

Careers and Employability Service

Additional resources and information for Geography

We have developed this resource pack to help you research specific job sectors which may be of particular interest to Geography students.

- [Prospects.ac.uk](https://www.prospects.ac.uk) - Options with Geography
- [TargetJobs](https://www.targetjobs.com) - What can I do with my Geography Degree?

The Prospects and TargetJobs sites include information and advice covering: Your skills, job options, career areas, further study, what next, case studies, contacts and job search sites.

- [All About Careers](https://www.allaboutcareers.com) - What can I do with my Geography Degree?
- [Royal Geographical Society](https://www.rgs.org) - Careers with geography

Skills:

Geography is an adaptable subject characterised by the rigorous studies and field work exercises. The study of Geography develops a flexible and responsive openness of mind, the ability to engage in dialogue and identify underlying issues within debate alongside specialist skills and techniques within a particular field. Your studies will have helped you to:

- Work independently and manage your time e.g. meeting essay deadlines, planning and researching work
- Developed logical thinking and presentation of analysis of complex and controversial problems and effectively convey arguments and opinions
- Lead and participate in group discussions, plus have confidence in your own opinions
- Collate and analyse information using technical and laboratory-based methods such as GIS, remote sensing and mathematical modelling (BSc) and/or through qualitative surveying methodologies and ethnographies (BA)
- Work effectively with others to draw conclusions based on careful assessment of pertinent arguments
- Have tolerance of others' opinions and of ambiguity
- Think critically and develop your own opinions based on your knowledge
- Develop skills in critical reasoning and analysis
- Develop IT, numerical and graphical skills

Finding Job Vacancies:

As a Geography graduate you have a wide range of career options open to you due to the extensive skills set acquired during your degree (e.g. report writing, communication, project management, time management, communication etc). This means that you are able to demonstrate your competencies and flexibility within many of the 'core' skill areas valued by employers. It can however mean that it is difficult to identify specific roles or industries that you want to apply to and as such it is a good idea to explore the range of opportunities open to you and find where your own motivations best align.

For general information and advice about how to start finding out about employment opportunities check out our [Job Hunting webpages](#) as well as [Prospects Job Hunting Tips web page](#). You'll also find vacancies advertised on our [Jobs Board](#) and many local vacancies through organisations like [Graduate Jobs South](#).

When applying for vacancies you may need support in constructing a CV, filling out an Application Form, drafting a Cover Letter or preparing for Interview. We offer support on all of these areas via our [Job Application Resources webpages](#).

Geography Related Jobs, Internships and Resources:

The information below can be used to find job vacancies that are related to your programme, and/or to build understanding of relevant roles. Make the most of the opportunities provided by the University to meet and network with alumni from Geography at the University of Southampton and learn from their experiences.

- **Acre-Resources** – Specialist recruitment agency for the environmental sector. www.acre.com
- **Countryside Jobs Service** – Information and vacancies in the conservation and country sector. www.countryside-jobs.com
- **GeographyJobs.co.uk** – This niche organisation advertise opportunities across a variety of industries but focus on environment, urban planning, transport planning, GIS, remote sensing, economic development, housing and emergency planning. www.geographyjobs.co.uk/
- **Earth Work Jobs** – Jobs in the energy, mining, forestry, seismology, hydrology, contaminated land and sustainable development industries along with many more. www.earthworks-jobs.com
- **Environment Agency** – Information on entry level schemes for the Environment Agency. www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency/about/recruitment
- **Environment Jobs** – Database of jobs within the environment sector. www.environmentjobs.co.uk/joblist_all.cfm
- **Forestry Commission** – Entry level and internship opportunities within the organisation www.forestry.gov.uk/jobs
- **GeoSearch Inc** - Database of jobs within GIS and remote sensing (mainly US but some UK positions) www.geosearch.com
- **Local Government Jobs** – Browse local government vacancies. www.lgjobs.com
- **Nature England** – Providing practical advice to the Government and how best to safeguard England's natural wealth for the benefit of everyone. The jobs board carries vacancies from work experience and short-term appointments through to management and executive positions. www.naturalengland.org.uk/about_us/jobs/default.aspx
- **National Geographic** – Browse the jobs portal for vacancies and internships www.nationalgeographic.com/jobs

- **National Parks Service** – Paid and voluntary opportunities within the American National Parks Service www.nps.gov/aboutus/workwithus.htm
- **National Trust** - Paid and voluntary opportunities within the National Trust www.nationaltrust.org.uk
- **Nature** – Browse for jobs and internships in science and the environment www.nature.com/naturejobs/science
- **NHS Careers** – Database of current vacancies within the NHS including entry level management and development opportunities related to health care planning and GIS. www.nhscareers.nhs.uk
- **Opportunities** – Browse opportunities within public sector organisations including local government. www.opportunities.co.uk
- **Ordnance Survey** – Browse opportunities within the OS both in the field and within the HQ based in Southampton www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/about/careers/index.html
- **The Royal Geographic Society** – The UK’s learned society and professional body for geography, founded in 1830 the Society is a world leader in advancing geography and supporting its practitioners in the UK and across the world. www.rgs.org
- **Association of American Geographers** – Founded in 1904 and promoting discussion and opportunities within the network the AAG has a range of career opportunities and development opportunities www.aag.org/careers

Creating a Professional Presence and Getting Creative:

Regardless of whether you are seeking graduate employment or looking to undertake a postgraduate programme it is important that you create a positive and professional identity for yourself. Make use of our resource on [Social Media Success](#) to understand the importance that the web plays in recruitment.

Get creative in your approach to showing your talents to the world. You might like to think about articles and publications you have written or establish a blog to help showcase your abilities and connect this to CVs and applications. WordPress, Twitter and other online platforms can be fantastic resources to help you achieve this professional portfolio while platforms like LinkedIn can help you to locate the right people to connect with and find inspiration.

Societies and Institutes:

- **British Cartographic Society**
BCS Administration, 12 Elworthy Drive, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 9AT
www.cartography.org.uk
- **The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) UK**
11-12 Buckingham Gate, London, SW1E 6LB
www.ciltuk.org.uk
- **The Institute of Travel and Tourism**
PO Box 217, WARE, Herts, SG12 8WY
www.itt.co.uk
- **The Market Research Society (MRS)**
15 Northburgh Street, London, EC1V 0JR

www.mrs.org.uk

- **Royal Geographical Society**

1 Kensington Gore, London, SW7 2AR
www.rgs.org

- **Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)**

RICS Contact Centre, Surveyor Court, Westwood Way, Coventry, CV4 8JE
www.rics.org

- **Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI)**

41 Botolph Lane, London, EC3R 8DL
www.rtpi.org.uk

- **Training and Development Agency for Schools (TDA)**

Portland House, Bressenden Place, London, SW1E 5TT
www.tda.gov.uk

Additional Industry Information for Geography Students:

There are a wide range of careers to consider and you may find the Prospects articles on [Types of Jobs](#) to be useful in understanding what is involved in certain career areas and to explore details of typical employers and vacancy sources along with useful contacts and resources lists where you can get more information.

In addition professional bodies and organisations are also a good starting point for your careers research; many of them have careers information about entry requirements and training and details about employers on their websites. For example:

Administration:

- The Civil Service - www.civilservice.gov.uk

Advertising:

- Institute of Practitioners in Advertising - www.ipa.co.uk

Broadcasting:

- The BBC - www.bbc.co.uk/jobs
- Skillset - www.skillset.org

Consultancy:

- Accenture - www.careers.accenture.com
- IBM - www.ibm.com/employment/uk

Law enforcement and Protection:

- Working for the Police - www.policecouldyou.co.uk

Marketing:

- Chartered Institute of Marketing - www.cim.co.uk

Market Research:

- Market Research Society - www.mrs.org.uk

Media Careers:

- Skillset - www.skillset.org/careers

Public Relations:

- Chartered Institute of Public Relations - www.cipr.co.uk

Publishing:

- The Publishers' Association - www.publishers.org.uk
- Publishing Training Centre - www.train4publishing.co.uk

Recruitment:

- Recruitment and Employment Confederation - www.rec.uk.com

Social Research:

- Social Research Association - www.the-sra.org.uk

Teaching:

- Training and Development Agency for Schools - www.tda.gov.uk
- The Graduate Teacher Training Registry - www.gttr.ac.uk
- The Times Educational Supplement - www.tes.co.uk

Postgraduate Study and Research:

Postgraduate study can enhance your first degree and give you the opportunity to study a particular aspect in more depth. Alternatively, further study can enable you to gain a vocational qualification and give you the entry requirements for the career you are interested in. Consider your motivations for further study and find out about potential sources of funding. See our [Further Study](#) pages for information and advice.

Many graduates continue their Geography studies by going into an MSc/MA or MRes, with the potential to move on to a PhD. Some also go into teaching, which requires them to study for a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE), or a qualification in teaching English as a foreign language (TEFL). If you are considering teaching you should explore our [Routes into Teaching](#) webpages.

Some graduates opt for postgraduate study unrelated to Geography, or they may undertake a vocational degree associated with a specialised occupation for example [Routes into Law](#).

Graduates from Geography at the University of Southampton entered a diverse range of postgraduate courses such as:

- ACA Certified Accountant
- MSc Biology
- PhD Civil Engineering
- MSc Country Side and Park Ranging
- MA Creative Cities
- MSc Geography
- PhD Geography
- MSc Geophysics
- MA Heritage Management
- MA Journalism

- MSc Management
- MSc Marketing Management
- Medicine (BM4)
- MA Politics and International Relations
- MSc Town Planning
- PGCE Primary