

### What is Geography?

Geography is an interdisciplinary study of the earth and its inhabitants. Divided into two main branches—human and physical geography—geographers explore natural landscapes, natural disasters, the atmosphere, climate changes, as well as urban development, cultural origins, human settlements, human migration, poverty and the distribution of resources.

**Contemporary issues in Geography:** Environmental Planning, Urban and Transportation Planning, Urban Inequality, Habitat Conservation, and Sustainable Development.

### Where does my path start?

You will complete an Associate of Arts – Direct Transfer Agreement (AA-DTA) at Shoreline.

Use the AA -DTA **Degree Planning Guide** to understand the requirements for graduation.

Once you complete your Shoreline degree, you can transfer to a four-year school to earn a baccalaureate degree in Geography.

Geography is also an excellent major for graduate studies in Social Sciences, as well as Medicine, Law, and Education.

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### Where can I go for help?

#### Geography Faculty Advisors

**Chip Dodd** 206-546-4653  
[cdodd@shoreline.edu](mailto:cdodd@shoreline.edu) Rm 5354

#### Career Planning

[www.shoreline.edu/job-career-services/](http://www.shoreline.edu/job-career-services/)

#### General Academic Advising

FOSS (5000) Building, Rm. 5229  
206-546-4559  
[advising@shoreline.edu](mailto:advising@shoreline.edu)  
[www.shoreline.edu/advising](http://www.shoreline.edu/advising)

#### International Student Academic Advising

9000 Building, Rm. 9302  
206-546-4697  
[leadvisors@shoreline.edu](mailto:leadvisors@shoreline.edu)  
[www.shoreline.edu/international/advising/](http://www.shoreline.edu/international/advising/)

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### Where can I transfer?

Students can transfer to a number of public and private colleges and universities in the U.S., but the Direct Transfer Agreement applies only within Washington. The following colleges in Washington offer a bachelor's degree in Geography, which may require specific courses for admission. Contact the Geography department at your chosen four-year school(s) for more information.

[Central Washington University](#)  
[Eastern Washington University](#)

[The Evergreen State College](#)  
[University of Washington – Seattle](#)

[Western Washington University](#)

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### What can I do with a Bachelor's Degree in Geography?

The study of Geography gives students the knowledge and skills to be competitive in a wide range of careers. From broad skills in research, data analysis, management, and critical thinking to specific skills in cartography, mapping, and geographic information systems, graduates can work in a number of fields, such as: conservation, environmental management, urban planning, research, waste management, teaching, reporting, publishing, law, state and local government.

**Potential employers include:** Federal, state and local governments, colleges and universities, urban planners, natural history museums, national parks, research institutes, environmental consultants, Health and Human Services, law firms, marketing firms, insurance agencies, public advocacy groups, private foundations, non-profit organizations, public utilities, waste management companies and real estate developers. For more, please visit [www.shoreline.edu/advising/counseling-services/career-counseling.aspx](http://www.shoreline.edu/advising/counseling-services/career-counseling.aspx)

**What courses should I take?\***

*Below are recommendations for fulfilling the AA-DTA requirements if you are planning to pursue a four-year degree in Geography.*

**Strongly Recommended**

These are commonly **required** for admission. Check with your chosen four-year program(s) to confirm.

**Other Recommendations**

These courses are well-matched with this major, but are not commonly required for admission.

**I. GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS**

**Quant. and Symb. Reasoning**

MATH& 146

**II. DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS**

**Humanities**

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HUM 111, 112, 113, 160, MUSC 108, PHIL 102, 210, 230

**Natural Sciences**

GEOG 203

ANTH &205, BIOL 107, 124, 144, &213, CHEM 171/182, ENV& &100, &101, 202, GEOG 204, GEOL &101, &103, 107, &115, &208, OCEA &101

**Social Sciences**

GEOG &100

ANTH &100, &206, ECON 100, &201, &202, GEOG &200, HIST 218, 245, 246, 247, 256, PHIL 102, 210, 230, POLS &101, &202, &203, 276, PSYC &200, 208, 245, SOC &101, &201, 250, 288, GWS 205, 215, 284, 285

**III. GENERAL ELECTIVES**

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GEOG &200, 250, 277, BIOL &211, MATH &142, additional lab science in Biology, Chemistry, Geology or Physics; World Language if required for university admission or graduation.

**What does your chosen four-year school require?**

Before choosing classes, become familiar with the four-year program where you want to apply: visit the website, email the department, and/or speak with a Shoreline advisor. Below are examples from Washington schools with different admissions and graduation requirements. Check with the school for world language requirements. (Non-native speakers of English are often exempt from this requirement.)

School	Degrees	Requirements	SCC Courses
Central Washington University	B.A. in Geography, B.S. in Environmental and Resource Geography; B.S. in Geographic Information Sciences	Application requirements – Program application and diagnostic essay	GEOG &100, &200, 203 and 250
University of Washington – Seattle	B.A. in Geography	Admission requirements— A 2.0 grade is required in each Geography course and an overall 2.5 GPA in Geography courses is required for admission.	GEOG &200, 203, 204, and 250
Western Washington University	B.A. in Geography	Admissions Requirements – MATH &142, &146, BIOL &211, CHEM 171/172, GEOG &200, 203, 204, ECON &201, a Political Science course, and an additional course in Biology, Chemistry, Geology or Physics. Essay. Recommended: Involvement in environmental groups or volunteering for an environmental organization.	

**\*\* This unofficial guide is intended to support you as you prepare for your major. Please consult with an advisor and your chosen four-year school(s), as program and admissions requirements vary and may change without notice.**