conference, the North Carolina ArcGIS Users Group conference and the Applied Geography conference.

THINK GLOBALLY

Being internationally aware and culturally competent is increasingly important. Consider taking courses such as GEOG 2003: Geography of the Global Economy, GEOG 3049: Latin America, GEOG 3051: Asia, or GEOG 4320: Gender, Economy and Development over the next three years.

Integrate internationally-oriented classes into your electives and consider a minor or second major in an international field or foreign language. Consider a Summer or semester-long study abroad program to Costa Rica or Jamaica. Apply for study abroad scholarships in the early Fall.

Make the most of your return from your study abroad or internship program by becoming more active in your student organizations. Work with the [Office of Global Affairs](#) and the [Career Center](#) to learn how to leverage your study abroad experience to improve your job placement possibilities.

Take on a leadership position in one of your globally-oriented student organizations. Complete your program by incorporating more internationally-focused courses.

VISIT US ONLINE

For more information and an interactive map PDF, visit: www.ecu.edu/degrees/BS/Applied+Geography

CAREER PREPAREDNESS

Visit [Career Services](#) to learn about their resources. Check out the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) and [Virtual Job Shadow](#) to explore potential careers. Log in to [Handshake](#) to set up your profile, check out career events, and begin to explore potential employers and job opportunities.

Meet with your Career Counselor to explore your goals and develop your résumé. Attend career fairs and other employer-related activities. Consider working with a faculty member to do research such as data collection in the field or analysis in the lab.

Develop your [LinkedIn](#) profile. Meet with your Career Counselor to discuss postgraduation plans. If needed, research graduate schools and program requirements. Continue to attend career fairs and other employer-related career events.

Meet with your Career Counselor to put your post-graduation plans into action. Refine your résumé, [LinkedIn](#) profile, and interview skills. Complete the Pirate Employment Survey. Senior will take Professional Development Seminar (GEOG 4999) that allows them to consider graduate school or a professional career.

APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS EACH YEAR

CONSIDER AN INTERNSHIP

