In a world undergoing unprecedented change, geography and earth/environmental science are disciplines concerned with connections: between different parts of the world and between natural and human systems. Geographic concepts of space, place, scale, and location provide a unique angle for understanding those connections. Earth and environmental sciences examine how earth systems—land, oceans, the atmosphere, and living organisms—work and interact with human systems. Geospatial technologies provide analytical tools for understanding those processes.

In the era of climate emergency, environmental and social sustainability is becoming front and center of research, policy, and action locally and globally. The growing job markets in this area need geographic and environmental expertise in order to cope with challenges posed by rising sea levels, extreme weather events (e.g., storms, forest fires, and heat waves), species extinction, rapid urbanization, social inequality, wars, and mass migration.

Skills and careers

Geographers and environmental scientists use quantitative and qualitative methods and powerful geospatial tools such as mapping, spatial analysis, spatial data science, remote sensing and modeling to understand the processes that transform our planet and help solve today’s vital problems.

About our graduates

Our graduates possess a multitude of 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, remote sensing spatial data science, digital cartography, modeling, and visualization
- Experience in environmental and social field data collection, data management, and analysis

I was always interested in maps and how they are made. One of my professors from a University in my country who has a degree in GIS (Senegal) has significantly encouraged me to follow this path. And Hunter was literally my top option as I was transferring from BMCC because I had friends who graduated from Hunter with the same degree I’m pursuing and they motivated me to join Hunter’s program.

Cheikh Leye Seck
BA, Geography, 2022

I took a two-year break after high school before applying to college because I wasn't sure what I wanted to do. In those two years, I became much more aware of the quickly declining state of the environment, and a political climate making it much worse. I wanted to get as involved as I could, and a career in environmental science seemed the right way to go, with the added bonus of being passionate about my job.

Kyra Procopio
BA, Environmental Studies, 2022
Hunter College, CUNY
www.geo.hunter.cuny.edu

Cloë Mueller
BA, Environmental Studies, 2022
BA/MA, Economics, 2022
Fulbright Research Fellowship, 2022-2023

After graduating from Hunter College, I will conduct research in chemical oceanography in Paris, France with a Fulbright Scholarship. I am incredibly grateful for all the support from the Environmental Studies Department, particularly Haydee Salmun. She sparked my love for the ocean, so much so that I plan to pursue a PhD in Marine Science and Conservation so I can work on international marine policy.”