

# GEOGRAPHY

Geography is a spatial science that explains and describes the Earth in terms of location. All Geographers ask questions about the earth focusing on the location of a place and how that location contributes to the attributes of that place. Place names serve as the framework for this exploration. The primary tools used by geographers are maps, which show the locations, patterns and distribution of the earth features being examined. All geographers compare and contrast this locational information in order to explain the similarities and differences of the physical and cultural environments of the earth and its inhabitants. As a result, geographers are also called spatial analysts. The discipline of Geography is considered a Social and Global Science

There are two broad categories of Geography: Physical and Cultural. Physical geographers look at the earth's physical characteristics. Included are such topics that relate to the earth's natural environment such as earth-sun relationships, weather and climate, flora and fauna, rocks and minerals, earthquakes, volcanoes, mountain building, gradational forces and land form distribution. Cultural Geographers examine the present-day earth in terms of its people, their organizations, languages, religions, economic systems, population and settlement patterns.

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## Career Opportunities

A geographer is trained with spatial awareness and geographic problem solving skills. We meld our social science skills and knowledge with our expertise in the physical and geosciences. Geospatial Technology, including Geographic Information Systems (GIS), is a rapidly growing interconnected data science field and one that is applicable in many employment settings. Geographers are especially equipped to perform spatial analysis in a variety of careers.

There are job opportunities in a wide-range of fields, as you can see below. Most of the following career paths require at least a specific certificate or a bachelor's degree.

- Aerial Photographer Interpreter
- Anthropologist
- Biogeographer
- Cartographer
- City Planner
- Climatologist
- County Planner
- Demographer
- Ecologist
- Economist
- Educator
- Environmental Analyst
- Epidemiologist
- GIS Specialist
- Government Analyst (Central Intelligence, Defense, Drug Enforcement, Interior, Energy, State, etc.)
- Hydrologist

- Industrial Location Specialist
- Intelligence
- International Trade Relations
- Marketing Analyst
- Meteorologist
- Paleoclimatologist
- Political Redistricting Analyst
- Political Science Analyst
- Natural Resources (Planner, Manager, Specialist, Technician)
- Soil Scientist
- Transportation (Planner, Manager, Technician)
- Travel Specialist
- Water Resources (Planner, Manager, Specialist, Technician)

## Faculty

DiBartolo, Brian

## Transfer

- California State University, San Bernardino: Geography with Geography or Global Studies options major
- University of California, Riverside: Geography and Global Studies majors
- University of California, Los Angeles: Global Studies major
- University of California, Santa Barbara: Geography with Geographic Information Science option and Physical Geography majors

For the most up-to-date information on these programs and others, visit [assist.org](http://www.assist.org) (<http://www.assist.org>). Please stop by the Transfer Center in Building 23 or make an appointment with a counselor if you have questions.

## Geography, AA-T

**State Control Number:** 33025

**Program Code:** GEOGT.AA or GEOGT.IGETC.AA

**Approved for Federal Financial Aid:** Yes

Students who complete an Associate in Arts in Geography for Transfer Degree will be prepared to transfer into the CSU system and continue toward a BA in Geography. This Bachelor's degree prepares students for many career paths that deal with both the physical and /or cultural attributes of our globe. Courses in Geography offer students a unique perspective on global issues and problems dealing with the earth's physical environment and its inhabitants. Included are concepts that allow students to learn the geographer's special skill of analyzing spatial relationships using tools such as maps, GIS (Geography Information Systems), GPS (Geo Position Satellites) remote sensing, spatial data and quantitative statistics. This degree offers a wide overview and foundation for future study in not only geography but other social and physical sciences. Geographers make significant contributions in many professions and work in all areas of the public and private sector. Anyone with a degree in Geography, can continue their academic career with confidence knowing that they are prepared to proceed in any field that deals with our globe and its people.

To earn this degree complete the major coursework listed here with "C" grades or better and the following graduation requirements: 60 CSU transferable units; either the CSU General Education (<https://catalog.vvc.edu/degrees-certificates/csuge-breadth/#csuge>) or IGETC (<https://catalog.vvc.edu/degrees-certificates/igetc/#igetc>) (for CSU or

UC) pattern; and a 2.0 minimum overall CSU GPA. Courses used in the major may also be counted in the general education areas. Courses used for this major may also be used to earn other degrees at VVC.

Code	Title	Units
<b>Required Courses</b>		
GEOG 101	Introduction to Physical Geography	3.0
GEOG 101L	Geography 1 Laboratory	1.0
GEOG 102	Introduction to Cultural Geography	3.0
<b>List A</b>		
Complete two or three courses from the following:		6.0-10.0
GEOG 103	Geography of California	
GEOG 104	World Regional Geography	
GEOG 130	Introduction to Weather and Climate	
<b>List B</b>		
Complete two courses from the following or any List A course not already used:		6.0-7.0
ANTH 102	Introduction to Cultural Anthropology	
<b>Total Units</b>		<b>19-24</b>

## Geography Courses

### GEOG 101 Introduction to Physical Geography (3.0 Units)

An introduction to the fundamental concepts of geography with emphasis on the physical world, its components and interrelationships. Topics include earth/sun relationships, atmospheric elements and weather, climate and seasons, earthquakes and volcanoes, rocks and minerals, oceans and coastlines, glaciers, and landform distribution, methods of map reading and interpretation. Current environmental issues relating to these topics are emphasized. C-ID: GEOG 110. CSU,UC  
Lecture Hours: 54.0  
Transfer: Transfers to both UC/CSU

### GEOG 101L Geography 1 Laboratory (1.0 Units)

An interactive exploration of earth's weather and climate, vegetation and soils, rocks and minerals, earthquakes and volcanoes. Tectonic forces are studied as relating to landform destruction and creation. Gradational forces are studied as relating to the processes of water, wind and ice. C-ID: GEOG 111. CSU,UC  
Co-requisite(s): GEOG 101  
Lab Hours: 54.0  
Transfer: Transfers to both UC/CSU

### GEOG 102 Introduction to Cultural Geography (3.0 Units)

An examination of world cultures with emphasis on globalization, population and settlement patterns, economic activities, languages, political and religious institutions. C-ID: GEOG 120. CSU,UC  
Lecture Hours: 54.0  
Transfer: Transfers to both UC/CSU

### GEOG 103 Geography of California (3.0 Units)

A study of California's physical and cultural characteristics. Physical topics covered include earthquakes, fires, landslides, floods and volcanoes. Cultural topics include diversity, immigration, urbanization, agriculture and economics. C-ID: GEOG 140. CSU  
Lecture Hours: 54.0  
Transfer: Transfers to CSU only

### GEOG 104 World Regional Geography (3.0 Units)

An examination of the world's countries within their global regions with emphasis on their physical and cultural attributes. Variations within and among these global regions are explored. C-ID: GEOG 125. CSU,UC  
Lecture Hours: 54.0  
Transfer: Transfers to both UC/CSU

### GEOG 106 Map Interpretation and Analysis (3.0 Units)

Introduction to maps, images and geographic techniques. Technologies include map and aerial photograph interpretation, tabular data, spatial statistics, cartography, Global Positioning Systems (GPS), Internet mapping, remote sensing and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) that aid in data collection, analysis and presentation. CSU  
Lecture Hours: 54.0  
Transfer: Transfers to CSU only

### GEOG 110 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (3.0 Units)

GIS basics and applications are explored, including terminology, mapping and problem solving. Current GIS software applications and GPS navigational systems are utilized. CSU,UC  
Lecture Hours: 36.0; Lab Hours: 54.0  
Transfer: Transfers to both UC/CSU

### GEOG 130 Introduction to Weather and Climate (4.0 Units)

An examination of Earth's atmospheric systems: solar energy, temperature, pressure, wind, humidity and precipitation. Also included are tornadoes and hurricanes, climate systems and change. C-ID: GEOG 130. CSU  
Lecture Hours: 54.0; Lab Hours: 54.0  
Transfer: Transfers to CSU only

### GEOG 138 Work Experience Education Geography (1-8 Units)

Work Experience Education is a key element of Victor Valley College's comprehensive approach to career development. Work Experience Education is a 16-, 12-, or 8-week course that enables students to receive college credit for paid or unpaid work opportunities. This course helps students gain valuable on-the-job work experience while providing practical education, best practices in professional development, and academic guidance through the course of their work opportunity. The combination of practical experience and curricular development empowers students to be more competitive, efficient and valuable employees upon completion of this program and/or their academic program trajectory. The course is ideal for students who are cross-training at their current worksite for upward mobility or seeking career changes, as well as those looking for entry-level occupational training through work-based learning experiences such as through an internship. Work Experience Education transforms community businesses, industries, and public agencies into expanded educational training laboratories. Credit is awarded on the basis of learning objectives completed and the number of hours the student trains. Students must create/complete new learning objectives each semester they enroll. Students may utilize their present work sites. More details are available in the Work Experience Education Office, (760) 245-4271, ext. 2281. The office, located in the Academic Commons, is open Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 2:00-6:00 p.m., and by appointment. Please refer to the Work Experience Education section in this catalog for more information. CSU  
Transfer: Transfers to CSU only

## Program Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) are statements of the kind of learning a program hopes a student will achieve. The PLOs describe the

knowledge, skills, problem-solving, communication and values that apply to all certificates and/or degrees within that program.

Upon completion of this program, students should be able to:

1. Identify and describe basic concepts and patterns related to earth's physical and cultural environment. KNOWLEDGE.
2. Demonstrate geographic literacy and written competency in the description and analysis of geographic themes. CRITICAL THINKING.
3. Demonstrate competency in utilizing the basic tools and techniques of data collection, display and analysis. APPLICATION.