

# Mātai Matawhenua Undergraduate Geography



Geographers ask questions about society and the environment. They study the natural processes of the physical environment, as well as the activities and consequences of humans in this environment.

## What you will learn

Geography is exciting and relevant. You'll enjoy Geography if you're interested in the worlds around you and want to make a positive difference. Geography addresses a wide range of contemporary challenges such as: climate change and sea-level rise, dirty rivers, uneven economic development, sustainable communities, migration, housing and health policy, urban pollution, indigenous rights, and environmental management.

Geographers study places, human and physical interactions and the processes that shape those interactions. They explore why nations, regions, cities and communities develop differently in different settings, how landscapes are formed, how social, economic and natural landscapes are related, and how to make better worlds by responding effectively to human-environment problems.

Some geographers specialise in coastal, glacial or fluvial processes and landforms, climatology, biogeography, hydrology or environmental change. Others study regional economics, population change, the problems of rural or urban areas, or the experience of particular groups in society. Fieldwork is an important part of majoring in Geography – you'll undertake field trips to explore New Zealand's landscapes.

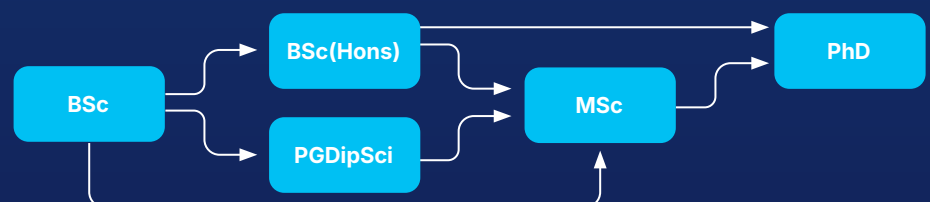
You don't have to have taken geography at high school to be able to study Geography with us. However, if you have taken high school geography you will have been introduced to some key concepts and skills, which you'll find beneficial. You'll also use written and oral communication skills in your Geography major, so high school English is a useful subject too.

## Choosing a subject

With so many options it's sometimes hard to choose what you want to study, but we've got you covered. You can study a double major with our Bachelor of Science to gain a broader base of skills and knowledge.

### Complementary majors include:

- > Biological Sciences
- > Chemistry
- > Computer Science
- > Earth Sciences
- > Environmental Science
- > Psychology



# Career opportunities

## A foundation for a host of occupations

Geography is exciting, challenging and relevant to today's world. Geographers study the natural processes of the physical environment, as well as the activities and consequences of humans in this environment.

A Geography degree gives graduates an edge. The skills you learn mean you can be found working in a wide range of occupations in an equally wide range of organisations. You might use your training directly in your workplace, or find the broad education and flexible skills are in high demand in the wider job market.

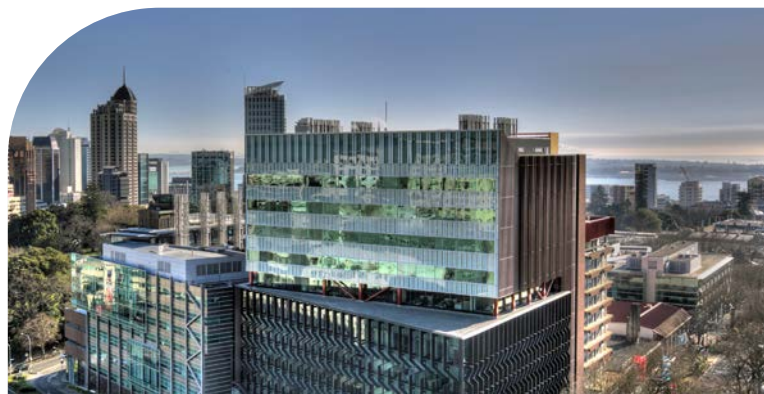
You may specialise in coastal, glacial or fluvial processes and landforms, climatology, biogeography, hydrology or environmental change. Or you could find yourself exploring the transformation of urban places, globalisation and its effects, migration and population change, or issues of ethnicity and identity. You could also specialise in spatial analysis, bringing the power of geographic information science to bear on a wide range of research problems.

Our Geography graduates have been employed in the following jobs:

- › Planning services, Beca Group
- › Geospatial specialist, Auckland Council
- › Sustainability and climate change team, PwC
- › Coastal scientist, Tonkin + Taylor
- › Other positions and roles include:
- › Policy and planning
- › Environmental and resource management

# What you can study

- › Weather, wave, tide and river monitoring and analysis
- › Demographic and economic analysis
- › Mapping, cartography and geovisualisation
- › Analysis of soils and sediments
- › How to interpret physical and cultural landscapes



Find out more about how your degree will be structured and what courses you need to take at

[auckland.ac.nz/science/ug-geography](https://auckland.ac.nz/science/ug-geography)

Applications close on 8 December.



"Geography is such a fantastic subject in that it is broad and covers a wide range of courses from climatology to socio-economic change."

**Courtney Simpson**

BA Geography, BSc (Hons) Geography,  
MSc Environmental Management.

Kuhua ki tō mātou hāpori, ā, Kimihia tōu Pūtaiao.  
**Join our community and find your Science.**



Disclaimer: The information in this document is a general guide only for students and subject to alteration. All students enrolling at the University of Auckland must consult its official Calendar, to ensure that they are aware of and comply with all regulations, requirements and policies. [2025]

Have any questions?  
Contact the Student Hub

[auckland.ac.nz/student-hubs](https://auckland.ac.nz/student-hubs)