Find Your Place in the World.

The Geography B.A. in Environmental Studies at UAS seeks to understand complex relationships between people and environments, and to help students to develop the skills, concepts, and values needed to uncover and improve these relationships. We live, study, and act in places spatially. We need to understand what opportunities and constraints this presents and develop this understanding in order to act as judiciously as possible in our personal lives, as voting citizens, and as members of the global community. In this capacity, geography is a vital discipline for the 21st century, as many of the challenges faced by the world's societies meet at the interface of social, political, economic, and natural environments. Students are exposed to the key methods and tools they will need to engage as professionals and citizens to promote the long-term health and vitality of ecological, social, economic, and cultural systems and to make informed decisions about environmental issues. Geographic research methods are qualitative and quantitative, including critical thinking, historical examination, landscape analysis, observation, and measurement. Students can take courses in the natural sciences, and as well as courses in:

- World History
- Sociology
- Anthropology
- Literature
- Philosophy
- Economics

Pathways to a successful career with the UAS Geography and Environmental Studies program

Recommended High School Preparation

- English, 4 years
- Math, 4 years
- Science, 4 years
- History, 2-3 years
- Foreign Language, 2-4 years

UAS Degrees

Bachelor of Arts in Geography and Environmental Studies

Potential Careers

- Academia (many disciplines, incl. anthropology, sociology, biology, law, geography, political science, history, English, philosophy)
- Agriculture
- Biology
- Conservation
- Environmental Law, Education, Economics, Engineering, Science
- Forest Service
- Land Management
- Landscape Design and Architecture

Potential Salaries

- $25,000 to $55,000 per year with a bachelor's degree

- National Parks Service
- Natural Science Management
- Public Policy and Planning
- Outdoor Services and Education
- Research
- Social Work
- Wildlife Biology
- Writer

“Courses at UAS help me see how the human-nature relationship differs across cultures, how it has changed over time and even affected the course of human history, and how it determines so many other aspects of our lives.”

– Jennie M.
UAS programs offer a unique opportunity for students to approach environmental and geographical concerns through interdisciplinary and humanistic forms of inquiry. Geographers can integrate emerging technologies, such as geographic information systems (GIS) and remote sensing, to understand issues that span the disciplines. Or they can learn how to critically frame, research, analyze, and address the pressing challenges of our time.

The B.A. allows students to integrate a variety of research methods to examine the unique biogeography, landscape, history, ecology, and cultures of Southeast Alaska, as well as understand these dimensions of the region within a global context.

The geographic perspective that the B.A. provides prepares students for careers in the non-profit sector, government agencies, environmental planning, sustainability advising, green business, environmental education, environmental journalism, environmental law, management, policy, and teaching.

The B.A. develops a strong foundation for advanced studies in a wide range of academic disciplines.

**Sample Courses**

- Arctic Ethnography: ANTH 342
- Literature and the Environment: ENGL 303
- Biogeography: ENVS 415
- Environmental Sociology: SOC 404
- Tlingit Culture and History: ANTH 428
- Outdoor Leadership: ODS 243

**Degree Requirements**

Geography B.A. students must fulfill all UAS General Education Requirements (GERs) as well as the specific program requirements listed below for a minimum of 120 credit hours. Courses in a degree program may be counted only once. Courses used to fulfill the major requirements cannot be used to fulfill the GERs. The degree must include 42 credits of upper-division (300 or above) courses. To satisfy the residency requirement, 30 credits must be completed at UA, including 24 upper division credits.

Candidates who expect to teach in public secondary schools should seek advising from the UAS School of Education. For more detailed information on specific degree requirements, check out the most current University of Alaska Southeast academic catalog online at: www.uas.alaska.edu/catalog

**Faculty**

Geography faculty are actively engaged in a wide range of disciplines, and a small student-to-professor ratio ensures a more personal approach to learning than is possible at larger universities. Geography faculty include: Cathy Connor (Geology), Erica Hill (Anthropology), Eran Hood (Hydrology), Kevin Krein (Philosophy), Kevin Maier (English), Dan Monteith (Anthropology), Sanjay Pyare (GIS and Landscape Ecology), John Radzilowski (History), Sarah Jaquette Ray (English), Alex Simon (Sociology).

Program information is subject to change. Please visit our Web site at www.uas.alaska.edu for the most current program information.