Geography, Ph.D.

Career Advancement

The Doctor of Philosophy program prepares students to carry on creative and productive research in selected areas of geography. University of Iowa graduates hold positions on college and university faculties, in private research organizations, and in business and government.

Geography majors are encouraged to participate in an internship. The department maintains close ties with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and other local agencies that offer internships.

The application of GIS to social, economic, and environmental problems has increased considerably during the past decade. This trend is likely to continue into the future; in fact, the U.S. Department of Labor has identified the area as one of its 14 high-growth industries. GIS presents an abundance of career opportunities for geography graduates in local, state, and federal government agencies, as well as in the private sector.

The department’s faculty members help students apply for postgraduate programs and contact potential employers. The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.