In a world undergoing unprecedented change and specialization, geography and environmental science are disciplines concerned with connections. Geography uses concepts of space, place, scale, and location to understand our world. The field of environmental studies focuses on how the natural environment and human systems interact. Geography and environmental science provide critical insights into the effects of rising sea levels, deforestation, species extinction, rapid urbanization, modern technologies, and mass migration.

On a human level, geographic and environmental knowledge shapes our world-view on global change, sustainability, border conflicts, religion, economic stability, and social justice.

Geographers and environmental scientists use quantitative and qualitative methods and unique geospatial tools of mapping, spatial analysis, and modeling to understand the processes that transform our planet and help solve the vital problems humanity is facing today.

Our graduates possess a multitude of unique skills that are highly valued by graduate programs and employers across a wide range of careers in business, NGOs, government, and education. Some of these unique skills and perspectives are:

- Critical and spatial thinking about connections between places, regions, and nations
- Knowledge of the complex interactions between humans and the environment
- A global interdisciplinary perspective
- Skills in GIScience, digital mapping and cartography, modeling, and visualization
- Experience in field data collection, data management, and analysis

Gain a unique college experience

- Learn in the classroom and do fieldwork
- Use hands-on geospatial and other technologies
- Do research with community partners
- Gain real-world experience with internships

The pressing problems that humanity is facing today - from the burning Amazon forest to extreme weather events to rising sea levels to shaking world economy to social conflicts - have always involved the ways in which people and societies act upon natural environment that constitutes the foundation of all human life. As it is increasingly clear, these actions have always depended upon economic interests, social hierarchies, politics, and scientific knowledge.

Our degrees in geography, environmental studies, earth science, digital mapping, geographic information science, and remote sensing examine exactly those vital interactions between social and natural systems. Our disciplines use earth systems approach and geographic concepts of place, space, scale, location, regions, and borders to understand how near and far places are connected by natural resource use, waste flows, climate change, social inequality, economic globalization, migrations, and cultures. We equip our community with unique research and analytical tools that all will be in high demand in the coming decades as we seek solutions to our global and local problems.

I am excited and proud about what our department has to offer. Come join us!

Professor Marianna Pavlovskaya, Chair
Geography

Concentrations:
- Cities and Globalization - urbanization and the world
- Digital Mapping and GIS - Geographic Information Science and spatial analysis
- Sustainability - socially and environmentally sustainable cities and planet

* can be a minor or major for a BA degree

Environmental Studies

Tracks:
- Earth Science - how earth system components work together
- Human Dynamics of Earth System - earth science for environmental policy

* can be a minor or major for a BA degree

Geology

Geology is the science that deals with the earth's physical structure and substance, its history, and the processes that act on it.

* students can complete a 12-credit minor

MA Geography

Theoretical and applied aspects of human geography, sustainable development, physical and environmental geography, and geographic information science.

MS GeoInformatics

GIScience integrated with cognate fields of computer science, data science, and informatics. We specialize in programming, modeling, web GIS, geo-computation, spatial databases.

MA-TEP Earth Science

In partnership with the School of Education we prepare teachers of Earth Science for grades 7-12.

GIS Certificate

Post-baccalaureate 15-credit certificate provides professional training in the field of Geographic Information Science.

* can be earned on its own or as part of the MA in Geography.

BA/MA-TEP ENV-ES

Fast track for motivated students desiring to become Earth Science teachers to earn both a BA in Environmental Studies and an MA in Adolescent Education (grades 7-12) in Earth Science.

PhD EES

CUNY Graduate Center program in Earth and Environmental Sciences allows doctoral students to concentrate in geography, environmental science, earth science, and Geographic Information Science.

I am always grateful for the diverse curriculum and opportunities I was exposed to at Hunter College for leading me toward a career in climate science, and preparing me for graduate level coursework and research. Hunter opened the door for internships that granted exposure to careers in earth science, the most important of which for me was a NSF Research Experience for Undergraduate (REU). Through this REU, I worked on a project that employed micropaleontological proxies for reconstructing past oceanic conditions, and this led me to pursue a Masters degree in Geological Oceanography.

Catherine Prunella,
BA, Environmental Studies, 2017
Master's candidate, University of South Florida