

CAREERS IN GEOGRAPHY tutor2u

*I am passionate about reducing our carbon footprint, so I became a...*

# SUSTAINABILITY CONSULTANT



**Job role**  
As a sustainability consultant you could:

- Advise on how green business practice can help reduce the impact on the environment
- Research new technologies which can help reduce energy usage of business
- Oversee initiatives to reduce waste and encourage recycling
- Recommend the most sustainable construction strategies
- Advise on environmental laws and how they apply to businesses


**Qualification level**  
Degree preferable but not essential

**Salary**  
Junior level: £25,000 per year  
Senior level: £80,000+

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*I really wanted to travel to some remote places so I became a...*

# GEOPHYSICIST



**Job role**  
Many geophysicists work in oil and gas exploration. As a geophysicist you might:

- Travel to remote, offshore locations and use cutting-edge technology to map underground resources
- Work with seismic data to advise on where resources lie underground
- Keep up to date with innovative technologies to support mapping underground
- Present to businesses on your findings on how viable underground resources may be

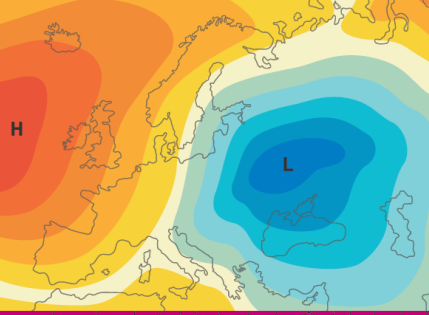
**Qualification level**  
Degree essential and PhD will increase potential earnings considerably

**Salary**  
Junior level: £28,000 per year  
Senior level: £100,000 + per year

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# METEOROLOGIST



**Job role**  
As a meteorologist you could:

- Research weather patterns, climate change and model short and long-term weather forecasts using the latest technology
- Collect data from satellite images, remote sensors, radar and weather stations
- Present and analyse short and long term weather forecasts
- Code reports for international publication
- Decide when to give flood warnings or other extreme weather warnings


**Qualification level**  
A degree is usually required and maths or physics at A Level level or above is desirable. Some candidates are considered with a HND/ Foundation degree if they have an A level in maths and/or physics but it is harder to get in.

**Salary**  
Trainee: £20,000 - £38,000  
Experienced: £25,000 - £35,000  
Management: £38,000 - £60,000

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*I enjoyed searching and identifying patterns in data, so I became a...*

# GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) OFFICER



**Job role**  
As a GIS officer you might:

- Work in the field to collect and map key features of the natural and built landscape
- Use a wide variety of data sets and search for patterns, relationships and trends linked to locations, eg. mapping flooding risk
- Manage projects by collecting data and identifying the most suitable apps and data presentation techniques to create meaningful data.
- Advise clients on trends and patterns that may affect their business or improve their efficiencies

**Qualification level**  
Degree or postgraduate qualification is preferred

**Salary**  
Junior level: £18,000 per year  
Senior level: £40,000 + per year

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*I really want to make a difference to people's lives, so I became an...*

# INTERNATIONAL AID/ DEVELOPMENT WORKER



**Job role**  
As an international aid or development worker you could:

- Work in education, healthcare, agriculture, sanitation, human rights or emergency response
- Manage, monitor and evaluate sustainability projects overseas
- Organise fundraising events and activities
- Assess risk and security procedures for staff working in dangerous areas
- Problem-solve under pressure, particularly in disaster areas
- Develop strong relationships with overseas partners and staff
- Travel to areas and working overseas either long term on projects in local communities OR short term dealing with emergency crisis in areas hit by man-made or natural disasters

**Qualification level**  
Qualification in a relevant subject or a degree (preferred). Some posts do not require a degree.

**Salary**  
(UK based)  
Junior level: £18,000 per year  
Senior level: £50,000 + per year  
(Overseas based)  
Junior level: £21,000 per year  
Senior level: £7,000 + per year  
and overseas posts will often include accommodation and other incentives such as free flights and allowances

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*Geopolitics and international relations really interested me, so I became a...*

# DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OFFICER



**Job role**  
As a diplomatic service officer you might:

- Work at locations around the world in embassies, consulates or high commissions
- Move country regularly depending on your preferences and career aspirations
- Influence international and diplomatic diplomacy
- Contribute to and participate in foreign policy, for example on trade and investment, conflict, counter-terrorism, human rights or climate change
- Organise and manage diplomatic visits and meet influential and powerful people

**Qualification level**  
A degree is required 2:2 or above  
To work for the UK government you must be a British citizen and have lived for at least 2 years in the UK out of the last 10 years.

**Salary**  
£28,000 rising to £45,000 within 5 years

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*Conservation has always been a priority for me, so I became an...*

# ECOLOGIST



**Job role**  
As an ecologist you might:

- Work in a variety of different habitat environments in rural or urban areas, such as grasslands, woodlands, heathland, rivers, coastal locations and marshes or brownfield sites
- Conduct surveys in the field and collect data on habitats using technologies such as GPS and GIS
- Carry out environmental impact assessments
- Work on habitat management and creation projects
- Contribute to ideas and changes to policy and legislation around conservation and habitat management

**Qualification level**  
A degree is required. Experience volunteering or working with local wildlife groups is advantageous. A driving licence as you will be expected to visit sites.

**Salary**  
Assistant Ecologist: £18,000 - £22,000 a year  
Senior Ecologist: £30,000 - £45,000 per year  
Consultant Ecologist: £45,000+

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*I am calm and cool in a crisis, so I use my skills as an...*

# EMERGENCY PLANNER/ MANAGEMENT OFFICER



**Job role**  
As an emergency planner/ management officer you might:

- Work in emergency or disaster situations, responding to major incidents, eg. flooding or threats to safety, eg. terrorist attacks
- Complete risk assessments of potentially dangerous places such as nuclear power stations or chemical factories and advise on how they can mitigate risk or function in an emergency
- Write and implement safety reports, eg. safety in crowded spaces such as city centres or sports venues
- Liaise and coordinate other agencies, eg. police and medical services
- Raise public awareness of the risks and mitigation strategies
- Develop policies and procedures in line with changing government advice and legislation


**Qualification level**  
A degree is essential unless you have extensive experience in a related profession

**Salary**  
Junior level: £22,000 - £28,000  
Experienced level: £35,000 - 50,000  
Experienced level: £50,000+

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*I was interested in the built environment so I became a...*

# TOWN PLANNER



**Job role**  
As a town planner you could:

- Manage, assist and assess planning applications for the development of urban or rural areas
- Apply government legislation, policy and guidance to the assessment of planning applications
- Consult with a range of stakeholders who may have strong opinions and about an application
- Write reports with recommendations for a range of audiences
- Present at meetings and planning appeals and public inquiries

**Qualification level**  
A degree which is accredited by RIPA (Royal Town Planning Institute) or a degree and a postgraduate qualification which has RIPA accreditation.

**Salary**  
Assistant Town Planner: £18,000 - £22,000 a year  
Team Leader: £30,000 - £45,000  
Chief Planning Officer or Director: £55,000 up to £100,000