Geography and Earth Science Department (GEO/ESC)

College of Science and Health
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www.uwlax.edu/geography-and-earth-science

Geography is the science of place and space. Geographers ask where things are located on the surface of the earth, why they are located where they are, how places differ from one another, and how people interact with the environment. There are two main branches of geography: human geography and physical geography. Human geography is concerned with the spatial aspects of human existence - how people and their activity are distributed in space, how they use and perceive space, and how they create and sustain the places that make up the earth’s surface. Human geographers work in the fields of urban and regional planning, transportation, marketing, real estate, tourism, and international business. Physical geographers study patterns of climates, land forms, vegetation, soils, and water. They forecast the weather, manage land and water resources, and analyze and plan for forests, rangelands, and wetlands. Many human and physical geographers have skills in cartography and geographic information systems (GIS). Geographers also study the linkages between human activity and natural systems.

Students who are considering studying geography and earth science will probably answer yes to one or more of the following questions: Are you curious about places? Do you like to study maps? Are you interested in the constantly changing pattern of human activity and natural phenomena on the landscape? Are you interested in foreign areas? Do you like to work outside? Are you a problem solver? Are you good at seeing connections among seemingly unrelated processes? Can you adapt to rapid technological change? Do you try to see the bigger picture? Are you interested in connections between humans and the environment?

2018-19 Faculty/Staff

The following is the department’s faculty and staff as of the publication date of this catalog. This list will not be updated again until the next catalog is published in June.

Professor
Cynthia Berlin
Georges Cravins

Associate Professor
Colin Belby
Joan Bunbury
Gargi Chaudhuri

Assistant Professor
John Kelly

Niti Mishra
Paul Reyerson
Daniel Sambu

Lecturer
Jeffrey Kueny

GIS Lab Manager
Steven Fulton

Administrative Support
Debra Gerke

Majors
• Geography major - BA (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/geography-ba)
• Geography major - BS (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/geography-bs)
• Geography major: environmental science concentration - BA (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/environmental-science-ba)
• Geography major: environmental science concentration - BS (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/environmental-science-bs)
• Geography major: geographic information science concentration - BA (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/geographic-information-science-ba)
• Geography major: geographic information science concentration - BS (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/geographic-information-science-bs)
• Geography education major (early adolescence-adolescence certification) - BS (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/geography/education)
• Social studies education (broad field) major (early adolescence-adolescence certification) - BS (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/social-studies-education)

Minors
• Geography minor (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/geographyminor)
• Geographic information science minor (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/geographicinformationscienceminor)
• Geoarchaeology minor (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/geoarchaeologymminor)
• Geography education minor (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/geographyeducationminor)
• Earth science minor (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/earthscienceminor)
• Earth science education minor (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/earthscienceeducationminor)
Honors

- Geography and earth science honors program (http://catalog.uwlax.edu/undergraduate/geography/honors-program)