

Department of Geography

Contact Information

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Introduction

The Department of Geography focuses its teaching and research on both the local and global level for an integrated geographical education. We emphasize both theory and practice, using practical and realistic cases and field studies to make learning pragmatic. With our excellent arrangement of lectures, we train our students to be on-site smart and theoretically robust. This is only possible with a faculty of diverse expertise and backgrounds.

Our continually upgraded facilities are one of the strengths of the department, including a geomorphological lab, hydrological lab, climatology lab, regional and human geography lab, computer lab, and planning workshop. The department conducts overseas field studies teaching twice a year in various Asian countries. Students are guided in a caring learning environment. Through progressive planning and superb facilities, we help students to learn both locally and globally, theoretically and pragmatically.

Every year our department admits more than 110 students into the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral

degree programs. Our students are motivated to learn under these carefully arranged curriculums. Following graduation, most students go on to join the workforce in urban and regional planning, environmental monitoring, geo-spatial analysis, and high school teaching.



Instructional Objectives

Our instructional goals focus on training geographic specialists with strengths in both theoretical and pragmatic aspects. Students are trained to master geographical skills and to apply them to issues of geography and sustainable environment.

The bachelor's degree program aims to educate students in becoming geographers for the fields of urban and regional planning, environmental monitoring, geo-spatial analysis, or high school teachers.

Master's program students are trained to become advanced analysts and planners in the areas of geography and environment. Students can apply geographical knowledge and skills to various professional pursuits. Our doctoral program trains students to become either college lecturers or advanced analysts in the related fields of geography.

Degree Requirements

Our department offers courses in both Chinese and English. Courses cover fundamental human geography, physical geography, and geographic techniques and skills. With further specialized courses, we have developed programs in (1) environmental monitoring and hazard mitigation, (2) urban and regional tourism planning, (3) geo-spatial science, and (4) geography teacher training education. For the specialization that they choose, undergraduate students are required to take at least 128 credit hours, while students who wish to become geography teachers take at least 154 credit hours. Master's students have to take 8 credit hours of compulsory courses and 20 elective credit hours. Doctoral students will take 8 credit hours of compulsory courses with additional 16 elective credit hours. This arrangement covers fundamental training and specialization.

Feature of the Curriculum

The Geography Department brings together several distinctive components to provide a full spectrum of geography study. Our curriculum features the followings:

1. Four components of geography for a full range of geographical education and training.
2. An emphasis on both geographical theory and practice.
3. Opportunities for project-oriented learning and teaching.
4. Practicums in both the private and public sectors.

Overseas and domestic field studies.



Career Prospects

The focus of the core curriculum is to prepare students for professions that require geographical knowledge and associated skills. The following professions are open to our graduates:

1. Researchers in regional development, tourism planning, geographical education, physical geography, GIS application, etc.
2. Public sector workers, such as geography teachers, urban planning technicians, environmental conservation experts, geodetic technicians, environmental monitoring technicians, environmental disaster prevention experts, etc.
3. Private sector professionals, such as regional planners, tour guides, environmental consultants, editors for geography- and environment-related work, environmental monitoring specialists, geotechnical consultants, cartographers, spatial analysts, project managers, etc.
4. Geography teachers in both junior and senior high schools.