



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**AUCKLAND**  
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau  
NEW ZEALAND

**SCIENCE**

# Welcome to the School of Environment

Geography is one of the core subjects offered by the School of Environment at the University of Auckland.

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Geography is a well-established subject at our university, and is available to students studying both Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts degree programmes. Undergraduate studies in geography feature practical real-world experiences and field trips form an important part of several courses. The core second and third year field courses are especially popular and offer students the opportunity to apply their learning outside the classroom.

Undergraduate geography is an excellent foundation for a wide range of careers and several options for postgraduate study. The School provides the opportunity to undertake postgraduate research across a range of topics alongside many of New Zealand's leading scientists and social scientists. We have an impressive array of field equipment and analytical facilities to support our research activities.

I am confident that you will find studying geography a satisfying and rewarding experience, and we look forward to working with you to meet your academic goals.

PROFESSOR PAUL KENCH  
Head, School of Environment

As one of the leading schools\* of its type in Australasia we offer a diverse range of teaching programmes and opportunities for undergraduate and postgraduate study. The School houses a vibrant community of more than 50 instructors and researchers. Collectively, this mix of interests creates a rich and stimulating teaching and research environment.

New Zealand and the South Pacific region offer an exciting environmental laboratory to examine a range of globally relevant research questions. Studying with us at Auckland provides the perfect gateway to access this unique natural laboratory.

\*[www.science.auckland.ac.nz/excellence](http://www.science.auckland.ac.nz/excellence)



▲ GEOG 101 field trip. Photo by J. Fagan.



# Undergraduate studies in Geography

Geography is exciting, challenging and relevant to today's world. Geographers study the natural processes of the physical environment, as well as the activities and consequences of humans in this environment. Some geographers specialise in coastal, glacial or fluvial processes and landforms, climatology, biogeography, hydrology or environmental change. Others explore the transformation of urban places, globalisation and its effects, migration and population change, cultural economies of tourism, wine and fashion, international education, environmental management, values and political contest, social change in New Zealand and the Pacific region, or issues of ethnicity and identity. Still others, specialising in spatial analysis, bring the power of geographic information science to bear on a wide range of research problems. Increasingly, these varied interests are coming together in the study of environmental problems and geographers lead the way in resource management.

Geography teaches valuable skills such as spatial data analysis and geographical information systems, landform and hydrological interpretation, introduction to population and economic statistics, computing skills, field and research skills and ethics. Geography demands good analytical and reporting skills, and our students apply their training in real world situations.

All Geography majors take part in field courses that involve several days in the field away from Auckland. These are a popular feature of the Geography programme and provide a valuable opportunity to apply your learning to the real world.

If you have studied Geography in secondary school we will build upon your experience. If not, our Stage 1 courses will quickly bring you up to speed. You will find that geographers have a world of opportunity for study.

## A choice of degrees: BA or BSc

Geography may be studied as a major in either a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science degree programme. The Geography courses are the same – the difference is with the other subjects you include to complement your studies.

Geography is a natural complement to most sciences, social sciences, as well as humanities. You may choose to combine Geography with Arts subjects like Anthropology, English, Film Studies, History, Sociology, Philosophy, or Political Science in a BA degree. Alternatively, you may combine courses in Geography with science subjects like Biological Science, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Geology, Marine Science, Physics or Science General for a BSc. You could also combine Geography with Commerce subjects like Economics or with Law in a conjoint degree so as to concentrate your studies on a particular aspect of our environment.

[www.science.auckland.ac.nz/doublemajors](http://www.science.auckland.ac.nz/doublemajors)

*GEOG 315 fieldtrip.  
Photo by S. Wegner.*



To view regulations for majors, and course descriptions, see [www.calendar.auckland.ac.nz](http://www.calendar.auckland.ac.nz)

For more information on UG study in Geography visit [science.auckland.ac.nz/environment-future-UG](http://science.auckland.ac.nz/environment-future-UG)

# Planning your major

BSc				
Year 1	GEOG 101	GEOG 102		
Year 2	GEOG 250			
Stage II courses are recommended preparation for specific Stage III courses.				
Year 3	GEOG 315 or 330	GEOG Stage III	GEOG Stage III	GEOG Stage III
Stage III				

1. Courses in a minimum of three subjects listed in the BSc Schedule.
2. At least 180 points (12 courses) must be above Stage 1.
3. Up to 30 points (2 courses) may be taken from outside the Faculty.
4. 30 points (2 courses) must be taken from the appropriate General Education Schedules for BSc students.
5. At least 75 points must be at Stage III, of which 60 points must be in the majoring subject.

3

The average number of years it takes to complete a Bachelor of Science degree



You can choose either a single or double major



		GEN ED
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Geography Majors must complete at least three of the following a) - d)

- a) GEOG 101
- b) GEOG 102
- c) GEOG 202
- d) GEOG 261 or 262

		GEN ED
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*Any Stage*

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Students intending to progress to a BA Honours or BSc Honours programme must complete at least 6 Stage III courses.

*Stage II or III*



GEOG 101 field exercises. Photo by J. Fagan.

# Undergraduate Geography Courses

Course code	Course title	Semester
<b>Stage I</b>		
EARTHSCI 105	Natural Hazards in New Zealand	1
GEOG 101	Earth Surface Processes and Landforms	1, 2
GEOG 102	Geography of the Human Environment	1, 2
GEOG 103	Mapping Our World	Summer
GEOG 104	Cities and Urbanism	2
<b>Stage II</b>		
GEOG 202	Cities, Regions and Communities	1
GEOG 205	Environment and Society	Summer, 2
GEOG 210	Introduction to GIS and Spatial Thinking	2
GEOG 250	Geographical Research in Practice	1
GEOG 260	Field Studies in Earth Surface Processes	2
GEOG 261	Climate, Hydrology and Biogeography	1
GEOG 262	Geomorphology	2
<b>Stage III</b>		
GEOG 305	Population, Health and Society	2
GEOG 307	Urban Geography	1
GEOG 312	Geographies of Pacific Development	1
GEOG 315	Research Design and Methods in Human Geography	2
GEOG 317	Remote Sensing and GIS	1
GEOG 318	GIS Principles and Practice	2
GEOG 320	Resources and Environmental Management	1
GEOG 322	Culture and Environment in East Asia	1
GEOG 324	Critical Perspectives on Sustainable Development	1
GEOG 325	The Human Dimension of Disasters	2
GEOG 330	Research Methods in Physical Geography	2
GEOG 331	Fluvial Geomorphology	1
GEOG 332	Climate and Environment	1
GEOG 334	Environmental Change	2
GEOG 351	Coastal and Marine Studies	1
GEOG 352	Landscape, Environment and Heritage	2
<b>Other complementary courses</b>		
SCIGEN 101	Communicating for a Knowledge Society	1, 2
SCIGEN 201	Innovating for a Knowledge Society	1
MARINE 202	Principles of Marine Science	1
SCIGEN 301	Engaging in a Knowledge Society	2

# Careers in Geography

A Geography degree is more than a passport to a wide range of careers; it gives graduates an edge in their careers. Many of our graduates use their training directly in the workplace, while others find the broad education and flexible skills developed in Geography are in high demand in the job market. Geographers can be found working in a wide range of occupations in an equally wide range of organisations. In recent years, Geography graduates have found careers in the following areas:

## Environmental and Resource Management

A key area of employment for geographers is in environmental and resource management, where they find careers in local, regional and national government agencies and in private consultancies.

## Policy and Planning

Broad analytical and communication skills mean that both human and physical geographers are sought after by government authorities and private firms.

## Science

Many organisations employ geographers as environmental scientists. These include Crown Research Institutes, environmental consultancies, and regional and district councils.

## Geographic Information Science

Geographers are in high demand for their skills in applying GIS to diverse tasks. Employers include government agencies and a range of private companies.

## Education

Many positions for geographers can be found in education at all levels. A Graduate Diploma in Secondary Teaching, for example, may be taken after a BSc or BA.

## Commerce

The skills you learn in geography are applicable to careers in commerce and industry. This could involve working in marketing, human resources, business advising and project management.

## Postgraduate Studies

Postgraduate programmes such as BA or BSc Honours, Postgraduate Diplomas and Masters

degrees are often good options for developing a career path. Studying Geography in both the BA and BSc programmes is an excellent foundation for a range of advanced, postgraduate programmes, including Environmental Management, Environmental Science and Geography.



GEOG students working in groups in the field.  
Photo by J. Fagan.

*Studying geography is fun, active and applied. Geography challenges students to understand and transform real world issues and problems. By engaging with the people and landscapes around them, Geographers gain knowledge and transferrable skills which are applicable to a wide range of careers.*

## Disclaimer

*Although every reasonable effort is made to ensure accuracy, the information in this document is provided as a general guide only for students and is subject to alteration. All students enrolling at the University of Auckland must consult its official document, the University of Auckland Calendar, to ensure that they are aware of and comply with all regulations, requirements and policies.*

# Useful contacts

We encourage you to discuss your undergraduate programme with one of the advisers below:

## Geography Advisers

Joe Fagan

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## Helpful information

Academic dates	<a href="http://www.auckland.ac.nz/dates">www.auckland.ac.nz/dates</a>
Academic Integrity Course	<a href="http://www.auckland.ac.nz/academic-integrity">www.auckland.ac.nz/academic-integrity</a>
Accommodation	<a href="http://www.accommodation.auckland.ac.nz">www.accommodation.auckland.ac.nz</a>
Buy coursebooks	<a href="http://www.science.auckland.ac.nz/resource-centre">www.science.auckland.ac.nz/resource-centre</a>
Career Development and Employment Services	<a href="http://www.auckland.ac.nz/careers">www.auckland.ac.nz/careers</a>
Course advice and degree planning in Science	<a href="http://www.science.auckland.ac.nz/student-centre">www.science.auckland.ac.nz/student-centre</a>
General education	<a href="http://www.auckland.ac.nz/generaleducation">www.auckland.ac.nz/generaleducation</a>
How to apply	<a href="http://www.apply.auckland.ac.nz">www.apply.auckland.ac.nz</a>
How to enrol	<a href="http://www.auckland.ac.nz/enrolment">www.auckland.ac.nz/enrolment</a>
International students	<a href="http://www.international.auckland.ac.nz">www.international.auckland.ac.nz</a>
Māori and Pacific students	<a href="http://www.science.auckland.ac.nz/tuakana">www.science.auckland.ac.nz/tuakana</a>
Need help?	<a href="http://www.askauckland.ac.nz">www.askauckland.ac.nz</a>
Rainbow Science Network for LGBTI students	<a href="http://www.science.auckland.ac.nz/rainbowsience">www.science.auckland.ac.nz/rainbowsience</a>
Scholarships and awards	<a href="http://www.scholarships.auckland.ac.nz">www.scholarships.auckland.ac.nz</a>
Support for students	<a href="http://www.science.auckland.ac.nz/support">www.science.auckland.ac.nz/support</a>

Applications close on December 8.

**Questions about Geography? Email [environment@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:environment@auckland.ac.nz)**



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