Department Mission

The mission of the Department of Geography is to offer students educational experiences of the highest quality and to conduct meaningful and vital research. The department is committed to outstanding teaching and scholarly activities within the framework of academic freedom and the diversity of ideas, and is dedicated to the advancement of knowledge and to public service. The department stresses the theoretical and applied realms of geography in all of its curriculum, leads the discipline with innovative applied work, and actively seeks to recruit top students nationally and internationally.

Degrees Offered

» Master of Science (M.S.) in Geography  
» Master of Applied Geography (M.A.Geo.)  
  Resource and Environmental Studies  
  Geographic Information Science  
  Geographic Education  
  General Geography  
» Ph.D. Geography  
» Ph.D. Geographic Education  
» Ph.D. Geographic Information Science

The personal commitment of the faculty to each individual student promotes academic self-growth, and the program’s holistic approach to geography allows students to prepare for professional paths suited to their interests and aspirations.

— Laura Engalls, current M.A.Geo. student at Texas State University

Students learn theories and real-world problem solving skills in environmental, physical, and human geography, geographic information sciences and geographic education.

Department of Geography

601 University Drive  
San Marcos, TX 78666-4684  
512.245.2170 | geography@txstate.edu

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geo.txstate.edu
Why choose Texas State?
Working closely with a dedicated faculty that is recognized nationally and internationally for its research, mentoring and teaching accomplishments, students embark on a journey of professional development that includes research and teaching opportunities. The department also hosts or plays key roles in several international, national and university-wide research centers.

Our master’s students have been recognized with research awards and academic scholarships at the international, national and regional levels, and have pursued professional careers or joined doctoral programs at Texas State and elsewhere.

Course Work
The M.A.Geo. program provides students with the skills and knowledge needed to solve real-world problems with a geographical dimension. Students complete 33 credit hours, including core and skills courses, as well as electives in one of four areas of specialization: general geography, resource and environmental studies, geographic information science, and geographic education. A research paper is required to complete the degree.

The M.S. program exposes students to geographic theory and research methods at the pre-doctoral level. Students complete 30 credit hours, including core, skills and elective courses, as well as six hours of thesis work. A research thesis is required to complete the degree.

Faculty
Thirty-four full-time faculty members conduct research in physical, human, and environmental geography, geographic education and geographic information sciences, and publish in top-tier journals, including the Annals of the American Association of Geographers, The Professional Geographer, Urban Geography, Physical Geography, the International Journal of Geographical Information Sciences and the Journal of Geography. Faculty research has been supported by the National Science Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Justice and National Aeronautics and Space Administration, among other funding agencies.

Career Options
M.A.Geo. graduates typically pursue professional careers in environmental management, GIScience, physical and environmental geography, and planning. M.S. graduates typically continue their studies at the doctoral level or apply for research-oriented positions in the public or private sector. M.A.Geo. and M.S. alumni work in the private (40%) or public (30%) sector, in federal agencies or research centers (20%), or have continued to the Ph.D. level (10%).

Important Deadlines*
Admissions
Priority Fall: February 1
Fall: May 1
Spring: October 15
Summer: No admission
Funding: Scholarships, Fellowships and Assistantships
Applications must be complete by the priority deadline to be considered for funding.

How to Apply
For information regarding admission requirements and submission instructions, please visit: gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply

*International applicants can view specific deadlines and requirements at: gradcollege.txstate.edu/international

For information on deadlines, admission requirements and funding, visit: 
gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/geo
gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/gis
gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/geo-resource-environmental-studies

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