



Physical Geography

Facts about a Physical Geography Degree:

Physical Geography includes the study of the Earth's physical environments through aspects of:

- **Atmospheric science:** studies the physical and biophysical processes that affect climate and determine weather
- **Geomorphology:** studies the physical processes that create the features on the Earth's surface
- **Biogeography:** studies the spatial distribution of plants and animals and the processes that control this distribution
- **Hydrology:** studies the movement of water between the atmosphere and Earth's surface, including quality and quantity
- **Geomatics:** studies the geographic applications of statistical analysis, remote sensing technology and geographic information systems



Areas of Employment

- local and provincial governments
- federal government agencies
- armed forces, police agencies
- environmental companies, consultant companies
- environmental protection agencies
- natural resource management companies
- agricultural companies
- utility companies
- aviation industry operations
- travel and tourism industry
- urban and regional planning firms
- information systems organizations and geomatics consulting firms
- census and sampling companies
- education institutions
- environmental non-governmental organizations

What Can I Do with a Physical Geography Degree?

Sample Job Titles

- Environmental consultant/advisor
- Environmental project coordinator
- Environmental impact analyst
- Soil conservationist
- Water resources specialist
- Hydrologist/hydrographer
- Natural hazards consultant
- Cartographer, GIS technician
- Remote sensing technician
- Aerial photographer
- Commercial and residential surveyor
- Weather forecaster/meteorologist
- Atmospheric data technician
- Forensic meteorologist
- Urban planner
- Transport planner
- Regional development officer
- Tourism officer/outdoor guide
- Nature interpreter
- Insurance claims adjuster
- Air traffic controller
- Primary or secondary teacher
- Science writer

Skills Possessed by Physical Geography Graduates

Many employers are interested in the skills that geography majors tend to possess. These include:

- understanding the natural and social processes that form Earth's environments, as well as changing interactions between environment and society;
- observational skills, analytical skills, interpretation of data, numerical analysis;
- computational and IT skills, such as use of databases and spreadsheets
- use of geographic concepts and skills, such as producing and interpreting maps, manipulating geographic data;
- fieldwork skills, such as data collection through surveys and physical sampling;
- verbal and written communication, project management;
- ability to work as part of a team, as well as independently

Resources

University of Manitoba Career Services - Check our website at: www.umanitoba.ca/student/careerservices
Click on "**Career Connect**" and register as a Student to view current job postings

University of Manitoba | Exploring Occupations | www.umanitoba.ca/student/counselling/careers.html

University of Manitoba | Physical Geography Program
www.umanitoba.ca/environment/departments/geography/undergraduate/bsc_phys_geography

Environmental Careers Organization Canada | www.eco.ca

Environment Canada | www.ec.gc.ca

Canadian Meteorological & Oceanographic Society | www.cmos.ca

The Canadian Cartographic Association | www.cca-acc.org

GeographyJobs | www.geographyjobs.ca

Career Jet | www.careerjet.ca/geography-degree-jobs.html

Clayton H. Riddell Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources | Alumni Profiles
www.umanitoba.ca/environment/alumni/alumni_profiles.html