

What you can do with a Geography degree

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- What makes Geography students employable?
- Graduate destinations: the national picture
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- Potential jobs for Geography Graduates

What makes Geography students employable?

- Subject matter
 - possibly
- Skills from Geography
 - definitely

Skills from your Geography degree

- Essay / report writing
- Working with statistics
- Lab work
- Analyse and solve problems
- Critically interpret data and text
- Develop a reasoned argument
- Use scientific techniques (BSc)
- Present data using statistics, text, images and maps

Skills from your Geography degree

- Work in teams
- Work individually
- Plan and organise
- Present verbal and written arguments and information
- Research
- Fieldwork techniques

Destinations of Geography graduates

Destinations of Graduates: National figures

% Geography vs all degrees

53.4	(59.8)	In UK employment
3.4	(2.0)	In overseas employment
8.1	(8.4)	Working and studying
13.8	(7.4)	Studying in the UK for a higher degree
3.7	(1.8)	Studying in the UK for a teaching qualification
2.6	(3.6)	Other further study or training in the UK
0.4	(0.3)	Other further study or training overseas
6.4	(8.6)	Unemployed
5.4	(3.3)	Not available for work, study or training
2.9	(4.9)	Other

Geography graduates from 2011

19.0%	Retail, Catering, Waiting and Bar Staff
17.1%	Business and Financial Professionals and Associate Professionals
12.1%	Commercial, Industrial and Public Sector Managers
11.6%	Other Occupations
11.5%	Marketing, Sales and Advertising Professionals
10.9%	Other Clerical and Secretarial Occupations
4.8%	Other Professionals, Associate Professional and Technical Occupations
3.9%	Education Professionals
2.6%	Social & Welfare Professionals
2.1%	Numerical Clerks and Cashiers
2.0%	Arts, Design, Culture and Sports Professional
0.7%	Information Technology Professionals
0.4%	Unknown Occupations
0.4%	Legal Professionals
0.3%	Health Professionals and Associate Professionals
0.3%	Engineering Professional
0.1%	Scientific Research, Analysis & Development Professionals

Examples of 2011 Geography Graduates: Job titles and employers (6 months after graduation)

- Recruitment Consultant, a recruitment agency; Estate Agent, an estate agency; Market Researcher, a research company;
- Marketing Officer, a pharmaceutical company; Accounts Manager, an advertising agency; PR Officer, the Government
- Business Development Manager, an oil distributor; Trainee Operations Manager, GIST Ltd; Hospitality Manager, a hotel
- Teacher, a secondary school; Classroom Assistant, a private school; Primary Teacher, a primary school; Teaching Assistant, a primary school
- Business Consultant, Accenture; Junior Analyst, an underwriting agency; Insurance Broker, an insurance company
- Web & Graphic Designer, self-employed; Reporter, a media company; Sports Coach, a leisure centre; Media Researcher, BBC

Examples of 2011 Geography Graduates: Job titles and employers (6 months after graduation)

- Housing Officer, a housing association
- Conservation worker, a conservation charity; Building Technician, Construction Company; Geologist, BP;
- Environmental officer, Environment Agency; Conservation officer, Wildlife Trust
- Finance Assistant, a secondary school
- Marketing Assistant, a financial company; Database Administrator, NHS Hospital
- Barman, a pub; Customer Assistant, Tesco; Sales Assistant, Marks and Spencer; Waiter, Pizza Hut
- Lifeguard, a charity; Warehouse Worker, IKEA; Gallery Assistant, a leisure park; Nursing Auxiliary, NHS Hospital

Handout: Exeter destinations

Jobs using Geography

Jobs for Geography graduates

From Prospects web site:

- Jobs for graduates 335
- Jobs with Geography in the keyword 0
- (Jobs with Physics in the keyword 7)

Tesco Site Research 2012

- **Candidate Profile** For a role in Site Research you will need;
 - At least a 2:1 degree in any discipline. Geography degrees are relevant, but not essential.
 - A flair for qualitative and quantitative research
 - The ability to communicate complex information and influence people at all levels
 - International mobility
 - A full driving licence is essential for site research

Occupational information

www.prospects.ac.uk



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Site search

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You are in >> Home page > Careers advice > Options with your subject > Geography - Job options

Geography Job options

The career area you choose may depend on whether you are more interested in physical or human geography. You can consider jobs that are degree-related, jobs that appeal because they incorporate other interests or elements of your degree, or jobs that are not related to your degree at all.

These job options are just a small sample of the jobs open to geographers. Most will require some experience or further training after your degree. The [Royal Geographical Society](#) website has a useful careers section, and its booklet [Going Places With Geography](#) includes interesting case studies of geography graduates and their varied career choices.

Jobs directly related to your degree

- [Cartographer](#) - evaluates sets of geographical data and presents the information in the form of diagrams, charts, spreadsheets and maps.
- [Environmental consultant](#) - collects and interprets data from a variety of sources to help formulate policies for clients. Works in air and land contamination, noise and water pollution or ecological land management.
- [Geographical information systems officer](#) - IT professional who uses computer-based systems to handle geographical information.
- [Planning and development surveyor](#) - investigates, plans and manages proposals either to build new developments or to organise the refurbishment of existing buildings.
- [Secondary school teacher](#) - you'll need to take a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE), a Professional Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) in Scotland or equivalent course, before you can teach geography in schools or colleges.
- [Town planner](#) - directs the planning of land use, trying to reconcile any conflicting demands such as the needs related to housing, the environment or recreation.
- [Commercial/residential surveyor](#) - values, manages and markets residential and commercial property and may act as an agent for clients in the sale, purchase or leasing of property.

A range of jobs in physical systems and the natural environment is also available to geographers who



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- [MSc student environmental change: Jim](#)

Graduate jobs

[Graduate System Analyst](#) TPP

[Graduate Trainee Sales Executive](#) Airstream International Group Limited

[Software Developer](#) TPP

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Town planner Job description

Planners are involved in making long and short-term decisions about the management and development of cities, town, villages and the countryside. They aim to balance the conflicting demands of housing, industrial development, agriculture, recreation, transport and the environment, in order to allow appropriate development to take place.

Planners are at the heart of regeneration within towns and cities, taking into account the often competing views of business and local communities. In rural areas, they must ensure that development is sustainable and that the right balance of development is achieved to preserve the countryside. The work of planners also makes a positive contribution to tackling the effects of climate change.

Typical work activities

Planning is a broad area of work that requires many different skills. Some planners specialise in a particular area of work, such as protecting the historical environment or urban design, while others work across a variety of areas. In general, key planning activities include:

- developing creative and original planning solutions to satisfy all parties;
- consulting with stakeholders and other interested parties and negotiating with developers and other professionals, such as surveyors and architects;
- assessing planning applications and enforcing and monitoring outcomes as necessary;
- researching and designing planning policies to guide development;
- researching and analysing data to help inform strategic developments, such as increases in affordable housing provision;
- designing layouts and drafting design statements;
- using information technology systems such as CAD (computer-aided design) or GIS (geographical information systems);

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Settlement

- Planner
- Housing manager
- Surveyor
- Urban regeneration officer
- Local government services
- Estate agent
- Town planner
- Transport officer
- Environmental engineer
- Construction or Property Lawyer
- Environmental consultant
- Conservation officer

Society

- Teacher
- Social worker
- Youth and community worker
- Emergency services manager
- FE or University lecturer
- Museum explainer
- Exhibition designer and curator
- Health education campaigner
- Advertising executive
- Human resources officer
- Campaign organiser
- Market research analyst
- Public policy research
- Marketing
- PR (public relations) officer

Travel, Tourism, Leisure & Culture

- Travel agent / Travel writer
- Exhibitions coordinator
- Leisure centre management
- Heritage site manager
- Eco tour guide
- Tourist information officer
- Visit (London) Guide
- Civil servant for DCMS (Dept for Culture, Media, Sport)
- TV researcher
- Holiday rep
- Cultural arts officer 2012
- TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language)

The Business World

- Financial risk assessor
- Banker
- Accountant
- Insurance
- Transport / logistics manager
- Retail management
- Management consultant
- Commercial sales
- Lawyer
- Economic adviser and analyst
- Buyer
- Location analyst

Development and Global Issues

- Aid worker
- Charity fundraiser
- Charity officer
- Civil servant for DFID
- Armed forces
- HIV education officer
- Human rights officer
- International charity fundraising
- Refugee and asylum adviser
- Economic adviser and analyst
- United Nations terrorism prevention officer
- Diplomat
- British Council cultural exchange manager
- VSO (Voluntary Service Overseas)

Geographical Techniques

- GIS specialist (Geographical Information Systems)
- Census data specialist
- Location analyst
- Cartographer
- Surveyor
- Military GIS specialist
- Remote sensing analyst
- Geomatics software designer
- CAD technician
- Aerial surveyor

Physical Systems

- Coastal engineer
- Soil conservationist
- Hydrologist
- Earth scientist
- Weather forecaster
- Hazard prediction and management
- Flood protection manager
- Pollution analyst
- Risk assessor
- Weather presenter
- Water supply coordinator

Environment & Sustainability

- Environmental campaign organiser
- Civil servant for DEFRA
- Conservation worker
- Environmental health worker
- Architect or urban planner for sustainable projects
- Environmental engineer
- Landscape architecture
- Pollution analyst
- Cycle route planner
- Recycling officer
- Forestry manager
- SSSI warden
- Environmental consultant
- Environmental impact officer

Three theories of vocational choice

- Traits and matching (Rogers)
 - traits and personality
- Social (Roberts + Daws)
 - social class, where you live, how brought up
- Planned Happenstance or Chaos Theory (Bright)
 - chance and risk

Royal Geographical Society Videos

- <http://www.rgs.org/OurWork/Schools/Careers+and+Further+Study/Promoting+and+supporting+geography+in+your+school+or+college/Careers+and+progression+materials+to+download.htm>

Royal Geographical Society

www.rgs.org.uk