

GEOGRAPHY - PH.D.

College of Sciences and Humanities
Department of Geography
www.kent.edu/geography

About This Program

Push the boundaries of geographic research with Kent State's Ph.D. in Geography, where you'll investigate today's most pressing spatial and environmental challenges through advanced, interdisciplinary study. With rigorous training in theory, research design and tools like GIS – paired with hands-on fieldwork – you'll develop the expertise to produce original scholarship and prepare for leadership roles in academia, government and industry. Read more...

Contact Information

- Sarah Smiley | ssmiley8@kent.edu | 330-672-3909
- Connect with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
 - In person
- **Location:**
 - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers and Salaries*

Calibration technologists and technicians and engineering technologists and technicians, except drafters, all other

- 2.1% slower than the average
- 91,600 number of jobs
- \$64,190 potential earnings

Geographers

- -1.2% decline
- 1,600 number of jobs
- \$85,430 potential earnings

Geography teachers, postsecondary

- 2.9% slower than the average
- 4,800 number of jobs
- \$82,330 potential earnings

Surveying and mapping technicians

- 0.7% little or no change
- 58,400 number of jobs
- \$46,200 potential earnings

Natural sciences managers

- 4.8% about as fast as the average
- 71,400 number of jobs
- \$137,940 potential earnings

Conservation scientists

- 5.1% faster than the average
- 24,500 number of jobs
- \$64,020 potential earnings

Environmental scientists and specialists, including health

- 7.8% faster than the average
- 90,900 number of jobs
- \$73,230 potential earnings

Social scientists and related workers, all other

- 0.8% little or no change
- 38,800 number of jobs
- \$87,260 potential earnings

Environmental science and protection technicians, including health

- 8.4% much faster than the average
- 34,700 number of jobs
- \$46,850 potential earnings

Environmental science teachers, postsecondary

- 3.7% about as fast as the average
- 7,600 number of jobs
- \$84,740 potential earnings

* Source of occupation titles and labor data comes from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' Occupational Outlook Handbook. Data comprises projected percent change in employment over the next 10 years; nation-wide employment numbers; and the yearly median wage at which half of the workers in the occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less.

For more information about graduate admissions, visit the graduate admission website. For more information on international admissions, visit the international admission website.

Admission Requirements

- Master's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 2.750 GPA on a 4.000-point scale
- Official transcript(s)
- Résumé
- Goal statement
- Three letters of recommendation
- English language proficiency - all international students must provide proof of English language proficiency (unless they meet specific exceptions to waive) by earning one of the following:¹
 - Minimum 79 TOEFL iBT score
 - Minimum 6.5 IELTS score

- Minimum 58 PTE score
- Minimum 110 DET score

¹ International applicants who do not meet the above test scores will not be considered for admission.

Application Deadlines

- **Fall Semester**
 - Priority Deadline: February 1

All application materials (including applicable fee, transcripts, recommendation letters, etc.) submitted by this deadline will receive the strongest consideration for admission.

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

| Code | Title | Credit Hours |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Major Requirements | | |
| Geography Coursework ¹ | | 18 |
| Cognate Discipline ² | | 6 |
| Additional Requirements | | 6 |
| <i>Culminating Requirement</i> | | |
| GEOG 80199 | DISSERTATION I ³ | 30 |
| Minimum Total Credit Hours: | | 60 |

¹ Geography coursework must be graded. Maximum 3 credit hours of GEOG 80998 may count toward geography coursework.

² The cognate field must be in a department other than geography. Generally, cognate study is taken with the cognate member of the student's advisory committee.

³ Candidacy examinations are taken after the dissertation proposal is approved by the committee. This should be completed by the end of the second year of doctoral study. Each doctoral candidate, upon admission to candidacy, must register for GEOG 80199 for a total of 30 credit hours. It is expected that a doctoral candidate will continuously register for GEOG 80199, and thereafter GEOG 80299, each semester, until all requirements for the degree have been met.

Graduation Requirements

| Minimum Major GPA | Minimum Overall GPA |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| - | 3.000 |

- Of the 30 credit hours of doctoral-level coursework required for the degree, students must complete a minimum of 18 credit hours that are letter graded.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Engage in independent research projects.
2. Acquire experiences in formulating research problems, reviewing relevant literature, designing research methodology, analyzing research data and formulating results from academic research.

Full Description

The Ph.D. degree in Geography provides specialized training and inquiry into contemporary problems in geography.