



HIGHLIGHTS

- Year 1** GEOG 106: Water and the City: A Socio-Hydrology of Worcester and its Environs
- Year 2** GEOG 020: American Cities: Changing Spaces, Community Places
- Year 3** GEOG 263: The Climate System and Global Environmental Change
- Year 4** GEOG 287: New Methods in Earth Observation

Introduction to the Major

Geography examines why places are different, how those differences shape how we live, and how we in turn shape our environment.

As a geography major at Clark, you will have the opportunity to study with nationally and internationally known faculty to better understand the physical and social processes that shape our planet. You will graduate with a broad understanding of the diverse elements that comprise geography, and be prepared to address today's societal and environmental challenges. Clark's geography program is the only one to have developed its own GIS software, IDRISI-TerrSet, which is now used worldwide.

CORE COURSES

You will take at least one course in each of four concentrations: human environmental geography; urban economic geography; earth system science; and geographic information science. You will also take courses in research methods and skills, four courses in a specific area you want to explore in depth, and a capstone. Examples of core courses:

- Global Change, Regional Challenges
- Weather and Climate
- Introduction to Geographic Information Science
- Research Design and Methods in Geography
- Environment and Society
- Forest Ecology

"Emphasis on teaching students to tackle the most pressing issues while instilling the need for social change drew me to geography at Clark."

— ERICA ISSENBERG '18, ENVIRONMENTAL & CLIMATE RESEARCHER, HOWARD CENTER



1 MILLION
species threatened
with extinction in
decades



DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY



**Explore
and navigate
Clark curriculum**



**Connect
and engage
with communities**



**Discover
and pursue
your passions**



**Develop
professional
skills**



**Reflect,
design
and plan**

YEAR 1

YEAR 2



□ **Explore the geography department**

Stop by Jefferson Academic Center to meet geography faculty and staff.



□ **Learn about campus resources**

Visit the Goddard library, the Writing Center, the Career Lab in ASEC, and other campus resources to learn about what's available to you.



□ **Consider a First-Year Intensive (FYI) course**

Talk with geography program staff to learn more.



□ **Identify Program of Liberal Studies (PLS) and Problems of Practice (PoP) courses**

Meet with an adviser to start identifying courses that match your interests and goals.



□ **Get connected**

Attend a meeting of CUGA, the student-run Clark Undergraduate Geography Association. Follow the Clark Geography Department on Facebook and Instagram. Check out student clubs and activities that resonate with you.



□ **Discover off-campus**

Check out activities in the community beyond Clark through the Outing Club and other organizations. Attend Practicing Geography Week events and off-campus field trips. Get involved through the Office of Community Engagement & Volunteering.



□ **Reflect on what sparks your interest**

What new interests have you discovered? What do you want to try? Discuss emerging interests with your adviser and start mapping out courses and activities for the next three years.



□ **Dig into your major, define your interests**

Work with geography staff and faculty to declare your major and explore specialization areas.



□ **Explore career and internship opportunities**

Attend a career fair to learn about potential paths. Log in to Handshake to discover summer internships and on-campus jobs. Learn about HERO, a paid undergraduate summer research program.



□ **Consider study abroad**

Look into options for junior year or a semester abroad that also fulfill program requirements. Visit the Study Abroad Office to explore the possibilities.



□ **Start networking**

Connect with faculty and peers about opportunities you would like to be part of. Create a ClarkCONNECT profile and reach out to alumni in your fields of interest.



□ **Build your resume**

Attend a workshop or schedule an individual session at the Career Connections Center (CCC). Upload your resume to Handshake for review and feedback.



□ **Apply for funding**

Explore department and university funding opportunities for research and creative projects. Check out the CCC's Opportunity Funding page.



□ **Reflect on your experiences**

What do you enjoy, and do well? Which career options are you now considering, and which do you still want to explore? Add your thoughts to your career journal.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

JOBS & EMPLOYERS

Graduates work in urban planning, conservation, GIS, journalism, and other fields for employers including EPA, the National Geographic Society, and Apple Inc.

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Alumni have pursued advanced study in community development, architecture, ecology, and more at top schools including MIT, Cal Poly, and the University of Helsinki.

YEAR 3

-  **Expand and explore**
Take a seminar in a program area you have not tried. Explore if graduate school is right for you with these resources through the Career Connections Center.
-  **Become a researcher**
Work with a geography faculty member or graduate student on their research, or pursue your own independent study.
-  **Strengthen your networks on and off campus**
Check out the Alumni Job Shadow Program to connect with alumni and learn about what they do. Join a professional association such as the American Association of Geographers (AAG).
-  **Plan for senior year and beyond**
What are your goals after graduation? Connect with your career adviser to strategize and plan.
-  **Represent, serve, lead**
Serve as a CUGA student representative at geography department meetings. Take on a role with a community organization or student club to build important skills.
-  **Learn about publishing**
Join the board of SURJ, Clark's undergraduate student research journal. Attend peer-review workshops.
-  **Get out of here**
Study abroad or away to expand your horizons. Hone your foreign language skills.
-  **No regrets!**
What's on your Clark bucket list? Where do you still need to build experience and skills? Where are you confident and where do you need more clarity?

YEAR 4

-  **Pull it all together with your capstone**
Complete your capstone requirement through a course project, research experience, or honors thesis.
-  **Apply to join Gamma Theta Upsilon**
Apply to join the international honor society in geography, Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU).
-  **Get published!**
Work with sponsoring faculty or an adviser to prepare and submit a manuscript to SURJ or another peer-reviewed journal.
-  **Share your knowledge and give back**
Work as a Peer Learning Assistant (PLA). Lead a discussion section for an introductory course.
-  **What's next?**
Talk with your advisers about your plans. Identify faculty who know you well and will serve as references or write letters of recommendation. Schedule a mock job interview through the Career Connections Center to get feedback.
-  **Show your work**
Present your work at ClarkFEST in the spring or fall, or at a geography conference. What other experiences can you leverage to pursue your goals?
-  **Ask yourself the big questions**
What have you learned that you value? What have you excelled at? What action steps do you need to take this year to finish strong?
-  **Get ready to launch**
Update your professional profiles including LinkedIn. Find ways to demonstrate qualities such as leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR!



At Clark, your geography education extends beyond the classroom.

Many students seek out internship opportunities to connect what they're learning with their professional development, at organizations such as Preservation Worcester, Conservation International, and the Regional Economic Council of Central Massachusetts. Qualified students can participate in the Human-Environment Regional Observatory (HERO) program, an intensive summer and academic-year research effort focused on environmental change in New England.

CONNECT WITH US!

Jefferson Academic Center, Room 220

508-793-7336

geography@clarku.edu

Advising

We are here to support your academic journey.

In your first year at Clark, you will be assigned an adviser to help you select your courses and programs. Once you declare your major, geography faculty will advise you.

CLARK
UNIVERSITY



Challenge Convention.
Change Our World.

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