

GEOGRAPHY AT VALPO

"I should have majored in geography." Unfortunately, many in the VU Geography Department hear this statement all too frequently from those who take their first geography class as a junior or senior. Often, incoming students mistakenly think geography is simply about locating places on a map or memorizing landforms. The truth is it's so much more than that! Geography is about exploring the relationship between humans and the environment. It's about providing insight into contemporary global problems like climate change, natural disasters, the war in Iraq, and global poverty. And it's about teaching students to better appreciate the world around them while providing practical training that prepares students for jobs that make a difference.

VU's Geography Department has strong roots with its 75-year history, but it is continuing to grow and expand making it highly regarded within the discipline. Located in the new Kallay-Christopher Hall, the department's facilities include a Geographic Applications Laboratory equipped with the latest Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology, Illustration, and Remote Sensing software. Beyond the classroom, VU offers great field courses including visits to Hawaiian volcanoes, glaciers in Alaska, and the Sonoran Desert in Arizona. And if that's not enough, they offer specialization in many fields including Regional Planning, Cartography, and Environmental Geography to name a few.

According to VU professors, the job market for geography majors has never been better with opportunities in a wide range of professions. So next time you're speaking with prospective students at a college fair or area reception, you might want to mention geography. It's a great field with thousands of possibilities that not many students know about. And like so many of the other programs here, Valpo's Geography Department has the outstanding faculty and facilities to help make sure its students succeed in whatever career path they follow.