

# GEOGRAPHY (HBA)

*Department of Geography, Geomatics and Environment*

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 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, although there are many more! 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](http://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.



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## MAJOR Program Plan

## 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.



	1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR	2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR
PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS*	<p>Enrol in courses GGR111H5 and 112H5. Acquire 6 field days by the end of your final year.</p> <p>Choose a program of study (Subject POST) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the <b>Degree Explorer</b> and the <b>Academic Calendar</b> to plan your degree.</p> <p>Develop foundational academic skills and strategies by enrolling in a <b>utmONE</b> course. Build community and gain academic support through <b>LAUNCH</b>. Join a <b>RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group</b>.</p>	<p>Enrol in GGR277H5. Attain 2.0 credits in GGR at the 200-level from a list of courses in the <b>Academic Calendar</b>.</p> <p>Throughout your undergraduate degree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use the <b>Degree Explorer</b> to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.</li> <li>see the <b>Office of the Registrar</b> and the <b>Geography Academic Counsellor</b>.</li> </ul>
BUILD SKILLS	<p>Use the <b>Co-Curricular Record (CCR)</b>. Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.</p> <p>Attend the <b>Get Hired Fair</b> through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.</p> <p>Attend the <b>Experiential Education Fair</b>.</p>	<p>Use the <b>Career &amp; Co-Curricular Learning Network (CLNx)</b> to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.</p> <p>Work on-campus through the <b>Work-Study program</b>. View position descriptions on the CLNx.</p>
BUILD A NETWORK	<p>Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the <b>Student Association for Geography and Environment (SAGE)</b>.</p> <p>Visit the UTM Library <b>Reference Desk</b>.</p>	<p>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 <b>Tips On How to Approach a Professor</b> available through the Experiential Education Unit (EEU).</p>
BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET	<p><b>Attend events held by the International Education Centre (IEC)</b>, whether you are an international or domestic student. Explore your culture and other cultures through weekly/regular conversations, <b>Language Conversation Circles</b>, debates, and activities to enhance your global and intercultural mindset.</p>	<p>Engage in programs like the <b>Global and Intercultural Fluency Training Series (GIFTS)</b> or learn about and prepare for a future <b>UTM Abroad Experience</b> through the IEC to strengthen and enhance your intercultural skill set, and learn about other cultures while sharing your own!</p>
PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE	<p>Attend the <b>Program Selection &amp; Career Options</b> workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.</p> <p>Check out <b>Careers by Major</b> at the CC to see potential career options.</p>	<p>Explore careers through the CC's <b>Job Shadowing Program</b>. Ask the <b>Geography Academic Counsellor</b> about <b>Professional Advancement for Geography and Environment Students (PAGES)</b>.</p> <p>Considering <b>further education</b>? Attend the CC's <b>Graduate &amp; Professional Schools Fair</b>. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.</p>

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

3 <sup>RD</sup> YEAR	4 <sup>TH</sup> OR FINAL YEAR
<p>During your upper years of study, attain 3.5 credits at the 300/400 level from a list of courses in the <b>Academic Calendar</b>.</p> <p>Consider applying for the <b>Research Opportunity Program (ROP)</b> course GGR399Y. Visit the EEU website for <b>ROP Course Prerequisites</b>. Attend the RGASC's <b>Program for Accessing Research Training (P.A.R.T.)</b> to enhance your research skills.</p>	<p>Gain experience designing and executing an independent senior thesis by enrolling in JEG417Y5 Honours Thesis. Speak to the <b>Geography Academic Counsellor</b> for details.</p> <p>Log on to ACORN and request graduation.</p>
<p>Explore your interests. Know a thing or two about computers? Work for UTM's <b>Information &amp; Instructional Technology Services</b>. Sharpen your problem solving and design skills by getting involved in a <b>Social Innovation Project</b> through the CSE.</p> <p>Learn techniques geographers use in the field! Apply for GGR389H5. Speak to the <b>Geography Academic Counsellor</b>.</p>	<p>Consider a practical work-based experience through the internship course JEG400/401Y5. Speak to the <b>Geography (Arts) Faculty Advisor</b>.</p> <p>Apply to the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Internship Program as a recent graduate. Look at the <b>MNRF website</b> for eligibility and application details.</p>
<p>Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g., LinkedIn).</p> <p>Attend department research seminars and participate in departmental <b>networking events</b> organized by SAGE.</p> <p>Thinking about life after UTM? Connect with a UTM alumnus through the CSE's <b>Alumni Mentorship Program!</b></p>	<p>Join a professional association. Check out the <b>Canadian Association of Geographers</b> or the <b>Canadian Cartographic Association</b> and apply to be considered as a presenter.</p>
<p><b>Earn credits overseas!</b> Apply to study for a summer, term or year at one of 140+ universities. The Geography, Geomatics and Environment department has identified partners which are most relevant to our students. Speak to the IEC for details about <b>Course Based Exchange</b>, funding and travel safety.</p>	<p>Learn about working abroad. Read up on worldwide employment trends and industry outlooks through <b>GoinGlobal</b>. Attend the <b>Go Global Expo</b>. See if you are eligible for <b>International Experience Canada</b>.</p>
<p>What's your next step after undergrad?</p> <p>Entering the workforce? Evaluate your career options through a CC <b>Career Counselling appointment</b>. Create a job search strategy — book a CC <b>Employment Strategies appointment</b>.</p> <p>Considering further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, MCAT), and research funding options (OGS, NSERC).</p>	<p>Market your skills to employers. Get your <b>resume critiqued</b> at the CC. Attend the CC workshop <b>Now That I'm Graduating What's Next?</b></p> <p>Write a strong application for further education. Attend the CC's <b>Mastering the Personal Statement workshop</b>.</p> <p>Ready to transition from the classroom to the workplace? Check out the <b>Recent Graduate Opportunities Program</b>.</p>

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## 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 the 100+ 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

- Accessibility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Office (EDIO)
- Experiential Education Unit (EEU)
- Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)
- Indigenous Centre (IC)
- International Education Centre (IEC)
- 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, Geomatics and Environment

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## 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)

