

# GEOGRAPHY

## About Geography

Geography is a broad, holistic discipline; both a natural and a social science because it examines people and their environment and serves as a bridge between physical and cultural processes. **Human Geography** is concerned especially with the political, economic, social, and cultural processes and resource practices that create spatial patterns and define particular places. **Physical Geography** integrates disciplines such as climatology, geomorphology, geology, biology, hydrology, ecology, soil science, and even marine science.

Whether considering greenhouse gas emissions, the spread of disease, or threats to biodiversity, in all cases geographers are interested in where things happen, why, and with what consequences. Our graduates go on to careers in environmental consulting, social agencies, or non-governmental organizations. Skills in Geographic Information Science (GIS) are very marketable. Students are well prepared for graduate work in social sciences, urban planning, and environmental studies at leading schools.

The Department of Geography offers programs for students pursuing B.A., B.Sc., and B.A. & Sc. degrees.

For a list of B.A. programs in Geography, including Urban Studies, refer to the Programs tab on this page.

To learn more about the B.Sc. programs in Geography, refer to Geography (GEOG).

To learn more about the B.A. & Sc. programs in Geography, refer to Geography.

## Program Prerequisites

There are no additional prerequisites for admission to the B.A. Geography programs beyond the general B.A. degree entrance requirements.

## Interfaculty and Interdepartmental Geography-Related Programs

### Interfaculty Program in Sustainability, Science and Society – Bachelor of Arts and Science (B.A. & Sc.)

The Department of Geography also offers the B.A. & Sc. interfaculty programs in Sustainability, Science and Society in partnership with Bieler School of Environment. To learn more about these programs, refer to the Sustainability, Science and Society page.

Bachelor of Arts & Science students interested in this program should contact the Geography Undergraduate Advisor:

Michelle Maillet  
Email: [advisor.geog@mcgill.ca](mailto:advisor.geog@mcgill.ca)  
Program Website: [mcgill.ca/sss/](http://mcgill.ca/sss/)  
Advising Website: [mcgill.ca/geography/undergraduate/advising](http://mcgill.ca/geography/undergraduate/advising)

## Earth System Science Interdepartmental Major – Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.)

Earth System Science is a new interdisciplinary field that seeks to understand how our planet - including humans - functions as an integrated whole. By combining scientific fundamentals with observational data, numerical modeling, and the theoretical tools of complex systems, Earth System Science provides a rigorous basis for understanding the processes behind the climate and sustainability crisis. This interdepartmental program is offered by the Departments of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, Earth and Planetary Sciences, and Geography. For more information about this program, refer to the Earth System Science (ESYS) page.

Bachelor of Science students interested in this program should contact the Earth System Science Program Advisor:

William (Bill) Minarik  
Telephone: 514-398-2596  
Email: [william.minarik@mcgill.ca](mailto:william.minarik@mcgill.ca)  
Website: [mcgill.ca/earthsystemscience](http://mcgill.ca/earthsystemscience)

## Field Study Semesters

The following are opportunities for field study offered by the Faculty of Science. For more information, refer to the Science Internship and Field Studies Office or the McGill Abroad Office.

### McGill East Africa Field Study Semester

The MEAFSS program introduces students to East Africa specifically with a view to increasing their understanding of the local environment as well as the goals, circumstances, challenges, and opportunities of people living in the areas visited.

### McGill Barbados Field Study Semester

The Barbados program is offered on McGill's Caribbean campus at the Bellairs Research Institute. Students participating in the MBFSS learn about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, with a focus on the sustainable development of Barbados and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

### McGill Panama Field Study Semester

The Panama program is a joint venture between McGill University and the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) and addresses Latin America's social and tropical environmental issues.

## Programs Available

- Geography (Urban Studies) Major Concentration (B.A.) (36 credits)
- Geography (Urban Studies) Minor Concentration (B.A.) (18 credits)
- Geography Honours (B.A.) (61 credits)
- Geography Joint Honours Component (B.A.) (37 credits)
- Geography Major Concentration (B.A.) (37 credits)
- Geography Minor Concentration (B.A.) (18 credits)
- GIS and Remote Sensing Minor Concentration (B.A.) (18 credits)
- Health Geography Minor Concentration (B.A.) (18 credits)
- Urban Studies Honours (B.A.) (60 credits)

## Location

Department of Geography  
Burnside Hall, Floors 3 to 7

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Earth System Science - Administrative Unit  
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## **Advising**

Michelle Maillet (Academic Associate)  
Burnside Hall, Room 322  
Email: [advisor.geog@mcgill.ca](mailto:advisor.geog@mcgill.ca)  
Website: <https://www.mcgill.ca/geography/undergraduate/advising>