What can you do with a Ph.D. in Geography?

A Ph.D. is required for research and teaching positions in colleges and universities and senior positions in government and industry.

**Geographers are employed by:**

Federal government agencies:
Departments of Defense, Interior, Commerce, Agriculture, and State, Defense Mapping, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Central Intelligence Agency, Forest Service, Park Service, Environmental Protection Agency

State, regional and local governments

Private industry including telephone, utilities, construction, insurance, engineering, energy, environmental planning, and consulting firms

Map publishers

Mapping software companies

Scientific and research groups specializing in areas such as forestry, mining, environmental issues, surveying or recreation

Colleges and universities

What does CWU have to offer?

- The [McNair Scholars Program](http://www.aag.org/) that pairs students in one-on-one faculty research mentorships and provides guidance through the graduate school application process, including GRE preparation!
- Certification in Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Numerous field based courses
- A Masters program in Resource Management
- A Student Geography Club
- The Brooks-Shaw Award, awarded to undergraduate students majoring in geography who demonstrate academic excellence and promise
- An excellent collection of USGS topographic maps of Washington and adjacent states
- A GIS Computer Laboratory
- The opportunity to present scholarly research at CWU’s annual SOURCE conference

Featured PhD Holder:

**Waleed Abdalati**

Ph.D., Atmospheric and Ocean Sciences, Geography - University of Colorado Boulder

Dr. Abdalati is Director of CIRES’ Center for the Study of Earth from Space, and previously served as NASA Goddard Space Center’s Head of Cryospheric Sciences. He was one of the first scientists to map the melt extent of the Greenland ice sheet.

Helpful Links:

- Center for Innovation and Research in Graduate Education’s Geography Report: [http://tinyurl.com/cirgegeog](http://tinyurl.com/cirgegeog)