GEOGRAPHY (HBA)
Department of Geography

The Geography BA brings together many subjects of interest, ranging from community health issues, urban form and globalization to electoral politics, transportation and economic development. The program emphasizes the development of quantitative and qualitative analytical skills, including cartography, analysis of spatial data, social theory and archival work, which it supplements with field work and collaborative research opportunities.

Our faculty are very successful and active researchers. They maintain research programs, laboratories, supervise graduate students at UTM, and who involve undergraduate students in projects on topics such as urban development and migration studies. They are also outstanding teachers, with several of our faculty being recognized with teaching awards from both inside and outside the university.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT UTM!

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we’ve pulled together information and interesting suggestions to get you started. As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are mentioned. In fact, activities such as joining an academic society, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study at UTM.

Read through the chart and create your own plan using My Program Plan found at www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans

Programs of Study (POSt)

- Specialist Program ERSPE1666 Geography (Arts)
- Major Program ERMAJ1666 Geography (Arts)
- Minor Program ERMIN1666 Geography (Arts)

Check out...

Don't miss out on Health and Healthcare, GGR353H5! Study the links between health and place as well as models of health systems delivery and inequalities. Ever considered an internship? Apply for JEG400/401Y5 and gain hands on experience in leading organizations.

What can I do with my degree?

The career you choose will depend on your experience and interests. Visit the Career Centre to explore your career options.

Careers for Graduates: Urban planner, Public policy analyst, Teacher, Retail analyst, Public health inspector, Economic development officer, Community development coordinator, Real estate analyst, Public advocate/lobbyist.

Workplaces: Municipal, provincial and federal government, Urban planning firms, Consulting firms, Retail and real estate companies, Non-governmental organizations.
### 1st Year

Enrol in courses GGR111H5 and 112HS. Acquire 6 field days by the end of your final year.

Choose a program of study (Subject POS) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer Planner and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.

Start strong and get informed with utmONE and LAUNCH through the Office of Student Transition. Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.

### 2nd Year

Enrol in GGR277H5. Attain 2.5 credits in GGR at the 200-level from a list of courses in the Academic Calendar.

Throughout your undergraduate degree:
- use the Degree Explorer to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.
- see the Office of the Registrar and the Geography Academic Counsellor.

Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.

Attend the Get Experience Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.

Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Student Association for Geography and Environment (SAGE).

Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.

- Do you have a professor you really like or connect with? Ask them a question during office hours. Discuss an assignment. Go over lecture material. Don't be shy! Learn Tips On How to Approach a Professor available through the Experiential Education Office (EEO).

- Attend department research seminars and participate in networking events organized by SAGE.

### 3rd Year

During your upper years of study, attain 3.0 credits at the 300/400 level from a list of courses in the Academic Calendar.

Consider applying for the Research Opportunity Program (ROP) course GGR399Y. Visit the EEO website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC’s Program for Accessing Research Training (P.A.R.T.) to enhance your research skills.

Explore your interests. Know a thing or two about computers? Work for UTM’s Information & Instructional Technology Services. Interested in engaging with Traditional Indigenous cultures? Take part in the CSE’s Waawaahte Northern Lights Initiative.

Learn techniques geographers use in the field! Apply for GGR389H5. Speak to the Geography Academic Counsellor.

Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g., LinkedIn).

Attend department research seminars and participate in networking events organized by SAGE.

- Earn credits overseas! Study for a summer, term or year at one of 120 universities. The Geography department has identified partners in 120 universities. Check out the International Education Centre (IEC) for details.

- Why not work abroad? Read up on worldwide employment trends and industry outlooks through GoGlobal. Attend the So Global Expo. See if you are eligible for the International Experience Canada program.

- What’s your next step after undergrad?

### 4th or Final Year

Gain experience designing and executing an independent senior thesis by enrolling in GGR417Y5 Honours Thesis. Speak to the Geography Academic Counsellor for details.

Consider a practical work-based experience through the internship course JEG400/401Y5. Speak to the Geography (Arts) Faculty Advisor.

Apply to the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Internship Program as a recent graduate. Look at the MNRF website for eligibility and application details.

Join a professional association. Check out the Canadian Association of Geographers or the Canadian Cartographic Association and apply to be considered as a presenter.

- Consider applying for the Research Opportunity Program (ROP) course GGR399Y. Visit the EEO website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC’s Program for Accessing Research Training (P.A.R.T.) to enhance your research skills.

- Why not work abroad? Read up on worldwide employment trends and industry outlooks through GoGlobal. Attend the So Global Expo. See if you are eligible for the International Experience Canada program.

- Write a strong application for further education. Attend the CC’s Mastering the Personal Statement workshop.

### How to Use This Program Plan

Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.

Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using My Program Plan.

Update your plan yearly.

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*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.

**GEOGRAPHY (HBA)**

**MAJOR Program Plan**

**PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS**

1st Year: Enrol in courses GGR111H5 and 112HS. Acquire 6 field days by the end of your final year. Choose a program of study (Subject POS) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer Planner and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree. Start strong and get informed with utmONE and LAUNCH through the Office of Student Transition. Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.

2nd Year: Enrol in GGR277H5. Attain 2.5 credits in GGR at the 200-level from a list of courses in the Academic Calendar. Throughout your undergraduate degree: use the Degree Explorer to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements. See the Office of the Registrar and the Geography Academic Counsellor.

**BUILD SKILLS**

Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments. Attend the Get Experience Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.

**BUILD A NETWORK**

Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Student Association for Geography and Environment (SAGE). Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.

- Do you have a professor you really like or connect with? Ask them a question during office hours. Discuss an assignment. Go over lecture material. Don’t be shy! Learn Tips On How to Approach a Professor available through the Experiential Education Office (EEO).

- Attend department research seminars and participate in networking events organized by SAGE.

**BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET**

Attend events held by the International Education Centre (IEC) to explore different cultures through food, music, and sport or through sight-seeing around the GTA.

- Embark on a UTM Abroad Co-Curricular Experience through the IEC. Speak to the Global Mobility Coordinator and the Geography Academic Counsellor to select the appropriate courses.

- Prefer traveling in Canada? Check out the IEC’s UTM Across Canada program.

**PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE**

Attend the Program Selection & Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC. Check out Careers by Major at the CC to see potential career options.

- Explore careers through the CC’s Extern Job Shadowing Program. Ask the Geography Academic Counsellor about Professional Advancement for Geography and Environment Students (PAGES).

- Considering further education? Attend the CC’s Graduate and Professional Schools Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.

- What’s your next step after undergrad?


- Considering further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, MCAT), and research funding options (OGS, NSERC).

**Check out the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.**

**Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) for the online version and links.**

**Revised on: 9/8/2017**
Skills developed in Geography

To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can explain your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

- **Technical**: use qualitative and quantitative methods, conduct surveys/focus groups; data analysis and presentation; and report writing.
- **Research**: application of field methodologies; gather, organize, analyze and present data; use statistical and graphical methods; literature review and reporting; and group collaboration.
- **Communication**: written and oral presentation; graphical communication of research outcomes; and group presentations.

Get involved

Check out student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- Student Association for Geography and Environment (SAGE)
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

For a listing of clubs on campus visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs).

Services that support you

- AccessAbility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- Experiential Education Office (EEO)
- Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)
- Indigenous Centre (IC)
- International Education Centre (IEC)
- Office of Student Transition (OST)
- Office of the Registrar (OR)
- Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC)
- Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre (RGASC)
- UTM Library, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (HMALC)

Department of Geography

William G. Davis Building, Rm 3282
University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6
sabrina.ferrari@utoronto.ca
[www.utm.utoronto.ca/geography](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/geography)

FUTURE STUDENTS

Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The approximate average required for admission is mid- to high-70s. More information is available at [utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook](http://utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook).

**NOTE**: During the application process, applicants will select the Social Sciences admissions category, but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study (Specialist, Major, and/or Minor) until after first year.

Sneak Peek

Explore how cities are planned and function in GGR207H5. Investigate the connections between consumption and sustainability in GGR252H5. Travel to Montreal in GGR389H5 to practice your field skills in a vibrant urban landscape. Build professional experience through an internship work-placement.

Our department prides itself in being at the forefront of student experience at UTM. Our students use equipment satellite imagery, and state-of-the-art computers and software in the GIS laboratory. We also have an active weather station on campus monitoring local weather conditions. Students can run their own project related to weather monitoring using the latest data logging instruments. We think that the wonderful opportunities and support in our department will make your degree in Geography not only a meaningful and valuable learning experience, but also an exciting and fun one.

Student Recruitment & Admissions

Innovation Complex, Room 1270
University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6
905-828-5400
[www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students)