

GEOGRAPHY - M.S.

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

About This Program

Advance your understanding of the world through Kent State's Geography M.S., where you will explore the dynamic relationships between people, places and environments. With hands-on experience in research, geospatial technologies and fieldwork, you will build the skills to tackle real-world challenges and prepare for careers in academia, government or industry. Customize your path across areas like environmental, social or urban geography while developing expertise that makes a global impact. 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*

Geographers

- -3.1% decline
- 1,500 number of jobs
- \$97,200 potential earnings

Geography teachers, postsecondary

- 3.3% about as fast as the average
- 4,000 number of jobs
- \$86,730 potential earnings

Surveying and mapping technicians

- 4.5% about as fast as the average
- 59,400 number of jobs
- \$51,940 potential earnings

Cartographers and photogrammetrists

- 6.4% faster than the average
- 13,400 number of jobs
- \$78,380 potential earnings

Urban and regional planners

- 3.4% about as fast as the average
- 44,700 number of jobs
- \$83,720 potential earnings

Geoscientists, except hydrologists and geographers

- 3.2% about as fast as the average
- 25,100 number of jobs
- \$99,240 potential earnings

Atmospheric and space scientists

- 0.7% little or no change
- 9,400 number of jobs
- \$97,450 potential earnings

Market research analysts and marketing specialists

- 6.7% faster than the average
- 941,700 number of jobs
- \$76,950 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

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- Minimum 2.750 undergraduate 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		
GEOG 60800	SEMINAR IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF GEOGRAPHIC THOUGHT	3
GEOG 69701	RESEARCH AND PRESENTATION OF GEOGRAPHIC DATA	3
Geography (GEOG) Graduate Electives (50000 level or higher) ¹		12
Major Electives, choose from the following: ²		6
GEOG 59070	GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE	
GEOG 59076	SPATIAL PROGRAMMING	
GEOG 59080	ADVANCED GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE	
GEOG 59230	REMOTE SENSING	
GEOG 69004	QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN GEOGRAPHY	
<i>Culminating Requirement</i>		
GEOG 60199	THESIS I ³	6
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		30

¹ Maximum 3 credit hours of research (GEOG 60996 or GEOG 60998) may count toward the M.S. degree requirements. Other non-geography courses may be applied toward this requirement with approval.

² Students who earned their bachelor's degree at Kent State University and have completed the undergraduate equivalents of any technique courses required in the master's degree can count them toward the technique courses requirement. Courses taken at the undergraduate level will not count toward the minimum total credit hour requirement for the master's degree; however, the additional technique courses will not be required.

³ Students must register for GEOG 60199 each semester and, if necessary, for GEOG 60299 thereafter, until all thesis requirements have been met. Credit hours for GEOG 60299 do not count toward the degree.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
-	3.000

- No more than one-half of a graduate student's coursework may be taken in 50000-level courses.
- Grades below C are not counted toward completion of requirements for the degree.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this program. Students will work with their advisor to develop a sequence based on their academic goals and history. Courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

First Year

Fall Term		Credits
GEOG 60800	SEMINAR IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF GEOGRAPHIC THOUGHT	3

Major Electives or Geography (GEOG) Graduate Electives (50000 level or higher)	6
--	---

Credit Hours 9

Spring Term

GEOG 69701	RESEARCH AND PRESENTATION OF GEOGRAPHIC DATA	3
------------	--	---

Major Electives or Geography (GEOG) Graduate Electives (50000 level or higher)	6
--	---

Credit Hours 9

Second Year

Fall Term

GEOG 60199	THESIS I	3
------------	----------	---

Major Electives or Geography (GEOG) Graduate Electives (50000 level or higher)	6
--	---

Credit Hours 9

Spring Term

GEOG 60199	THESIS I	3
------------	----------	---

Credit Hours 3

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 30

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Acquire advanced knowledge of the concepts, theories and technology in geography.
2. Synthesize and present concepts and theories in geography.
3. Demonstrate the ability to formulate research problems and carry out independent research projects.

Full Description

The Master of Science degree in Geography prepares graduate students for careers in both the academic field and non-academic jobs in various private and governmental agencies, such as urban/economic geography, social geography, physical/environmental geography and geographic information technology. Students learn geographic thought, research techniques and topical specialties while preparing to conduct original research.