Geography
IU School of Liberal Arts

ABOUT THE MAJOR

Geography is the study of spatial patterns and processes associated with phenomena in both the natural world and the world of human affairs. While studying this major, you may learn about the spread of disease, the sprawl of cities, the distribution of plants and animals, or the diffusion of culture and ideas based on spatial components. As a geographer, you will learn methods the natural sciences, the social sciences, and even the arts. You will learn tools to understand the fundamentals of place including maps, satellite images, interviews, or field work.

Skills and abilities this major develops include: analytical skills, communication, critical thinking, writing, and research (IU School of Liberal Arts, 2017).

OPPORTUNITIES AFTER GRADUATION

Career Opportunities
Students who studied geography will have various opportunities in environmental management, technology, and more. According to the Occupational Outlook Handbook (2017) the job outlook for environmental scientists and specialists is expected to grow 11% from 2014-2024. Geoscientists have a job outlook of growing faster than average at 10% through 2024.

Salary Information
The average starting salary for IU School of Liberal Arts graduates from IUPUI was $33,495 for the May 2016 graduating cohort. The median starting salary for liberal arts graduates was $50,500 for the class of May 2016 according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE, 2017).

(This section is intended for informational purposes, not prediction of actual salary.)

Graduate & Professional School Paths
Geography majors often pursue advanced degrees in the following areas: Natural Sciences, Geography, Education, Urban Planning, Regional Planning, and Business Management, among others.

WHERE TO GET MORE INFORMATION

IU School of Liberal Arts
Department of Geography
213 Cavanaugh Hall
liberalarts.iupui.edu/geogdept

American Geographical Society
www.americangeo.org

Geospatial Information & Technology Association
gita.org

Sample Coursework:
- Human geography
- Research methods in geography
- Environmental geography
- Medical geography
- Geography of wine
- Urban geography
- Cartography & graphics

Possible Careers:
- Cartographer
- Environmental consultant
- Geographical information systems officer
- Landscape architect*
- Surveyor
- Urban/Regional planner*

* = Career option requires additional training or education.

Where Could I Work?
- City of Indianapolis
- Department of Environmental Management
- Information technology
- Public health
- State of Indiana
- Urban planning

Complementing Interests:
- Investigative
- Realistic
- Enterprising

Get your interest code at go.iupui.edu/interests

Have questions for Academic & Career Development? Schedule an appointment:
acd.iupui.edu (317) 274-4856