

# Careers by Major - Geography



This document serves as a starting point for your career research. Each Careers by Major page provides lots of ideas on various career areas, as well as how to gain related skills and experience. Useful resources and job samples are also provided. Visit us in the Career Centre to find out more about career areas that interest you.

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## Sample Occupations and Jobs

Below is a sample of the many types of occupations and jobs pursued by graduates of this program.

### Sample Occupations

Note: This is not an exhaustive list. Detailed career profiles are available in the Career Centre. Some occupations require further education and experience.

#### Human (social, economic, historical and cultural studies)

Location Analyst  
Market Research Analyst\*  
Medical Geographer  
Map Librarian  
Historic Preservationist  
Political Analyst  
Foreign Service Officer\*  
Economic Development Officer\*  
Planner\* (e.g. Urban Planner)  
Real Estate Developer  
Demographer  
Travel/Tourism Planning  
Community Developer  
Municipal Advisor  
Development Officer\*

#### Computat. and Analyt. Methods

Cartographer\*  
Remote Sensing Analyst  
Curator\*  
GIS/GPS Analyst  
Land Surveyor\*  
Survey Tech\*  
Computer Mapping Developer  
Software Developer  
Map Interpreter  
Aerial Photo Analyst  
Spatial Data Analyst  
GIS Specialist\*  
Statistician\*

#### Physical

Hydrologist\*  
Resource Management Specialist  
Outdoor Guide\*  
Soil Conservationist  
Pollution Control Consultant  
Meteorologist\*  
Ecologist\*  
Geologist\*  
Climatologist\*  
Habitat Researcher  
Atmospheric Data Technician  
Agronomist\*

#### Environmental

Conservator\*  
Outdoor Recreation Management  
Waste Management  
Forestry Technician\*  
Hazardous Waste Planner  
Outdoor Guide\*  
Conservation Officer\*  
Wildlife Technician\*  
Environmental Tech\*  
Ecotourism Planner  
Wetlands Conservation Supervisor  
Conservation Education Coordin.  
Environment. Impact Assessment  
Recycling Coordinator  
Forester\*  
Zoologist\*  
Environmental Consultant\*

### Sample Job Listings

Below is a sample of positions that have been promoted within the Career Centre. To access current postings, login to CLN at [www.cln.utoronto.ca](http://www.cln.utoronto.ca) and click on Jobs.

- Location Research Analyst, Pizza Pizza
- Hydrogeologist, MMM Group
- Agricultural Technical Copywriter, Kenna
- Community Cultural Coordinator, Ontario Native Women's Associat.
- Research Assistant - Water Pollution, Departm. of Economics, UofT
- Fisheries Habitat Technician, Credit Valley Conservation
- Student Planner, Toronto Transit Commission
- Waste Management Research/Policy Analyst, Department of Geography, UofT
- Meteorologist, The Weather Network
- Communications and Membership Coordinator, Ontario Clean Air Alliance
- Forestry Co-op Student, Regional Municipality of York
- Traffic Data Analyst, Transearch
- Animal Control Officer, City of Toronto
- Cultural Research Database Developer, OISE, UofT
- Museum Program Instructor, Parks, Forestry, and Recreation, City of Toronto

### Sample Areas of Employment

- Forestry, mining, environmental issues, waste management, architecture or surveying companies
- Insurance, communications, international trade, transportation
- Private industry including utilities, construction, energy, environmental planning
- Government agencies
- NGOs (non-governmental organizations)
- Consulting firms
- Real estate developers
- Scientific or research groups
- Museums
- Market research organizations
- Boards of education/universities/colleges
- Outdoor recreation companies
- Magazine/newspaper companies

\* View these titles at Career Cruising, available on CLN ([cln.utoronto.ca](http://cln.utoronto.ca)) under the Resources tab.

## Program-Related Skills

Academic courses in this program provide opportunities to develop the following types of skills. Make a career counselling or an employment strategy appointment to discuss how you can demonstrate these skills to employers.

- **Technical:** use qualitative and quantitative methods, conduct sampling/surveys/focus groups; data analysis and presentation; and report writing.
- **Communication:** read and construct graphs/maps; summarize results of experiments; communicate across cultures; maintain records; and written and oral presentation.
- **Research:** application of field methodologies; gather, organize, analyze and present data; use statistical and graphical methods; literature review and reporting; and group collaboration.

## Explore Careers & Build Networks

### Career Exploration 101

Take our 15 minute online module available at [utm.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning/career-exploration](http://utm.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning/career-exploration) and attend the Career Exploration Part 2 in-person workshop read about how you can gain access to UTM's career exploration programs:

- Extern Job Shadowing
- In The Field

### Informational Interviews

Informational interviews are a great way to connect with professionals in a career area of interest and gain valuable insights about a career, company, or industry that would otherwise be difficult to find in books or online. Check out our tip sheet to learn more.

### Alumni Profiles

Check out our Alumni Profiles page with submissions from UTM grads to find out how their experiences have affected their career direction.

### Events

Attending career panels, networking events, employer info sessions, and career fairs is a great way to meet professionals and learn more about careers, companies, and industries. Login to CLN and click on Events & Workshops to see what's coming up.

### Talk to Professors

Connecting with your professors can be a great way to explore the different paths a major can lead you to, as well as learn about possible opportunities for research, volunteering, or becoming a TA. Drop by during their office hours or request an appointment.

### Student Organizations

Join a student club or an academic society at UTM to meet like-minded people, explore your interests, and gain valuable skills. To view a list of current clubs and societies, visit the Centre for Student Engagement online. Some organizations you may consider are:

- Student Association of Geography and Environment
- World Wildlife Foundation at UTM
- Women's Centre
- UTM Students' Union
- Habitat for Humanity UTM

### LinkedIn

Create a LinkedIn profile to connect with professionals in various fields, explore the career paths of UTM alumni, research employers, apply for specific positions, and more. Need help? Come to the Career Centre to book a LinkedIn profile critique.

### Professional Associations

There are many benefits of becoming a member of association(s), such as developing a network of contacts, learning about industry trends, accessing industry-related job postings, and stating your affiliation on your resume. Some associations related to this major are:

- Canadian Association of Geographers (CAG)
- Ontario Association for Geographic and Environmental Education (OAGEE)
- Royal Canadian Geographical Society (RCGS)

## Get Experience

Get some experience and exposure to the industry while being a student. This will increase your chances of finding a job after graduation, while helping you decide what area might be most suitable for you.

### Crack the Hidden Job Market

Networking is an essential element of job search today, as most jobs are not advertised. While you should still apply for positions you find online, building relationships with professionals is a proven way to access the "hidden job market" with some of the most desirable opportunities.

Attend the "Learn to Network" workshop to discover proven techniques to effectively introduce yourself and make contacts.

### On-Campus

#### On-Campus Opportunities Booklet

Check out the On-Campus Opportunities booklet on [www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/on-campus-opportunities](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/on-campus-opportunities) to view a list of some of the ways you can get valuable experience on campus.

#### Work Study Positions

The work study program provides eligible students with an opportunity to work on campus during the academic year and gain experience. Many departments use this program to hire UTM students during the Fall/Winter and Summer terms.

#### Research Opportunity Program (ROP)

UTM's Research Opportunity Program (ROP) allows undergraduate students to gain valuable research experience and earn a course credit by participating in a faculty member's research project. Courses are held during Summer and Fall/Winter terms.

#### Part Time and Volunteer Positions

- Attend the annual Get Experience Fair
- Check out our binder with detailed information on volunteer opportunities; available in the Career Centre
- Learn about the Co-Curricular Record (CCR), which can help you find opportunities beyond the classroom and have your skills and experiences captured on an official document; go to [www.ccr.utoronto.ca](http://www.ccr.utoronto.ca) to find out how you can get involved

#### Student Organizations

Join a student club or an academic society at UTM to meet like-minded people, explore your interests, and gain valuable skills. To view a list of current clubs and societies, visit the Centre for Student Engagement at [www.utm.utoronto.ca/student-life/student-organizations](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/student-life/student-organizations).

### Off-Campus

#### Internships, Summer, Part Time and Volunteer Positions

- Check out our binders with detailed information on internships and volunteer opportunities; available in the Career Centre
- Login to Career Learning Network (CLN) and click on Jobs to access current postings advertised to UofT students
- Attend the annual Get Hired: Summer and Full-Time Jobs Fair
- Consider taking an academic internship course through your department
- Check out Government of Ontario - Job Programs for Youth Summer Employment Programs' web page
- Review our Internships, Summer Employment Programs, and Summer Job Search tip sheets at [utm.utoronto.ca/careers/tip-sheets](http://utm.utoronto.ca/careers/tip-sheets)

#### Full Time Positions

- Login to CLN and click on Jobs to access current postings advertised to graduating students and recent UofT grads. Note: You must attend the "Now That I'm Graduating, What's Next?" workshop to gain access to these postings.
- Attend the annual Get Hired: Summer and Full-Time Jobs Fair
- Check out our list of industry-specific job boards on [www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/jobs/jobs-resources-links](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/jobs/jobs-resources-links)

## Useful Resources & Next Steps

### Appointments

- Attend a one-on-one appointment with a career counsellor or an employment strategist to discuss what career options might work for you and determine a job search plan. Contact the Career Centre for more information.
- Meet with an academic or departmental advisor, who can guide you in achieving academic success. Contact the Office of the Registrar or your department for more information.

### Additional Web Resources

- Prospects - Career Options in Geography and more
- Jobpostings.ca - Career Guides in Agriculture, Forestry, Green Initiatives, and more
- TalentEgg - Career Guides Natural Resources Canada
- Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Canada's Top 100 Employers for Young People

### Career Resource Library

The Career Resource Library contains information about a wide range of occupations in all industries, resume and cover letter resources, effective work search methods, graduate/professional school preparation guides, and more. Located in DV 3094.

### Career Planning by Year

Look for our Career Planning by Year web page on [www.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning](http://www.utoronto.ca/careers/career-planning) for ideas of important career related activities for each year.

### Questions?

Visit the UTM Career Centre located in DV 3094, call 905-828-5451, or visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers).

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