

GEOGRAPHY & GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE

Program Description

The A.A.-T in Geography transfers to a four-year college and prepares students for a future in a field related to Geography. The Geographic Information Science (GIS) non-transfer Certificate and AS degree prepares students for GIS-related careers which are enhanced by the completion of a bachelor or graduate program. For students currently working within these fields, there may be potential for salary and/or career advancement.

From local to global scales, geographers study political organization, transportation systems, marketing, economics, climate and weather, urban planning, land use development, globalization, and more. They examine the distribution of landforms, study soils, and vegetation, analyze limited resources such as water, and human impacts on the surface of the planet. In general, geographers work in government research, public agencies, and are environmental consultants for nonprofit organizations.

Geographic Information Science (GIS) involves basic to advanced analysis and scientific research methods for identifying patterns, trends and relationships that are represented spatially and temporally on maps, large databases, reports, and animations. Recent advancements make it possible to analyze, interact, and produce maps using cloud technology. Students enrolled in our GIS courses online have the advantage of learning advanced communication and mapmaking skills that prepare them for a career in GIS, anywhere.

Transfer Preparation

MSJC offers a range of course work to prepare students for the workforce or to transfer to four-year colleges and universities. All four-year institutions prescribe their own standards for course evaluation and admissions. Courses that fulfill major requirements for an associate degree in this program might not be the same as those required for transfer into a similar major at a four-year university.

Transfer students are advised to do research on prospective majors and careers through the Career/Transfer Center and the MSJC catalog. Students interested in transferring to CSU's or UC's can access major preparation by visiting <http://www.assist.org>. All students are advised to meet with a counselor at least once a semester to create or update their comprehensive education plan.

Contact Information

San Jacinto Campus
 (951) 487-MSJC (6752)
 1-800-624-5561
 Dean of Instruction,
 Academic Programs (951) 487-3400

Menifee Valley Campus
 (951) 672-MSJC (6752)
 1-800-452-3335
 Cindy Nance, Ph.D. (951) 639-5540
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Degrees/Certificates

Degrees

Transfer Degree

- Geography, A.A.-T (<https://catalog.msjc.edu/instructional-programs/geography-geographic-information-science/geography-aat/>)

Non-Transfer Degree

- Geographic Information Science, A.S. (<https://catalog.msjc.edu/instructional-programs/geography-geographic-information-science/geographic-information-science-as/>)

Certificate

- Geographic Information Science Certificate (<https://catalog.msjc.edu/instructional-programs/geography-geographic-information-science/geographic-information-science-certificate/>)

Employment Concentration

- Geographic Information Science Employment Concentration (<https://catalog.msjc.edu/instructional-programs/geography-geographic-information-science/geographic-information-science-ecc/>)

Program Learning Outcomes

- Explain the interrelationship between humans and the physical environment.
- Appreciate different cultural and ethnic perspectives within the context of environmental opportunities and challenges.
- Apply the scientific method to objective and subjective analysis of cultural and physical environments.
- Explore and critically appreciate spatial relationships at different scales from local, regional to global.
- Integrate spatial thinking with applied technology to analyze physical and cultural patterns, trends and relationships.

Careers and Salaries

Discover in-demand careers and education options based on your interests! See the list of careers below or explore further by searching for Careers or Programs (<https://msjc.emsicc.com>).

Note: There are no guaranteed positions for students completing these programs. Education and work experience required will vary by employer. The salary and benefits for specific occupations will be dependent on work experience, education, background, and employer. Labor market statistics are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, US Census Bureau, O-NET, EMSI.

Career/Industries	CA Annual Median Salary or Range	Employment Demand or Opening CA
Geophysical Data Technicians (B, M)	\$36,681	52
Geographers (B, M, D)	\$55,806-\$105,256	14
Geographic Information Systems Technician (B, M)	\$93,692	4,095

(*degree required: SM some college, C: Certificate, A: Associate degree, B: Bachelor's degree, M: Master's degree, D: Doctorate*)