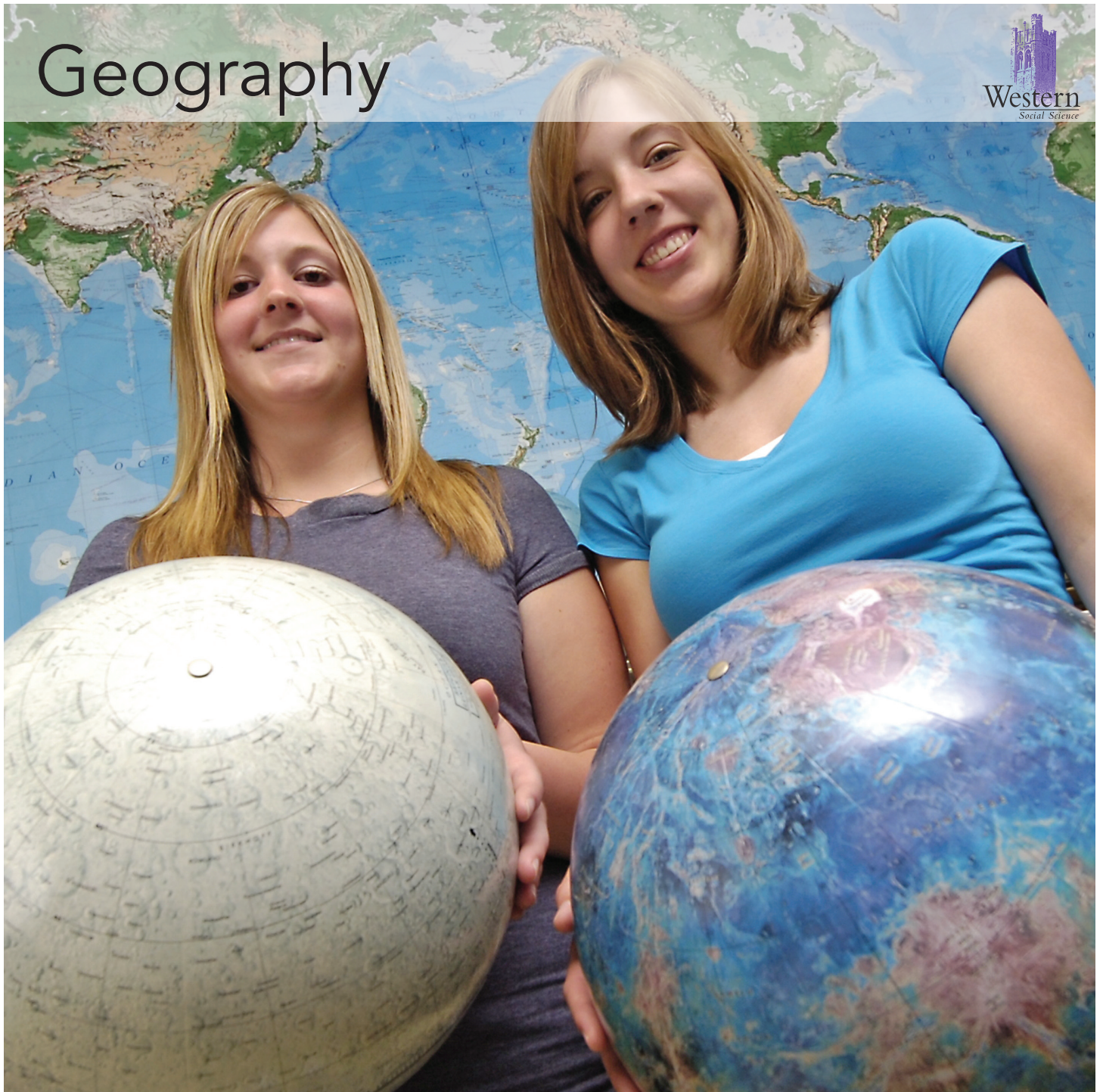


Geography



What is Geography?



Geography is the study of the way the world works. Geographers are interested in some of today's most pressing social and environmental issues through research that links human activity and natural systems, for example, the issue of global warming. Geographers are interested in the processes that form the physical environment, as well as the social, cultural, political and economic forces that shape human landscapes.

Geography at Western

At Western students can participate in field trips and research projects that address geographical topics. Students are taught by award-winning instructors and have access to resources such as a state-of-the-art Map Library and GIS laboratories. An active Geographical Students Association organizes social events like "Pizza and Profs" and "Career Night".

Areas of Study

• Urban Development

Provides students with an intensive yet balanced education on the nature of urbanism, the processes affecting urban growth, and the methods and techniques used to analyze urban markets land use and urbanization.

• Geography

Geography combines an understanding of both the physical and human landscapes. At Western this tradition is reflected in the degree choices offered which allow students to focus on physical geography, human geography and the environment, and development and health.

• Geographic Information Science

GIS is a tool that allows users to create searches, analyze the spatial information, edit data, maps, and present the results of all these operations. For example, GIS might allow emergency planners to easily calculate emergency response times in the event of a natural disaster or to find wetlands that need protection from pollution, to name a few.

Some Geography programs can be completed as either a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science.

Sample Courses

Society and Nature

An introduction to the dynamics of environmental change and human-environment relations through time.

Physical Geography

Physical Geography examines the phenomena and processes of the earth-atmosphere system. Topics include: the atmosphere and fundamentals of weather and climate, water in the environment, earth surface processes and bio-geography.

People Places and Landscapes

People Places and Landscapes is the study of the patterns and places produced by human activity. Examines the spatial dynamics of social, cultural, economic and political processes and describes the resulting change of the natural and built environments which create human landscapes.

After Graduation

Jobs available to Geographers today are extensive. A background in human-environment relations is indispensable in today's society. Issues such as urbanization, globalization, and climate change are becoming increasingly important- so a demand for Geographers is inevitable. Students can go on to anything from GIS specialist, to urban planning, to resource management. Geography is also an excellent degree for entry into some professional programs.

Careers of Graduates

- Environmental Consultant
- Remote Sensing Analyst
- Land Use Planner
- Urban Developer
- Climatologist
- Weather Forecaster
- Parks Supervisor
- Map Curator/Librarian
- Water Efficiency Analyst
- Geography Teacher
- GIS Officer
- Ecologist



"I took geography as an elective in first year and am so glad I did. I didn't take geography in high school and had no idea that the discipline has so much to offer at the university level.

A highlight for me as a geography student at Western would be Field Camp. It was the best experience I've had since coming to university. It was at Field Camp that I met many of my best friends, and really started to identify myself as part of the geography program at Western. Another highlight has been my involvement in the Geography Students Association; it is a great way to meet fellow Western geographers.

I was attracted to studying geography at Western because of the great professors and the wide range of interesting classes and state-of-the-art facilities available to students. The geography program has a strong community feel and it doesn't take long before you know and love your classmates, professors, and teaching assistants.

When I graduate from Western I hope to work towards my masters and PhD to eventually become a physical geography professor."

Beth Hundey
Honors Specialization Geography and Biology Minor



For more information on the
Department of Geography, please
visit: <http://geography.uwo.ca/>