

Geography Major & Geography Department

TOP 5 FACTS:

1. **Geography is the study of the people, places and environments of our world.**
2. **We love our students and love what we do! We encourage undergraduate research, assist students in securing internships, and get to know our majors.**
3. **Non-majors are welcome to take our courses and can earn a GIS Certificate.**
4. **We get out and *do* geography with our students. Many students participate in study abroad, fieldwork, local trips, community service, and travel to academic conferences as well as conduct independent research opportunities.**
5. **The Geography Department at UMW has some of the most state-of-the art classroom and lab facilities of any geography program in the region.**

- 10 full-time faculty, 5 regular adjuncts
- Approx. 90 majors (one of the biggest geography departments in any liberal arts college)
- Most classes have less than 25 students; maximum class size is 70
- Major requires 35 credits and can be completed in 2 years
- Many major classes also satisfy general education requirements
- We cover all aspects of geography – from physical science & environmental to cultural development & planning, to globalization & geopolitics
- Includes classes that fulfill requirements in American Studies, International Affairs, Environmental Science, Computer Science, Historic Preservation & the Education program
- Home of minors in Urban Studies and Middle Eastern Studies, as well as GIS certificate

Geography is the home of the Geographic Information Science Certificate (GISC) program

GIS is a rapidly growing field that uses computer software to create map layers and to analyze them.

GIS is used by the intelligence & military communities, developers & planners, environmental & geoscientists, historians, biologists ... employers are looking for liberal arts graduates with GIS skills!

GISC can be taken with any major; it is common for biology, historic preservation, & environmental science.

Opportunities

- Study Abroad experiences within the major
- Undergraduate research with endowment funding, locally, regionally and abroad
- Attendance & presentation of research at regional and national academic conferences

Our graduates are employed in the following areas:

- Intelligence Agencies
- Local and Regional Planning Agencies
- National Park Service
- Environmental conservation
- National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration
- United States Geological Survey
- Non-Governmental Organizations
- Teaching & Graduate School in geography, planning, urban & environmental studies, international development

Facilities:

- A fully-equipped GIS & cartography lab with dual monitors, modern work stations & extensive software
- Classrooms with state-of-the-art audio-visual facilities, computer equipment
- Large collection of maps and remotely sensed imagery
- Dedicated physical geography lab for courses in climatology and geomorphology
- Fully equipped pollen analysis lab

For more information, please go to <https://cas.umw.edu/geography/>

Did you think geography was just going to be learning all the capitals? We do things differently here. We hike through ancient glaciers. We explore the geography of southern food. We learn about local development, and then travel to Guatemala to put our knowledge to work. We design and analyze maps about natural hazards. We are relevant. We are award-winning. We make a difference in our world.

University of Mary Washington Geography
We are not your average
GEOGRAPHY program.

