



# What can I do with a major in **Geosciences** from Valparaiso University?

## Description of major:

Geoscientists are stewards or caretakers of Earth's resources and environment. They work to understand natural processes on Earth and other planets. Investigating the Earth, its soils, oceans, and atmosphere; forecasting the weather; developing land-use plans; exploring other planets and the solar system; determining environmental impacts; and finding new sources of useful Earth materials are just a few of the ways geoscientists contribute to our understanding of Earth processes and history. Geoscientists provide essential information for solving problems and establishing governmental policies for resource management; environmental protection; and public health, safety, and welfare.

## Relevant skills for a GEOSCIENCES major:

- ◆ Act as a team player
- ◆ Analyze, interpret, & evaluate
- ◆ Communicate, both orally and in writing
- ◆ Compute numbers
- ◆ Conduct and clearly explain scientific research
- ◆ Coordinate work with others
- ◆ Enjoy travel
- ◆ Have acute spatial and form perception
- ◆ Have aptitude for details
- ◆ Have self-management skills
- ◆ Interest in nature
- ◆ Know mathematics
- ◆ Make appropriate decisions and solve quantitative problems
- ◆ Read, write, speak, and memorize proficiently
- ◆ Skilled at presenting information
- ◆ Solve problems
- ◆ Think critically
- ◆ Understand, program and use information derived from computers
- ◆ Understand and use maps
- ◆ Work with people of varied backgrounds and others!

## Sample work activities for Graduates in GEOSCIENCES (some may require an advanced degree)

- Atmospheric scientists
- Economic geologists
- Engineering geologists
- Environmental geologists
- Environmental Management
- Emergency Management
- Geochemists
- Geochronologists
- Geographers
- Geologist
- Geographic Information Systems Analyst
- Geomorphologist
- Geophysicists
- Glacial geologists
- Hydrogeologists
- Hydrologists
- Meteorologists
- Mineralogists
- Oceanographers
- Paleoecologists
- Petrologists
- Planetary geologists
- Sedimentologists
- Seismologist
- Soil scientists
- Stratigraphers
- Structural geologists
- Teacher, Secondary Education
- Volcanologists
- and others!

## Potential hiring institutions for GEOSCIENCES majors:

- ◆ Aerospace
- ◆ Departments of Natural Resources
- ◆ Environmental Consulting Firms
- ◆ Environmental Protection Agency
- ◆ Laboratories
- ◆ Mining Industry
- ◆ Museums
- ◆ National Laboratories
- ◆ Petroleum Industry
- ◆ Schools
- ◆ State Agencies
- ◆ Urban and Regional Planning Agencies
- ◆ U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
- ◆ U.S. Geological Survey
- ◆ and others!

### Area of further education for GEOSCIENCES majors:

- Agronomy
- Astrophysics
- Atmospheric Sciences
- Chemistry
- Climatology
- Computer Science
- Education
- Environmental Science
- Geography
- Geophysics & Seismology
- Meteorology
- Oceanography
- Physics
- Planetary & Space Sciences
- and others!

### Sources of additional information for GEOSCIENCES majors:

- VU Department of Geography and Meteorology: <http://www.valpo.edu/geomet/>
- Occupational Outlook Handbook: the US Bureau of Labor Statistics compiles information about various occupations, including the nature of the work, the job outlook, the earnings, and other relevant information. <http://www.bls.gov/oco/oco1002.htm>
- America's Job Bank: biggest and busiest job market in cyberspace. Job seekers can post their resume where thousands of employers search every day, search for job openings automatically, and find their dream job fast. Employers can post job listings in the nation's largest online labor exchange, create customized job orders, and search resumes automatically to find the right people fast. Created by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) <http://www.ajb.dni.us/>
- American Association for the Advancement of Science: the world's largest general science organization and publisher of the peer-reviewed journal Science. Serves as an authoritative source for information on the latest developments in science and bridges gaps among scientists, policy-makers and the public to advance science and science education. Site includes a Careers page that includes information on fellowships, internships, career fairs, and job listings. <http://www.aaas.org/>
- American Geological Institute: AGI provides information services, serves as a voice of shared interests in our profession, plays a major role in strengthening geoscience education, and strives to increase public understanding of the vital role the geosciences play in society's use of resources and interaction with the environment. <http://www.agiweb.org/>
- American Meteorological Society: promotes the development and dissemination of information and education on the atmospheric and related oceanic and hydrologic sciences. Includes employment opportunities. <http://www.ametsoc.org/AMS/>
- Association of American Geographers: a scientific and educational society founded in 1904. Members share interests in the theory, methods, and practice of geography and geographic education. Learn more about geography and geographers and find out about jobs and careers in geography.
- CYBER-SIERRA'S Natural Resources Job Search: articles and job opportunities. <http://www.cyber-sierra.com/nrjobs/index.html>
- Earthworks: Positions listed for various sciences as well as graduate, post-graduate & professional development courses. <http://www.earthworks-jobs.com>
- Environmental Careers Organization: a national, non-profit, educational organization that protects and enhances the environment through the development of diverse leaders, the promotion of careers, and the inspiration of individual action. This is accomplished through internships, career advice, career products, and research and consulting. <http://www.eco.org/>
- Meteorological Employment Journal: A journal devoted to listing current meteorology and related atmospheric science jobs. We have the most comprehensive and current listing of meteorology jobs openings available. <http://www.swiftsite.com/mejjobs/>
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association – US Department of Commerce: The official website of the NOAA, a government organization for and about the study of the atmosphere. Includes an education section and job opportunities. <http://www.noaa.gov/>

- National Science Foundation: an independent U.S. government agency responsible for promoting science and engineering through programs that invest over \$3.3 billion per year in almost 20,000 research and education projects in science and engineering. Site includes a listing of scholarships and fellowships as well as a page for Students under their "Special Programs" and Vacancy announcements under their "Online Documents". <http://www.nsf.gov/>
- National Weather Association: a professional nonprofit association that serves individuals interested in operational meteorology and related activities. Includes Weather Job Announcements <http://www.nwas.org/>
- Science Magazine's Next Wave: the career development resource for scientists. <http://nextwave.sciencemag.org/>
- USA JOBS: The U.S. Government's official site for jobs and employment information provided by the United States Office of Personnel Management. <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>

#### **VU Career Center Resource Library Materials:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Book Of U.S. Government Jobs : Where They Are, What's Available, And How To Get One</i></li> <li>• <i>Career Opportunities In Science</i></li> <li>• <i>Careers For Number Crunchers &amp; Other Quantitative Types</i></li> <li>• <i>Careers In Mathematics [Computer File]</i></li> <li>• <i>Electronic Federal Resume Guidebook &amp; CD-ROM</i></li> <li>• <i>Federal Personnel Guide 2003</i></li> <li>• <i>GRE Exam 2003</i></li> <li>• <i>Guide To America's Federal Jobs : A Complete</i></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Directory Of Federal Career Opportunities</i></li> <li>• <i>Opportunities In Government Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>Peterson's Graduate Programs In Engineering &amp; Applied Sciences</i></li> <li>• <i>Peterson's Graduate Programs In The Physical Sciences, Mathematics, Agricultural Sciences, The Environment &amp; Natural Resources</i></li> <li>• <i>Resumes For High Tech-Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>Resumes For Scientific And Technical Careers</i></li> <li>• <i>and others!</i></li> </ul> |
|--|---|

#### **For more information about majoring in GEOSCIENCES, contact:**

Ron Janke, Ph.D.  
 Kallay-Christopher 201H  
 464-5139  
 Ronald.Janke@valpo.edu

**For more questions about your career decisions, please make an appointment with a VU Career Counselor by calling 464-5005, stopping by the Career Center in Alumni Hall or e-mailing us at [Career.Center@valpo.edu](mailto:Career.Center@valpo.edu)**

---