

## GLOBAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE

[http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/cos/geography.html#global\\_and\\_environmental\\_change\\_bs](http://www.gmu.edu/catalog/cos/geography.html#global_and_environmental_change_bs)

### Name and description of the field.

This interdisciplinary undergraduate program, one of the first of its kind in the nation, distinguishes itself from other degrees in the natural sciences in that it examines, from local, regional, and global scales the dynamics of Earth's systems and their interactions: the geosphere, the atmosphere, the ecosphere, and the sociosphere. In addition, it emphasizes the dynamic and changing Earth systems and the use of Earth observing and remote sensing and related geoinformation technologies in detecting changes. It is jointly run by the Departments of Geography and Geoinformation Science (GGS) and Environmental Science & Policy (ESP).

### Is it possible to minor in Global and Environmental Change?

No. A minor in Global and Environmental Change is not available at this time.

### Possible Career Opportunities?

Since the degree is new, there is little data available at this time on recent graduate positions. However, since the curriculum is focused in Global Change and Environmental Science research, career opportunities that attract both focuses would apply. Especially positions that emphasize the study of dynamic and changing Earth systems and the use of Earth observing/remote sensing and related geoinformation technologies in detecting changes are applicable.

### Potential Employing Organizations

#### Federal and State Government:

Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of the Census, Central Intelligence Agency, Department of Agriculture, Library of Congress, Soil Conservation Service, State Department and National Oceanographic and Aeronautical Administration, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, National Park Service, and Topographic Engineering Center (US Army Corps of Engineers), Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, United States Environmental Protection Agency, US Department of Energy, the American Type Culture Collection and the Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

#### Private Industry and Non-profit Organizations:

Boeing, AMEC, conservation societies, data analysis firms, environmental management firms, geographic societies, libraries, industrial or commercial location firms, the Caribbean Central American Action, Logistics Management Institute NVCC.

### Resources for further information:

A key element in effective decision making is having sufficient information about the major or career being explored. Sources of information include people in the field, professional associations relating to the field, faculty and your career services counselor. Below are additional resources to aid in exploration:

#### Professional and Local Associations/Clubs:

- National Geographic Society
- American Geographical Society
- United States Geological Survey
- American Geological Institute - <http://www.agiweb.org>
- U.S. Geological Survey - <http://www.usgs.gov>
- Mason Student Clubs/Orgs/Societies Science and Technology Umbrella - [http://sa.gmu.edu/student\\_orgs/orgs.php#stu](http://sa.gmu.edu/student_orgs/orgs.php#stu)
- American Association for the Advancement of Science - <http://www.aaas.org/>

#### Printed and Online Resources

- Career Services Library, 348 SUB1 - <http://careers.gmu.edu/careerlibrary/wheretostart/geog.pdf>
- <http://careers.gmu.edu/onlineresources/geog.htm>

### Science Related Job/Internship Postings:

- <http://cos.gmu.edu/students/careerservices>
- <http://cos.gmu.edu/students/careerservices>
- <http://www.aaas.org/careercenter/>
- [http://green.gmu.edu/for\\_students/internships.html](http://green.gmu.edu/for_students/internships.html)
- <http://www.ecojobs.com/index.php>

### What kinds of practical experience are recommended to explore Global and Environmental Change further?

Practical experience can be obtained through student research projects, summer jobs, internships, and co-op. Practical experience of this sort greatly improves one's chances of finding meaningful employment after graduation.

### Whom should students contact for further information?

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