

Geography

BSC MAJOR AND MINOR, MAJOR WITH HONOURS,
BA MAJOR, MAJOR WITH HONOURS, MINOR, AND EXTENDED MINOR

Why study geography?

Because it is not just about where things are. As the core human/environmental discipline it is about the wonderful mosaic of cultural, physical, and biotic features that make up our world. Once you've taken some geography courses, you will be able to answer questions such as: "How are mountainous landscapes created?" or "How have the major religions spread throughout the world?" or "Why does climate vary?" or "Why does the pattern of agricultural activity differ from one region to another?" or "How does globalization affect the lives of peoples at home and abroad?" Geography is about the unique and the different, but it is also about discovering order, meaning, and unity in a world of differences.

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WHY EARN A GEOGRAPHY DEGREE AT UFV?

We provide you with a number of options that allow you to shape your studies to best suit your individual needs. You can take a major, major with honours, minor, or extended minor as part of your Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree. You can also take a major or minor, or a major with honours as part of your Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree.

There is also a cooperative education option that combines paid, career-related work experience with your degree studies. Alternatively, you may simply choose to take some geography courses for personal interest.

UFV's geography program is based on the principle that all geography graduates should have in-depth and broad exposure to the discipline. During your first two years, you'll be introduced to the basics of human, physical, and regional geography. During your final two years, you can select from a range of courses that best fit one or more combinations of streams or emphases as you like.

A major advantage of studying at UFV is the instructor/student ratio, which creates small classes and a personalized learning environment.



“Anyone who has ever shown an interest in the world around them is a geographer, whether they realize it or not.”

— SIOBHAN HEWITT.

Geography



“UFV’s geography program provides an amazing opportunity to pursue academic and personal excellence in a practical, comfortable environment. The journey is satisfying, both academically and personally.”

— JEN NESS, BA in Geography '04 (continued to graduate studies at SFU).

WHAT SORT OF CAREER CAN I EXPECT?

Geographers are broadly educated people and studies have shown that geography graduates are consistently hired in a wider range of public and private sector fields than graduates of any other social or natural science discipline.

Career options include, but are not limited to:

- Teacher — good basis for elementary teaching and secondary teaching in geography, earth science, and social studies.
- Urban planner — evaluates the social, economic, and physical impacts of future urban developments
- Environmental consultant — integrates information and numerical data, interprets maps and aerial photos.
- Public administrator — estimates growth potential and future tax base, evaluates census data.
- Cartographer — produces and interprets maps and spatial data sources, uses geographic information systems.
- Earth scientist — strong links to the natural sciences, hydrologist, soil and water conservation, natural hazards, geological survey, and a range of environmental positions.
- Weather observer — gives weather briefings to users and maintains monitoring equipment.

- Meteorological technician — travels throughout the province maintaining and repairing weather stations.
- Overseas aid worker — works abroad in foreign aid, poverty relief, or community and international development.

WHAT ARE MY STUDY OPTIONS?

Along with our BA and BSc degree options, UFV Geography also offers a major with honours within both the BA and BSc, and the opportunity for any of five declared concentration credentials within the BA.

The honours major requires the same upper- and lower-level requirements as the regular major, but with a total degree requirement of 132 credits including an honours essay.

The concentration credentials, with or without the honours option, include:

- Environmental Studies
- Geographic Visualization (including GIS)
- International Studies
- Physical Geography
- Urban Studies

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY?

UFV geography graduates (majors and extended minors) have gone on to further education such as teacher training, law school, and graduate programs in planning, geography, ethnic and

intercultural relations, and geographic information systems. There are also options for further study in a range of social science and earth science disciplines at the graduate level.

WHO WILL BE TEACHING ME?

Who knows about geography better than people who actually go out into the field and conduct their own research? Our faculty have high academic qualifications and are current, successful researchers in their own right. But they are also committed teachers who are passionate about communicating their knowledge and cultivating your enthusiasm to learning it. The teaching and research strengths of the department include cultural geography, historical geography, physical geography, and urban and suburban studies, environment and political ecology, community planning, international development, and geographic information science. Our faculty emphasize field work and all have an interest in the evolving landscapes of the lower Fraser Valley. But they also have a knack for demonstrating the connections between what happens in your own backyard and the larger global village in which it sits.

WHAT DO I NEED TO GET IN?

For the most up-to-date details on admission requirements, visit our website at www.ufv.ca/geography or email geography@ufv.ca.

GEOGRAPHY MAJOR (BA)

LOWER-LEVEL REQUIREMENTS FOR
A GEOGRAPHY MAJOR 22 CREDITS

COURSE #	TITLE
GEOG 101	Weather and Climate
GEOG 102	Evolution of the Earth's Surface
GEOG 140	Human Geography
GEOG 201 or GEOG 202	Introduction to Climatology Introduction to Geomorphology
GEOG 241 or GEOG 242	Social Geography Economic Geography
GEOG 253	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems

UPPER-LEVEL REQUIREMENTS FOR
A GEOGRAPHY MAJOR¹ 32 CREDITS

COURSE #	TITLE
GEOG 352	Explanation in Geography: Quantitative Methods
GEOG	One course in physical geography ²
GEOG	One course in human geography ³
GEOG 433	Geography of Selected Regions
GEOG 452 or GEOG 470	Field Methods and Techniques Field Studies in Geography
Any three GEOG 300+	Any three 300+ level or up geography course

LOWER-LEVEL REQUIREMENTS FOR
A GEOGRAPHY EXTENDED MINOR 21-23 CREDITS

COURSE #	TITLE
GEOG 101	Weather and Climate
GEOG 102	Evolution of the Earth's Surface
GEOG 140	Human Geography
GEOG 253	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
2 GEOG 200+	Any two other 200-level geography courses ⁴

UPPER-LEVEL REQUIREMENTS FOR
A GEOGRAPHY EXTENDED MINOR

16 credits in upper-level geography courses. No more than four credits may be in directed readings/directed studies courses.

¹ No more than eight credits of the required 32 credits may be in directed readings/directed studies courses.

² Options include: GEOG 301, 302, 303, 304, 307, 308, 311, 315, 317, 402, 410, 417 and 453.

³ Options include: GEOG 311, 341, 343, 344, 345, 346, 360, 362, 411, 443, 444, 445, and 447.

⁴ When choosing these courses, you should be aware that upper-level courses may have specific 200-level course prerequisites.

LOWER-LEVEL REQUIREMENTS FOR
A GEOGRAPHY MINOR 13-15 CREDITS

COURSE #	TITLE
GEOG 101 or GEOG 102	Weather and Climate Evolution of the Earth's Surface
GEOG 140	Human Geography
3 GEOG 200+	Any three other 200-level geography courses ⁴

UPPER-LEVEL REQUIREMENTS FOR
A GEOGRAPHY EXTENDED MINOR

16 credits in upper-level geography courses. No more than four credits may be in directed readings/directed studies courses.

GEOGRAPHY MAJOR (BSC)

LOWER-LEVEL REQUIREMENTS: 45 CREDITS

COURSE #	TITLE
GEOG 101	Weather and Climate
GEOG 102	Evolution of the Earth's Surface
GEOG 140	Human Geography
GEOG 201	Introduction to Climatology
GEOG 202	Introduction to Geomorphology
GEOG 211	Environmental Science
GEOG 253	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
One pair of	BIO 111, BIO 112, CHEM 113, or CHEM 114
One of	PHYS 111 or PHYS 101
One of	MATH 106, or MATH 270

UPPER-LEVEL REQUIREMENTS: 32-33 CREDITS

COURSE #	TITLE
One of	GEOG 302 or GEOG 304
One of	GEOG 303, GEOG 307, GEOG 308
One of	GEOG 315, GEOG 317,
GEOG 352	Explanation in Geography: Quantitative Methods
GEOG 353	GIS Applications
One of	GEOG 402 Quarternary Geomorphology, GEOG 410 Plant Ecology, GEOG 417 Wetlands Biogeography, GEOG 453 Remote Sensing
GEOG 433	Geography Selected Regions
GEOG 452 or GEOG 470	Field Methods and Techniques Field Studies in Geography

GEOGRAPHY MINOR (BSC)

LOWER-LEVEL REQUIREMENTS: 20 CREDITS

COURSE #	TITLE
GEOG 101	Weather and Climate
GEOG 102	Evolution of the Earth's Surface
GEOG 201	Introduction to Climatology
GEOG 202	Introduction to Geomorphology
GEOG 253	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems

UPPER-LEVEL REQUIREMENTS: 16 CREDITS

COURSE #	TITLE
Two of	GEOG 302, GEOG 303, GEOG 304, GEOG 307, GEOG 308, GEOG 315, or GEOG 317
One of	GEOG 352 or GEOG 353
One of	GEOG 402, GEOG 410 GEOG 417 or GEOG 453

CAN I GET ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR THE SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE GAINED IN MY LIFE SO FAR?

Yes. UFV offers Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR), a flexible assessment process that evaluates your experiential learning (what you already know and can do) for post-secondary credit. Experiential learning includes independent study, volunteer activities, non-credit courses, workplace learning, and military service. To find out more, check out the PLAR website at www.ufv.ca/plar or contact Susan Brown, Assessment Services Coordinator, PLAR at 604.851.6342 or susan.brown@ufv.ca.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

It's best to consult the UFV calendar for tuition fees, keeping in mind that new fees are usually set in May. You can expect books and other fees will cost about \$100 per geography course. There may be additional charges for field trips and certain research opportunities, but the department covers some of these.

You should also visit the UFV Financial Aid and Awards office, which facilitates the disbursement each year of about \$12 million in federal and provincial student loans, grants, bursaries, scholarships, and awards to UFV students. A helpful budget planning worksheet is available online at www.ufv.ca/fineaid/budget.

WHAT KIND OF SUPPORT WILL I HAVE?

As a geography student you can expect one-on-one support from our faculty and department assistant. You will also have the benefits of the Geography Undergrad Student (GUS) organization, which was established in 1995 to provide an informal academic and social environment for geography students. Since then, GUS has sponsored many events including ski trips to Manning Park, hikes through Lightning Lakes, whitewater rafting, skating parties, student-faculty Christmas socials, and student-faculty bowling nights. Other activities include guest lectures at Lower Mainland universities, and pub and movie nights. Feel free to contact the Geography department assistant at 604-854-4568, check out our website at www.ufv.ca/geography or email geography@ufv.ca to speak to a program advisor to get more details about the support available.

I'M INTERESTED. WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?

Check out our online calendar at www.ufv.ca/calendar and read the Geography section carefully. From our website you can go to the download centre and download the application form. Fill it out and submit it, along with the required documents and the \$45 application fee, to the Admissions and Records office at any UFV campus or centre or through the internet at www.pas.bc.ca. Applications for the Fall semester should be received by Jan. 31. Applications received after this deadline will be considered if space is still available in the program, but early application is strongly recommended.



The information contained in this document is subject to change. Please refer to www.ufv.ca/geography for up-to-date information. UFV reserves the right to cancel courses and programs.

www.ufv.ca/geography



About UFV

Nestled in the beautiful Fraser Valley just east of Vancouver, in B.C., UFV is a fully accredited, public university that enrolls more than 11,000 students each year. UFV has campuses in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and Mission and regional centres in Hope and Agassiz, and a growing presence in Chandigarh, India.

UFV is committed to exceptional post-secondary instruction and a nurturing learning environment. We are large enough to offer variety, yet small enough to offer the personal attention that our students need to thrive. Our small class sizes and focus on teaching allow our students to get to know their instructors and learn in a hands-on setting.

We offer more than 80 programs, including 13 bachelor's degrees, a master's degree, and more than a dozen trades and technology programs. We believe that anyone who wants to go to university should be given the chance, so our admission policies are flexible, and we provide university prep courses and high school completion options. There are many options for learning: full-time, in class, online, as part of a structured program or one tailored specifically to your interests.

Many of our programs "ladder" into one another, allowing students to keep their options open. Our international programming makes for a culturally diverse student body and great opportunities to study abroad, while our continuing studies offerings make learning a lifelong experience.

UFV is recognized nationally for student success, an excellent learning environment, creative integration of programming, and our work with our local communities.

Get to know us better at www.ufv.ca.

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