Welcome to the School of Environment

Geography is the study of people and place through economic, environmental, social and political processes.

Geography is a well-established postgraduate programme offered by the School of Environment. We offer a diverse range of courses for postgraduate study. The school houses a vibrant community of more than 50 instructors and researchers. The mix of different interests creates a rich training and research environment.

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

We have an impressive array of field equipment and analytical facilities to support our research activities, alongside a talented group of postgraduate students from around the world who help to provide a stimulating and supportive environment for your studies.

Postgraduate study in Geography is an excellent step towards a number of careers and is a strong foundation for postgraduate research. I am confident that you will find studying Geography at the University of Auckland a satisfying and rewarding experience, and we look forward to working with you to meet your academic goals.

PROFESSOR PAUL KENCH
Head of School

Geography is no. 34 ranked in the world

QS World University Rankings by Subject 2017
Postgraduate studies in Geography

The School of Environment hosts a Geography programme of international standing that covers the breadth of human, physical and geospatial specialities.

Our graduates are well regarded in New Zealand and internationally and many have gone on to establish high-profile, influential careers in the private and public sectors, as well as academia. A postgraduate degree in Geography provides a broad-based foundation for developing a successful and rewarding career in a range of dynamic occupations. Postgraduate training provides for an advanced level of knowledge, as well as contributing to the development of skills that are sought by employers. For some career paths, a postgraduate degree is much more than an advantage - it is a necessity.

A postgraduate qualification in Geography gives students a strong competitive edge in the employment market, not just by virtue of the qualification, but also because of the high reputation of qualifications granted by the University of Auckland.

Students are given the opportunity to extend their understanding of the human and natural environments, establishing the foundation for interesting careers in such areas as resource management, hydrology and water resources, coastal management, climatology, social, economic and environmental research, health research, business management and analysis, geographic information studies, economics and market research, education and academia, policy development and analysis, research management and community advocacy. Participants in postgraduate geography programmes gain other important work skills including:

- Advanced communication skills
- Critical thinking and reflection
- Computer processing and analysis skills
- Ethical awareness and citizenship
- Information capture, processing and analysis
- Project and time management
- Report preparation
- Research design and practice
Postgraduate Diploma in Science/Arts

The Postgraduate Diploma in Science (PGDipSci) and the Postgraduate Diploma in Arts (PGDipArts) specialising in Geography are one-year, full-time programmes worth 120 points. Both can be started in either Semester One or Semester Two and are made up of eight courses, as specified below. The Postgraduate Diploma (PGDipSci or PGDipArts) is available for students who have a BSc or BA with at least a C+ average in their best three Geography courses at Stage III.

Bachelor of Science (Honours)/Arts (Honours)

The BSc(Hons) and BA(Hons) degrees are 120 point programmes completed over one year for full-time students, or two years of part-time study. Full-time students must commence their studies in Semester One. The programmes include six courses from the list on the following page, plus a 30 point Dissertation (GEOG 789), which must be undertaken in Semester Two. The BSc(Hons) is available for students who have a BSc in Geography including at least 90 points at Stage III, and attained at least a B average over 45 points at Stage III in Geography. The BA(Hons) is available for students who have a BA in Geography, who achieved at least a B average over 45 points in Stage III Geography courses.

Masters of Science/Arts

The Master of Science (MSc) and Master of Arts (MA) programmes in Geography are research degrees. These are normally taken as:

- **120 point MSc/MA**: Students will have completed a one year (full-time) programme following a PGDipSci, BSc(Hons), PGDipArts or BA (Hons), and undertake a year-long, supervised research project to complete their masters.

- **240 point MSc/MA**: Students will have completed a BSc or BA. The first year programme is the same for the PGDipSci and PGDipArts. Students then complete a year-long, supervised research project.

In both options students must have an approved research proposal and the support of a supervisor in order to commence the research project. Admission to the MSc requires an average grade equivalent to at least B- over 90 points in the qualifying programme. Admission to the MA requires a B average over the qualifying programme. All options may be taken also on a part-time basis.

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

The degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) is a three to four year research degree that may be taken after an MSc, or in some cases following BSc(Hons) or BA(Hons).
The BSc(Hons), BA(Hons), PGDipSci, PGDipArts, and first-year of two-year MSc and MA (Geography) programmes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>One core, research preparation course (15 points)</strong></td>
<td>GEOG 701 Research in Practice</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>For BSc(Hons) at least four courses from the following (60 points) OR for BA(Hons), PGDipSci, PGDipArts, MSc and MA at least five courses from the following (75 points)</strong></td>
<td>EARTHCSI 705 Geohazards</td>
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<td>EARTHCSI 732 Reconstructing Environmental Change</td>
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<td>ENVMGT 741 Social Change for Sustainability</td>
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<td>ENVMGT 742 Social Dimensions of Global Environmental Change</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>ENVMGT 743 Environmental Policy</td>
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<td>ENVMGT 744 Resource Management</td>
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<td>ENVMGT 746 Collaborative Environmental Management</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ENVSCI 704 Modelling of Environmental Systems</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ENVSCI 713 Air Quality and Atmospheric Processes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ENVSCI 737 Applied Terrestrial Ecology</td>
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<td>ENVSCI 738 Water and Society</td>
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<td>GEOG 712 Land, Place and Culture</td>
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<td>GEOG 714 Population, Mobilities and Wellbeing</td>
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<td>GEOG 715 Development and New Regional Geographies</td>
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<td>GEOG 719 Geographies of Housing and Urban Change</td>
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<td></td>
<td>GEOG 725 People, Participation and Development</td>
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<td>GEOG 730 Climate Change: Past, Present and Future</td>
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<td>GEOG 737 Policy and Expertise</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>GEOG 738 Future Food and Biological Economies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>GEOG 745 Applied Fluvial Geomorphology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>GEOG 746 Applied Coastal Geomorphology</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>GEOG 748 Current Issues in Coastal Management</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>GEOG 770 GIS Analysis and Spatial Data Handling</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GEOG 771 Spatial Analysis and Computation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>GEOG 772 Advanced Raster Data Analysis</td>
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<td></td>
<td>GEOG 774 Advanced Spatial Data Handling</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td><strong>For BSc(Hons) and BA(Hons) only (30 points)</strong></td>
<td>GEOG 789 Honours Dissertation in Geography</td>
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<td><strong>For BSc(Hons) up to one course (15 points) OR for PGDipSci, PGDipArts, MSc and MA, up to two courses (30 points) from 700-level courses as approved by the Programme Adviser for Geography</strong></td>
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Postgraduate research is highly valued and forms an important part of the PGDipSci, PGDipArts, BSc(Hons), BA(Hons), MSc, MA and PhD programmes in Geography. The following research themes identify the expertise of geography at the University of Auckland.

Climate and Society
Researchers in this theme deal with sensitivity of physical and human environments and climate. Themes are drawn from hydrology, agriculture, human health, ecosystems and energy, among others.

Urban Spaces / Social Lives
Researchers explore intersections of social life with urban and more-than-urban spaces, encompassing the study of inequality, social difference and urban form, as well as processes emergent in households, asylums, migration and disasters.

Political Ecologies and Environmental Justice
Researchers in this theme critique environmental management, biopolitical interventions and their socio-cultural implications for equity, Indigenous environmental claims, community capacities and public participation.

Population, Mobilities and Wellbeing
Researchers in this theme investigate the changing nature of population dynamics and the multiple determinants of wellbeing viewed through the lens of mobility.

Hazards and Disasters
Researchers in this theme cover the breadth of hazards and disasters, from the underlying physical processes and methods of assessment, through to people’s vulnerabilities and capacities, and risk assessment and management.

Coasts and Rivers
The Coasts and Rivers group investigate the natural processes operating on the landscape, across a range of temporal and spatial scales, from catchment to cobble, from Holocene to a few days.

Our Changing Forests
Researchers in this theme are concerned with the dynamics of forest environments past, present and future encompassing the long-term dynamics of social, ecological and climatic interactions with forests.

Urban Environments and Ecology
Researchers in this theme address how bio-physical systems operate in urban areas, the role of humans in driving terrestrial, aquatic and atmospheric processes, and the implications for governance, design and restoration.

www.env.auckland.ac.nz/research
Careers in Geography

A Geography degree gives graduates an edge to their careers. Many 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. In recent years, Geography graduates have found careers in the following areas:

- **Environmental and resource management**
  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 such as Crown Research Institutes, environmental consultancies, regional and district councils employ geographers as environmental scientists.

- **Geographic Information Science (GIScience)**
  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**
  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.

"I have long been passionate about the physical environment and particularly interested in historic landscape change."

"When I learned that the University of Auckland has a fantastic reputation in Geography and Environmental Science I thought it would be a great opportunity to study at a leading university.

"The fieldwork aspect of studying at the school is one of the best parts of the degree. It allowed me to personally see the physical processes that we studied in lectures. It’s a lot of fun and we get to see some amazing parts of New Zealand.

"Although I am now a Climate Scientist at the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Ltd (NIWA) and don’t get to do much in the way of fluvial geomorphology work, I still love researching issues concerning our physical environment and doing field work. I even get to work with some of my lecturers from the University of Auckland from time to time."

Petra Pearce completed her Master of Science specialising in Geography in 2012, after completing a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Geography and Environmental Science.
Helpful information

Academic dates
www.auckland.ac.nz/dates

Accommodation
www.accommodation.auckland.ac.nz

Apply for postgraduate study
www.auckland.ac.nz/applynow

Career Development and Employment Services
www.cdes.auckland.ac.nz

Childcare
www.auckland.ac.nz/childcare

Degree planning and course advice
www.science.auckland.ac.nz/student-centre

Disability Services
www.disability.auckland.ac.nz

How to enrol
www.auckland.ac.nz/enrolment

Information for postgraduate students
www.postgraduate.ac.nz

International students
www.international.auckland.ac.nz

Libraries and Learning Services
www.library.auckland.ac.nz

Māori and Pacific students
www.science.auckland.ac.nz/tuakana

Need help?
www.ask.auckland.ac.nz

Postgraduate Students’ Association
www.pgsa.org.nz

Rainbow Science Network for LGBTI students
www.science.auckland.ac.nz/rainbowscience

Scholarships, awards and fees
www.scholarships.auckland.ac.nz

www.auckland.ac.nz/fees
www.auckland.ac.nz/studentloansandallowances

Support for students
www.science.auckland.ac.nz/support

Geography Adviser

Associate Professor Ward Friesen
w.friesen@auckland.ac.nz
+64 9 923 8612

School of Environment
Building 302, Room 475,
23 Symonds Street,
Auckland 1010

Questions about Geography?
environment@auckland.ac.nz

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.

Connect with us
Faculty of Science, The University of Auckland
Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142, New Zealand
Phone: 0800 61 62 63 | Email: scifac@auckland.ac.nz
Web: www.env.auckland.ac.nz

https://twitter.com/ScienceUoa
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