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 Coord.
Environment. Impact Assessment
Recycling Coordinator
Forester*
Zoologist*
Environmental Consultant*

* View these titles at Career Cruising, available on CLN (cln.utoronto.ca) under the Resources tab.

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 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

Prepared by UTM Career Centre. To view the online version with links, go to www.utm.utoronto.ca/careers/careers-by-major.
**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 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 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 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.

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

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
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 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.